CORRUPTION is undeniably one of the most serious impediments to human development, says the Speaker of Parliament Dr Jiko Luveni.

"It undermines democracy and the rule of law, leads to violations of human rights, distorts markets, erodes quality of life, and allows organised crime, terrorism and other threats to human security to flourish," she said.

"Corruption hinders efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by obstructing unfettered public access to social services and diverting resources away from investments in public infrastructure, public institutions and social services."

Dr Luveni made the comments at the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and the Global Organisation of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC) Parliamentary Oversight Workshop at the Novotel Hotel in Nadi today.