



Resolution on the Republic of Fiji

15th Commonwealth Law Conference Nairobi, Kenya 9th – 13th September 2007

The Commonwealth Lawyers' Association is a pan-Commonwealth professional association of lawyers which includes representatives from all 53 countries of the Commonwealth.

The 15th Commonwealth Law Conference was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 9th – 13th September 2007 and was attended by over 1200 lawyers, judges and other legal professionals from a total of 49 different countries.

The Council of the Commonwealth Lawyers' Association:

Reiterated its condemnation of the unconstitutional removal of Fiji's elected government by a military coup on 5th December 2006;

Strongly urged the interim rulers to return the Republic of Fiji to constitutional government via democratic elections as soon as possible. As a member of the Commonwealth, the Republic of Fiji has given a commitment to promote democracy and good governance, human rights and the rule of law;

Expressed concern at the continued erosion of the independence of the judiciary in the Republic of Fiji;

Called on the authorities to respect the independence of the legal profession and the right of lawyers to exercise freedom of political opinion and conscience;

Noted its continued support of efforts by the Fiji Law Society to maintain the independence of the judiciary and to promote democracy and the rule of law.

Commonwealth Lawyers' Association
15th Commonwealth Law Conference
13th September 2007