



**HAPPY 45TH  
ANNIVERSARY**



**INDEPENDENCE  
SOLOMON ISLANDS**

**From:**

The Minister, Honourable Rexon Ramofafia, Permanent Secretary, Ms Susan Sulu, Deputy Secretaries, Directors, Management and staff of the Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination.

**To:**

- His Excellency the Governor General of Solomon Islands, Sir David Vunagi and Lady Vunagi.
- Prime Minister Honourable Manasseh Sogavare and Madam Sogavare.
- Honourable Speaker of National Parliament Patteson Oti and Madam Oti.
- Deputy Prime Minister Honourable Manasseh Maelanga and Madam Maelanga
- Cabinet Ministers and their spouses.
- Honourable Chief Justice Sir Albert Palmer and Madam Palmer.
- Opposition Leader Honourable Mathew Wale and Madam Wale.
- Leader of the Independent Group, Honourable John Dean Kuku and Madam Kuku.
- Honourable Members of National Parliament and their spouses
- Constitutional Post Holders
- Heads and Members of the Diplomatic Missions.
- Development Partners & Business Houses.
- Honourable Premiers, Provincial Assembly Members, City Mayor, Honiara City Councillors
- Non-Government Organisations and Faith Based Organisations
- Church Leaders, Chiefs, Elders, Community Leaders and all Good People of Solomon Islands.

It is with great pleasure to congratulate and convey our warmest greetings to everyone, both at home and abroad as we commemorate this momentous occasion of our nation's 45th Independence Anniversary. We praise God Almighty for bringing us safely to yet another year of celebration and for the many blessings that He has richly bestowed upon us.

Let us put our faith and trust in Him, and continue to seek His divine wisdom and guidance in our effort to achieve national, provincial and community development priorities and goals to move the nation forward.

May the occasion of this Independence celebration resonate as a time of reflection and reassurances of the successes our country had achieved and the challenges we overcome as a nation since the attainment of self-determination on 7 July 1978.

It is also a day to reflect on the sacrifices that have been made to achieve this great milestone. It is also a day to look forward to the future and to rededicate ourselves to building a better Solomon Islands for all.

As oversight custodians of the National Development Strategy and a Ministry responsible for national development planning, aid coordination and management and monitoring and evaluation, the MNPDC plays a vital strategic role in the development of Solomon Islands.

This year 2023 has been a busy one for the Ministry. The Ministry is undertaking a number of important reforms to improve and strengthen the planning and budgeting, aid management, and monitoring and evaluation systems and processes. The Ministry is also undertaking a review of the National Development Strategy 2016 – 2035, our long-term plan that outlines the country's vision, mission and objectives for sustainable development.

As the central government agency responsible for national planning, we will continue to strive to ensure that sound advice is provided to inform long and short-term planning and budgeting. We will also strive to ensure that good and comprehensive evidence is generated from our monitoring and evaluation processes to inform policy and decision-making. Ultimately, we will continue strategic collaboration with all our partners and stakeholders across all sectors to deliver services to improve the social and economic livelihoods of our people and to create a peaceful, harmonious, progressive and prosperous Solomon Islands.

We continue to value and appreciate the support of our development partners on our development journey, for it is also with their support that we continue to deliver services to our people.

The MNPDC is committed to working with its partners to achieve the development needs of the Solomon Islands. The reforms and activities that the MNPDC undertakes this year will be an important step towards a more prosperous and sustainable future for all Solomon Islanders.

*God Bless our Solomon Islands from Shore to Shore*