

Media Alert

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Practice, reform and grow: building the Pacific legal profession

The <u>South Pacific Lawyers Association</u> will be hosting its <u>2nd South Pacific Lawyers Conference</u> in Brisbane this week. The Conference aims to inspire, educate and build a strong regional legal profession with delegates from 14 South Pacific nations discussing a vast array of topical and practise issues.

Under the theme "Helping the South Pacific legal professional – Practice, reform and grow", <u>the program</u> includes sessions on women in the law, discrimination, domestic violence in the Pacific, global challenges to the independence of the legal profession, commercial law, ethics and mediation skills.

Featured speakers are:

- Mareva Betham-Annandale, President, Samoa Law Society
- Catherine Evans, President, Cook Islands Law Society
- Katalaini Ziru, President, Solomon Island Bar Association
- Jonathan Temm, Past President, New Zealand Law Society
- Caroline Scott, Director, Australian Attorney-General's Department
- Nick Horn, Senior Assistant Parliamentary Counsel, Australian Office of Parliamentary Counsel
- **Edwin Rekosh**, Chief Advisor, PILnet

- Emily Christie, Human Rights Lawyer, DLA Piper
- Professor Andrew Mowbray, Co-Director, AusLII
- Hansdeep Singh, Co-Founder, International Centre for Advocates Against Discrimination (ICAAD)
- > Peter Knight, President, Fiji Law Society
- Stafford Shepherd, Senior Ethics Solicitor, Queensland Law Society
- Dr Lalotoa Mulitalo, Parliamentary Counsel, Parliament of Samoa
- And many more...

What: 2nd South Pacific Lawyers Conference

When and where: Conference, Rydges Southbank, Brisbane – 17-18 September 2015

The Conference is being supported by the Law Council of Australia, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Asian Development Bank and Thomson Reuters.

Interviews and media passes are available upon request, please contact Karuna Gurung.

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The Law Council of Australia exists to represent the legal profession at the national level, to speak on behalf of its constituent bodies on national issues, and to promote the administration of justice, access to justice and general improvement of the law.