

Constitution Reform Forum **TT**

From maximum leader to maximum participation

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Media Release

Minister must return to the people with Constitution Reform Report

The CRF is calling on the Minister of Legal Affairs, in his capacity as Chair of the Constitution Reform Commission, to honour the commitment he made several times during the consultations held last year and return to the people with a report of the contributions made in those consultations. To renege on that commitment reflects a complete disregard of the fundamental principles of people's participation in the constitution reform process.

Further, if what was reported in a daily newspaper is correct, the proposed change to have the majority of senators elected by the voting population would only reinforce all the negative traits of the dysfunctional political-party-dominated electoral system that currently prevails.

The government seems to be on a trend of adopting universally accepted practices in a manner that serves its own narrow political interests rather than the will of the people. One needs to look no further than the use of proportional representation to choose aldermen for the local government authorities. What that so-called change succeeded in doing was to entrench the two-party system even more firmly at the local level.

The CRF is therefore calling on Minister Ramadhar to keep his word and return to the people.

Submitted by:

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