



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

STATEMENT

Brussels, 25 September 2014

Statement by EU Commissioner for Development, Andris Piebalgs, on the Parliamentary Elections in Fiji

I welcome the successful holding of the first parliamentary elections in Fiji since 2006 and Fiji's return to democratic rule. I commend the Fijian people for exercising their democratic right and for voting in great numbers. I congratulate them, as well as the Electoral Commission and Fiji Elections Office, on the peaceful elections. I congratulate Rear Admiral (ret.) Bainimarama on his election victory and on becoming Prime Minister.

In view of these developments the European Commission will make recommendations to the Council on the re-establishment of full development co-operation with Fiji in the framework of the 11th European Development Fund.

I look forward to working closely with Fiji, a key partner for the European Union in the Pacific, on the strengthening of those institutions and civil society organisations that will play a key role in ensuring the further consolidation of democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. I look forward to enhancing bilateral political dialogue and exploring opportunities for closer cooperation, in the interests of both Fiji and the European Union.

For more information:

Statement by the Spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission, on the Parliamentary elections in Fiji:

http://eeas.europa.eu/statements/docs/2014/140917_01_en.pdf

Delegation of the European Union for the Pacific:

http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/fiji/index_en.htm

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