Press Release: New Appointees to the FTUC National Executive Board at the 48th FTUC Biennial Delegates Conference

The Fiji Trades Union Congress held its 48th Biennial Delegates Conference on Saturday, 29th August, 2020 at Holiday Inn, Suva. The theme adopted for this year’s FTUC Biennial Conference was “Building Workers’ Rights Through Organising”.

Biennial Conference is a constitutional requirement and it deals with reports for the previous biennial, discussion on issues that affect the working people and adopts a work plan for the next two years. The Conference provides affiliates of FTUC to have an input on the work of the FTUC and to elect its National Officers Bearers.

On the day of our 48th Biennial Delegates Conference, more than 80 delegates and observers attended the Conference from trade unions affiliated with us. The FTUC National President, Brother Daniel Urai welcomed all present at the Conference and delivered his opening address for the opening session. (Attachment 1)

The invited Guest for our opening session was Mr. Matin Karimli, Director International Labour Organization [ILO] Office for the Pacific Island Countries. Our Bipartite Partners Mr Kameli Batiweti, CEO and Mr. Sandeep Chauhan, the President of Fiji Commerce and Employers Federation (FCEF) were also invited.

The 2020 Biennial Delegates Conference elected FTUC’s National Executive Office bearers for the term of 2 years. All officials were elected unopposed.

The new appointees to the FTUC National Executive Board from 2020 to 2022 are as follows:

1. Mr. Daniel Urai, the General Secretary of National Union of Hospitality, Catering & Tourism Industries Employees (NUHCTIE) was retained as the National President.

2. Mr Felix Anthony, the General Secretary of National Union of Workers (NUW) was retained as the National Secretary.

3. Mr Semisi Turagabaleiti, the President of Federated Airlines Staff Association (FASA) was retained as the National Vice President.
4. Ms. Vani Disusu, the President of PAFCO Employees Union (PAFCOEU) was appointed as the National Vice President (new appointee).

5. Ms. Miriama Buitabaki of Staff Association of the University of the South Pacific (SAUF) was retained as the National Vice President.

6. Ms. Mereia Vunibaka, the Vice President of Fijian Teachers Association (FTA) was appointed as the National Vice President. (new appointee)

The FTUC Constitution allows for 4 Vice Presidents of which at least two should be women.

7. Ms. Latileta Gaga, the General Secretary of National Union of Factory Workers (NUFCW) was retained as the Assistant National Secretary.

8. Mr. Attar Singh, the General Secretary of Fiji Longshoreman and Staff Association (FLSSA) was retained as the Assistant National Secretary.

9. Mr. Agni Deo Singh, the General Secretary of Fiji Teachers Union (FTU) was retained as the National Treasurer.

FTUC National Executive Board for the term 2020 – 2022 reaffirmed their commitment to work together to promote the rights of Fiji’s workers.

The meeting adopted 8 resolutions to focus on the next two years (Attachment 2).

Attachments:
1. Attachment 1: FTUC National President’s opening address.

2. Attachment 2: Resolutions adopted at the 48th FTUC Biennial Delegates Conference.

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