Solomon Islands Office of the Auditor-General





Media Release

8 September 2017

PASAI and Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) to co-host PAC/PEC and Stakeholders Workshops

The Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI) and the Solomon Islands Office of the Auditor-General (SIOAG) will co-host workshops for Public Accounts Committee (PAC), Public Expenditure Committee (PEC), government entities and stakeholders at the National Parliament of Solomon Islands from $11^{th} - 14^{th}$ September 2017.

The series of workshops will focus on raising awareness on PASAI and its work in the region, especially providing support to public sector audit institutions such as the SIOAG to improve accountability and transparency in the Pacific states. The workshop for PAC and PEC will be on 11 and 12 September, government entities and stakeholders on 13 and 14 September respectively

The training and awareness will be conducted by the Auditor General Peter Lokay and assisted by PASAI consultants Eroni Vatuloka and Aisake Eke, the former Tonga Minister of Finance and former Chair of the Tonga PAC.

The objectives of this workshop are:

- (a) to make the members of PAC, PEC and members of Parliament aware of PASAI and the work it does in the Pacific region;
- (b) to build the capacity of the Members of Parliament to better understand their role in providing financial oversight of public expenditure as well as to better understand the specific role of the PAC and PEC within the processes of Parliament; and
- (c) introduce a proposed Auditor General's Bill 2017.

The workshops are part of the PASAI's advocacy program to develop strong partnerships with regional organisations and audit institutions to enhance accountability and transparency in the region. The countries that have had these workshops include Tonga, the Pohnpei State of the Federated States of Micronesia, Samoa, Tuvalu and Kiribati.

The SIOAG and PASAI acknowledge the kind financial assistance of the Solomon Islands government, the Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) in supporting the three workshops.