IN THE HIGH COURT OF FIJI AT SUVA CIVIL JURISDICTION

CIVIL ACTION NO.: HBC 86 of 2021

BETWEEN : NEW HEBREDEAN COMMUNITY

PLAINTIFF

AND : JOESVA RAUMAITAU aka JOE TARIA

FIRST DEFENDANT

: VANI TARI aka VANI DIMATE

SECOND DEFENDANT

: SAIMONI DOBUI

THIRD DEFENDANT

: LOSIO BOLEYASI WAQANIVALU

FOURTH DEFENDANT

: ETUENI QUILELE CAUCAU

FIFTH DEFENDANT

: ASESELA BIUTIVITI

SIXTH DEFENDANT

: SERESIO NAIKASAU

SEVENTH DEFENDANT

: WILLIAM ROBERT

EIGHTH DEFENDANT

: MARIKA TUNIDAU

NINETH DEFENDANT

: MASTER. PENI TAQUWA TAWAI aka PAULA KALOUKOCEI

TENTH DEFENDANT

: MACIUSELA RAILUMU

ELEVENTH DEFENDANT

: KOROVOU SETTLEMENT TRUST

TWELFTH DEFENDANT

: THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS

THIRTEENTH DEFENDANT

: ITAUKEI LANDS TRUST BOARD

FOURTEENTH DEFENDANT

: THE REGISTRAR OF TITLES

FIFTEENTH DEFENDANT

APPEARANCES/REPRESENTATION

PLAINTIFF

Mr. S. Raikanikoda [Raikanikoda & Associates]

FIRST DEFENDANT

In Person

SECOND DEFENDANT

Not Present

THIRD DEFENDANT

Withdrawn

FOURTH DEFENDANT

Not Present

FIFTH, SIXTH & SEVENTH

DEFENDANTS

Withdrawn

EIGHTH DEFENDANT

Matter Discontinued

NINTH DEFENDANT

Matter Discontinued

TENTH DEFENDANT

Not Present

ELEVENTH DEFENDANT

Not Present

TWELFTH DEFENDANT

Mr K Prasad [Legal Aid Commission]

THIRTEENTH &

[Matter Discontinued]

FOURTEENTH DEFENDANT:

Ms M Faktaufoon [Attorney-General's Chambers]

FIFTEENTH DEFENDANT

Matter Discontinued

RULING BY

Acting Master Ms Vandhana Lal

DELIVERED ON

25 March 2022

RULING

- The Plaintiff named as "New Hebredean Community" initiated proceedings pursuant to Order 113 of the High Court Rules.
- 2. One of the Defendants namely the 12th Defendant is named as "Korovou Settlement Trust".
- 3. I had raised issue on whether the Plaintiff and the 12th Defendant were named correctly that is whether the community can bring proceedings under its name and the Settlement Trust can be named as a party.
- 4. The "Korovou Settlement Trust" is registered with Registrar of Titles and there are 6 trustees appointed at a special general meeting held on 20th November, 2016. These trustees are said to hold office for 05 years.
- 5. The said trust was created to obtain a Native Lease on Lot 27 by the Yavusa Totogo of Draiba with beneficiaries to be the inhabitants of Korovou Settlement holding lease interest with Mataqali Totogo, their heirs and successors domicile in the settlement.

- **6.** Pursuant to Section 8 of the Charitable Trusts Act board of trustees incorporated can sue or be sued in all proceedings civil or criminal.
- 7. Hence the Plaintiff, had to conduct the latest search for the trustees of the settlement and bring the proceeding against them as trustee for the Korovou Settlement Trust.
- **8.** Similarly, the New Hebredean Community had to bring proceeding via its registered trustees.
- 9. Alternatively Order 15 Rules 14(1) and Rule 15 would apply respectively for the Plaintiff and the 12th Defendant;
 - The Plaintiff can appoint one representative under whose name the action can proceed as representative of all [Order 15 Rule 14(1)];
 - One or more persons are appointed to represent the members of the trust of there are no new trustees appointed and registered [Order 15 Rule 15].

Orders

- 10. Hence the Plaintiff is directed to amend its Originating Summons to reflect the above.
- 11. An amended originating summons is to be filed amending the names of the Plaintiff and 12th Defendant and removing the Defendants against whom the plaintiff has discontinued or withdrawn the matter.
- 12. Amended originating summons to be served on parties against whom the action is still on foot and as per the rules

Vandhana Lal [Ms]
Acting Master

Acting waster
At Suva.

TO:

- 1. Suva High Court Civil File No. HBC 86 of 2021;
- 2. Raikanikoda & Associates, Solicitors for the Plaintiff;
- 3. Legal Aid Commission, Solicitors for the Twelfth Defendant.