



Most of the members, officials, guests and stakeholders with the new policy.

New policy set goals for Malaita women

MALAITA Women's Empowerment and Development Policy (MWEEDP) was unveiled on International Women's Day at an event held in the provincial capital, Auki with a call for gender

justice, equality, inclusion, inclusiveness and shared responsibility for sustainable development in the country. Developed through a consultative process and coordinated by the Minis-

try of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs (MWYCFa) supported by UN Peacebuilding (UNPBF) project, and implemented by UNDP and UN Women, the MWEEDP provides a broad framework to guide and coordinate all efforts for addressing gender inequality and discrimination in Malaita.

"The new policy sets out priorities, builds coherence and facilitates resource mobilization in support of gender equality and equity," explained the Director of MWYCFa, Mrs. Pauline Soaki.

Stressing that the goal of improving the status of women remains a government priority the Director said that the government is committed to building a gender-just society by preventing and addressing any discrimination based on gender.

The work towards development of provincial gender policies was a result from the National Women's Summit for Peacebuilding and Women, Peace and Security in October 2016 where the resolutions to the issues women raised were specific to provincial women hav-

ing their own blueprint to guide and resource the direction for which women's empowerment is addressed.

The Women's National Summit was supported under UNPBF Phase-1. The MWYCFa has supported the dialogue towards the development of the provincial policies which will align with the National Gender Equality and Women's Development Policy 2016-2020 and the WPS National Action Plan 2017-2021.

This is the first ever Malaita's Women Empowerment and Development Policy 2018-2022.

The Malaita Women's Empowerment and Development policy provides a framework for all Malaitan women and men to embrace their development and contribute to the growing economy of Malaita and recognises the growing gender inequalities and the challenges women faced in the everyday life.

Speaking at the event, Honourable Peter Ramohia, Premier of Malaita Provincial Government said, "We are watching Western Province closely on Temporary Special Measure and keen to progress women's political participation. If other provinces can do it so can Malaita province".

Echoing similar remarks, UNPBF representative who read a speech on behalf of the project team, Ms Audrey Micah Mann, emphasized the need to, "ensure that the priorities of the Malaita Empowerment and Development policy are reflected in the provincial development plans and implemented by all relevant government departments and civil society".

The event was well attended by representatives of various women leaders from Malaita communities, Malaita Provincial Executive Members, Malaita Provincial Government Heads of Departments, Premier Provincial Minister for Women and Children, representatives from the UN Peacebuilding project, development partners, faith-based organizations, NGOs and Civil Society and development partners.



In loving memory of our dad,
Dante Batalbasi Teioli

It's been a year since you left us, dad. While we still filling up with grief from your loss, we learn that your departure from this world is not easy but has taught us many little things in life. Since you left, we always try to put into perspective everything you have stood for during the time you were with us. You have lived life in what you believe is right and worth living for. It was just like yesterday you were here and today you're gone. We thank God for the life you shared with us. You are always in our thoughts and your memories live on forever in our hearts. You are forever loved and will always be remembered. We love and miss you every day. You are loved always and sadly missed. Much love, Helen, Kalai, Vincent, mom & rest of the family.
We, the family of Late Dante B Teioli would like to acknowledge the following individuals and organizations for their contributions:

- The Hon. Premier of Malaita Province
- The Provincial Secretary of Malaita Province
- Hon. Felix Ngeno
- Hon. Moffat Fugui
- AFLDA Chairman & members
- Anglican Diocese of Malaita Staff
- WorldFish-Auki
- Benjamin Famauri & family
- Jasper & Timothy Maefunu
- Lepping family
- Uncle Timeous Bai Teioli & family
- Uncle Jack Dola Teioli
- Ambu Local Church & Women's Singing Band
- Kwaraae relatives and Fanalei immediate families and
- All families, relatives and friends in Ambu, Auki Island, Auki town, Langalanga Lagoon, Honiara and overseas.

SHALOM GOD BLESS



Peter Ramohia, Premier of Malaita province.



Most of the official guests at the launch of the policy document.