

Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development

Solomon Islands 44th Independence Message

From:

The Honourable Minister Lanelle Tanangada, MP, the Chairman and Members of the National Education Board, the Chairman and Members of the Teaching Service Commission, MEHRD Senior Management Team and Staff of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development

To:

<i>The Governor-General, His Excellency Sir David Vunagi The Prime Minister, Honourable Manasseh Sogavare</i>	<i>Constitutional Post Holders The Churches and Faith-based organizations Government Ministries, Agencies & Offices</i>	<i>Chiefs and Village Elders The Judiciary and Legal Services and the Legal Fraternity Business Houses and Non-Government Organizations</i>
<i>The Speaker of the National Parliament The Chief Justice, Sir Albert Palmer Ministers of the Crown Leader of the Opposition Group, and the Independent Group Members of the Diplomatic Corps</i>	<i>Provincial Premiers & Executive Members Members of Provincial Assemblies Lord Mayor of Honiara City & Executives Honiara City Counsellors</i>	<i>Management and Staff of State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and Authorities Our Development Partners and Friends Our Education Authorities</i>
<i>Our School Boards and School Leaders</i>	<i>Solomon Islands National Teachers Association</i>	<i>Our Students and to all the good citizens of Solomon Islands</i>

Happy 44th Independence Greetings!!

We have seen in the past 44 years, since Independence, admirable achievements while learning invaluable lessons. This year's theme ***"lumi Tugeda for Stronger and Peaceful Solomon Islands"*** reflects well, a stronger Solomon Islands, built on the achievements and lessons learnt, for improved capacity to sustain continual improvement of education for Solomon Islanders.

Recent decades were undoubtedly not easy for our island nation, aspiring to achieve more but only to face an unequally vicious world. *'lumi tugeda...'* signifies the diligence we take to prepare our young Solomon Islanders meet these challenges. Every child in every ECE centre and school has the right and deserves a relevant and quality education to engage fully in everyday life, immerse in our cultures and traditions as well as fulfilling a broader potential in society.

Let us all celebrate this 44th Independence with deep reflections, as we embark on a new journey in education. We anticipate passing of a new Education Bill by Parliament this year, advocating a new paradigm shift in our Education system, in developing and shaping a new future, for young Solomon Islanders. Our Education System values quality partnerships between all stakeholders. Our shared responsibilities is paramount to achieving our goals in Education. We deeply acknowledge the commitment by our Students, Teachers, Schools, Education Authorities, Donor Partners and all Education Stakeholders.

Let us all continue to work together in doing things differently to achieve a quality and relevant Education for all and ***"Umi Tugeda for a Stronger and Peaceful Solomon Islands"***. *Education is fundamental to SI, present and future. May God richly bless our beautiful country Solomon Islands from shore to shore and stand for evermore...!!*