



## Resolution on the Republic of Fiji

15<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Law Conference Nairobi, Kenya 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Law Conference was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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  
15<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Law Conference  
13<sup>th</sup> September 2007