

Draft Freedom of Information Bill approved in Principle

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Cabinet has approved in principle the draft Freedom of Information Bill 2006.

Cabinet took this decision on the recommendation of the Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase.

“The Cabinet sub-Committee on Legislation will scrutinise and clear the draft Bill for resubmission to Cabinet at its meeting on 21st November, 2006.”

The Prime Minister said that one of the main features of the draft Bill was the proposal for the Freedom of Information Act to be administered by the Office of the Ombudsman.

“Relevant amendments will, therefore, need to be made to the Constitution to allow for the extension of the role of the Ombudsman for this purpose.”