

## PACIFIC NEWS

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### ***JUDICIARY IN THE PACIFIC***

An interesting article by Vijay Singh, 'A Diminished Judiciary', appeared in the November issue of e-journal *The Journal of South Pacific Law* published by USP School of Law. The writer examines the actions of the Chief Justice of Fiji during the attempted coup by Mr Speight in May this year and reflects on the serious implications for democracy in Fiji. Access to the article is through the USP website [www.vanuatu.usp.ac.fj/journal\\_splaw](http://www.vanuatu.usp.ac.fj/journal_splaw). This issue also contains the following article and working paper:

Farran and Corrin Care: 'Towards a Pragmatic Approach to the Contract or Tort Debate in the South Pacific'

Tagini: 'E-Commerce in Vanuatu: Can Contract Law Accommodate for New Technology?'

### ***VANUATU LAW REPORTS***

The *Vanuatu Law Reports* 1980-1994 are now available in full text on the USP website.

### ***FISHERIES CONVENTION***

During the recent Pacific Islands Forum meeting in Kiribati the Prime Minister of Australia signed the Convention on Conservation and Management of the Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Central and Western Pacific Region. This convention aims to advance the sustainable management of the region's fishing resources. Agreement has finally been reached on the convention after six years of negotiations. Countries involved are Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands as well as other important fishing countries such as Japan, Korea and Taiwan. Australia's main interest in the convention is for sustainable management of the \$60 million dollar tuna fisheries industry. For a statement by Mr Truss, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, on the signing of the convention see House of Representatives 2000, *Debates*, 1 November, P19398-9.

### ***BOOKS TO KIRIBATI***

The High Court Library despatched six boxes of law reports and texts to the High Court of Kiribati library in October. The books were donated by the ATO in Adelaide and the AGS library in Canberra and were gratefully received. Thanks are due to the ALLG who paid for the freight.