



## CENTRAL BANK of SOLOMON ISLANDS

P.O. BOX 634, Honiara, Solomon Islands

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### PRESS RELEASE

“Good Choice, Better Future”

**(Honiara, 29.06.10)**- People are not passengers in a car watching the future come towards them through the window but instead they are all drivers.

Senior Economics Analyst at the Central Bank of Solomon Islands (CBSI) Tom Coward made these comments during the opening ceremony of the Money Smart Day Event held in Kirakira, Makira province last week.

“The choice people make will determine the road and the speed with which to get there” Coward said.

Mr. Coward was referring to the choices people make towards the economic activities and development progress of their own provinces and made a presentation on the state of the country’s economy and what people must consider when making important choices about their future.

One of the main areas Coward talked about was on the up-coming general elections where he stressed that having good leaders will help guide the country forward.

“This year we have many choices for where to go. Elections are coming up in Solomon Islands and it is your choice on who will lead this country forward”, Coward told members of the Kirakira community

“It is your vote that will decide this”.

He explained in his address that in order to diversify the economy, the country needs entrepreneurs who can choose the paths that lead to growth.

“For many years our tropical forests have provided logs that have kept our economy going. This store is however running out and so we must find new ways of going forward. We need hard working people with ideas to step forward. We need new businesses to create growth”, he added.

He told members of the community in Kirakira that any opportunity that presents itself must be seized and people must work together to help develop the country.

He said that although there are many challenges faced by people, Solomon Islanders always find ways around them.

“We need to move our car into the fast lane to a better place. If we all work together we can achieve great things” Coward said.

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