



**Filimone Waqabaca, Permanent Secretary for Finance, Fiji**

Mr. Filimone Waqabaca was appointed Permanent Secretary for Finance by the Public Service Commission on 7 February 2011. Mr. Waqabaca is currently on secondment to the Ministry of Finance for three years.

He is a board member of Fiji Revenue and Customs Authority, Reserve Bank of Fiji and Fijian Holdings Limited. He is also a member of University of the South Pacific Council, National Disaster Management Council, Sugar Taskforce, National Employment Centre, Fiji National University and National Housing Council and the National Financial Inclusion Taskforce.

He is also a board member or represented on the board of state owned enterprises like Fiji Electricity Authority, Unit Trust of Fiji, Fiji Meat Industry Board, Fiji Audio Visual Commission, Air Terminal Services, Amalgamated Telecom Holdings, Fiji International Telecommunications Limited, Fiji Ports Corporation Limited and Post Fiji.

Mr. Waqabaca joined the Reserve Bank of Fiji in 1990 as a Technical Assistant in the Economics Group. He rose through the ranks and was appointed Adviser in the same group in October 1998. He then joined the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat as Economic and Policy Analyst in March 1999. He rejoined the Bank's Economics Group in May 2003 as Senior Adviser. In January 2004, he was appointed acting Chief Manager Economics and was confirmed to the post on 1 March 2005.

He was Adviser to the Executive Director in the South East Asia office of the International Monetary Fund from May 2007 to April 2009. Mr. Waqabaca was Chief Manager Financial Systems Development and Compliance prior to his appointment as Permanent Secretary for Finance.

Mr. Waqabaca obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of the South Pacific and a Master of Science in International Banking and Financial Studies from the University of Southampton, United Kingdom.

His interests include volleyball and touch rugby where he has played the games and is also involved in the management of the sports. He is also interested in farming and living off the land.

Mr. Waqabaca is married to Mrs. Caroline Waqabaca, the current Chief Manager Economics at the Reserve Bank, and they have three children.