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2013 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

PARLIAMENT APPROVES THE NEW ELECTORAL SYSTEM

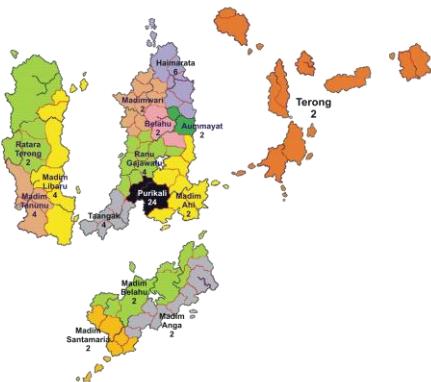
Purikali – After a long debate that accentuated the antagonism between the government coalition and the two major opposition parties, Parti Majuve (PM) and Parti Tana (PT), a project proposed by senator Elisèbet Sawamali of Parti Muktiye-Raun (PMR) was approved yesterday by the Parliament, ending thirty five years of the previous system. According to her project, the number of senators in the *Haimauman* will be reduced from 100 to 74 and the senators will be elected from 15 electoral districts instead of the former 5 electoral regions: Purikali, Kiwangar, Wisanyo, Nilau and Terong. For the coalition, the new process will be more democratic, increasing the participation of minority groups of the country. Furthermore, the reduction in the number of parliamentary members will allow a reduction in the administrative expenses. However, for the senator

Winira Raiki, leader of Parti Majuve, the proposal was done exclusively to keep the majority of PMR in the parliament, changing the ‘rules of the game’. Ms. Raiki argues that, in the next election in 2013, even in case of victory of the opposition among the 37 new senators, the government coalition will still keep the majority considering the remaining 50 senators.

This is the second major defeat of the opposition parties after August 13, when the Treaty of Ísðor was ratified. The proposal was approved yesterday with 55 votes in favour, 36 against and 9 abstentions.

Analysts expect a new big clash between the two blocs when the budget for 2013 comes to be voted by the Parliament. Some polemic changes are being proposed in the budget for next year, such as the reduction in the defence funds around 13%.

THE NEW ELECTORAL DISTRICTS



FICT

THE VIEWS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Purikali – Isèbel Kurataata, former ambassador to Tuvelau (2006-2009) and Japan (2009-2012), is the Kaupelanese ambassador to FICT and the Secretary General of the organisation, since April of last year.

Asked about the future of FICT, she said: “I’m optimistic about it. Despite the loss when part of the members decided to leave it, I believe that FICT can progress. Soon new members can be interested to join it, and we can really build a great organisation.”

Asked if she believes that the former members would come back if the Special Commission proposed by Adzhatia in the last Council succeeds in identifying things gone wrong that lead to the split, she is very sceptical. “The division weakened FICT and together we could make a stronger organisation, but I doubt that some of the departed members which made statements referring to Council like ‘miserable hypocrites’ or ‘to castrate the carcass of FICT’ would have any interest in returning, even if new rules would be adopted.” Finally, the SG mentioned that Kaupelan will propose to remove the exception list of the FICT Free Trade Agreement (FFTA), and will propose an Embassy Agreement, by which every embassy of FICT members could represent the other members. Additionally, Kaupelan will propose some kind of sanction against the non-democratic government of Tarmorya.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

INVESTORS PLAN TO PRODUCE ELECTRIC BUSES IN KAUPELAN

Bandajaya – Investors from the Kalangong Shipyard announced the intention to build an assembly plant in Bandajaya to produce and export battery-operated buses. For this new enterprise, it is being considered a joint-venture with the Yuklandic JAV, a worldwide manufacturer of wind electric generators.

According to Ahmad Nuhulasaki, Kalangong shipyard spokesman, the prospective company would be called TNE, the Kaupelanese acronym for *Electric Transportation Technology*. As he said, in two years the plant would be capable of manufacturing five hundred electric buses per year, employing around three hundred workers.

JAV would supply the electric motors for the buses and considers to

build a factory in an Eastern European country – Adzhatia being the first option – to avoid the high labour and manufacturing costs in Yukland. By the way, labour cost is the main reason why the joint-venture is planning to have the assembly plant in Kaupelan. Preference to components is to be supplied by FICT countries, which would make TNE an example of cooperation inside FICT.

The announcement is a new breath for the Kaupelanese automotive sector that is facing significant losses this year, chiefly by Wateria, but also by Darapali.

The global market for electric buses is growing, especially in America and Asia, and forecast is of 75,000 sales in the next five years.



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Weather in Purikali – Sunny.
Max. Temp.: 32°C; Min. Temp. 22 °C

EXCHANGE RATES



USD: KAH 2.6154



EUR: KAH 3.3061

