

PSC CIRCULAR

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PSC Circular No. 39/2006

To: Chief Executive Officers and Heads of Departments Date: 28/9/06

Subject: NATIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE 3RD MELANESIAN File: 29/481
ARTS AND CULTURAL FESTIVAL, SUVA,
2 - 11 OCTOBER 2006

Fiji is the host to the 3rd Melanesian Arts and Cultural Festival which will be held in Suva from 2nd to 11th October, 2006.

2. The theme of the Festival is “**Living Cultures Living Traditions**” and was designed around the concern that most of our traditional customs and practices have disappeared due to the forces of globalization and other factors. It is closely aligned to the main objectives of the Festival that is to preserve, protect and promote for the Melanesian people their cultures, traditions and values and the challenges that the future holds for them in their cultural identity, rights and dignity.

3. Other MSG members participating in the Festival include Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and New Caledonia. Other non member countries of Melanesian decent were also invited and only Torres Straight Islands have confirmed their participation. Fiji as a host, has considered the event as a significant opportunity to showcase Fiji’s traditional cultures and practices and have included the participation of the 14 provinces at the Festival. It is also intended that our guests from these countries will participate with us during the Fiji Week celebration which runs from Friday 6 to Monday 9 October 2006.

4. A delegation of 1000 participants is expected to participate during the 10 day Festival with the opening ceremony commencing on Tuesday 3rd October 2006 at the FMF Dome. All daily programs will be at the Sukuna Park and FDB foreshore and details will be published in the Fiji Times.

5. The programs includes Meke/Vucu, visual arts exhibition, traditional games, traditional cooking, traditional canoe racing, skills demonstration, performing arts, fashion design, music bands and symposium.

6. The purpose of this Circular is to inform Ministries and Departments of the Festival and to request the support and participation of Ministries and Departments through the attendance of their employees and families throughout the duration and activities of the Festival. For any information on the Festival, please contact Mr. Nelson Delailomaloma, Festival Director, Melanesian Arts Festival Secretariat at 30 Pender Street, phone 3319882 or fax 3319881 or visit the Melanesian website mafenquiries@unwired.com

7. I look forward to your usual co-operation so we can ensure the success of the Festival.



Anare Jale
Chief Executive Officer Public Service