

Media Education Training Workshop in Fiji

A workshop on media education was opened in Suva by Mrs Emi Rabukawaqa, Permanent Secretary for Education. The four-day workshop, which took place at Bergengren House, Pender St., Suva, is organised by Fiji Media Watch as part of a programme to foster media awareness and promote media education in Fiji. The title of the workshop was: 'Media Education: a Vital and Necessary Task.'

About 25 people took part, mostly secondary school teachers from throughout the country.

The workshop was coordinated by Mrs. Delia Hernandez, President of the Philippines Association of Media Education. Mrs. Hernandez is an experienced media educator and has conducted seminars and workshops in many parts of South-east Asia.

The programme was designed to help teachers understand the media environment and its impact on readers, listeners and viewers. It examined how the media function, explained the basic concepts of media literacy and explored possible ways of integrating media lessons in the different school subject areas.

Fiji Media Watch is also organising an advanced workshop on media education. This is a follow-up workshop for those who took part in an introductory training workshop in 1999. The workshop will be coordinated by Mr. Augustine (Augy) Loorthusamy of Malaysia, vice-president of SIGNIS (Catholic World Association for Communications). Mr. Loorthusamy was formerly Asia Secretary of the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC). He is well known as a media educator throughout South-east Asia and beyond.

Links:

Pacific Media Watch:

www.pmw.c20.org

WACC Pacific Region

www.pacificwacc.org/

Pacific Journalism Review

www.asiapac.org.fj/PJR/