



AUTONOMOUS BOUGAINVILLE GOVERNMENT

Ministry of Police, Correction Services & Justice

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER FOR POLICE, CORRECTIONS SERVICES  
& JUSTICE

It gives me Pleasure to present to this Honourable House an update on the status of Priority Activities that are being undertaken this year by My Ministry and the Department of Police, Corrective Services & Justice including the Office of Principal Legal Adviser.

It is March 2019 and as Minister responsible for Policing, Correctional Services and Justice, I wish to inform this Honourable House that the need for assistance in order to address more critical law and order challenges that are surfacing at an alarming rate has become more and more demanding. And this is happening at this juncture as we prepare towards the Referendum event later in October this year.

Because of this ever increasing need for assistance which ranges from finances and infrastructure to trainings and other capacity building needs, my Office will maintain and improve a continuous working relationship with the National Department of Justice and Attorney General as well as a strong partnership with the Australian Government which is also our major Development Partner in Bougainville. This is to get the maximum benefit with the support to law and order that we can possibly get out of these partnerships in terms of priority funding.

My Ministry wants to ensure that consistent Partnership and friendship with our stakeholder partners is a priority for Bougainville as we embrace new political developments of which the upcoming Referendum is a major part of.

As Minister, I get a lot of support from the Australian Government to ensure that major Law and Justice Infrastructures for Bougainville are funded and completed.

With financial constraints we are faced with, we continue to strategize and manage whatever little funding is prioritized by our Development Partners and other stakeholders.

Though my Office as Minister is financially handicapped, we have been able to coordinate the Bougainville Sector's Law and Justice Agency Programs from within the ABG's Legal Confines and Transparent Position. This refers to our efforts in coordinating Justice Agencies who continue to provide their specific roles in delivering Law and Justice Services in Bougainville. These Agencies' functions are financially controlled from the National Government however, they also discharge these functions within the limits of the Bougainville Peace Agreement, The Bougainville Constitution, and the National Constitution. By this, we are referring to the Police, the Courts, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Public Solicitor's Office, Correctional Services, CBC's Parole and Probation Services, and the Ombudsman Commission in Bougainville.

The Bougainville Police Service continues to be strengthened in the area of Infrastructure and Capacity Building and this has been made possible with continuing support from DFAT through the National Law and Justice Sector Programs in Bougainville.

A lot of progress is happening in terms of the implementation of law and justice services in our Region. And I commend all law and justices agencies relevant stakeholders for the efforts they had put forward in achieving the progress.

The Implementation continues to be guided by the Bougainville Law and Justice Sector's Mid-Term Development Plan 2016 to 2019, as well as my Department's Corporate Plan for 2018-2019 which are both going to lapse at the end of this year.

I now wish to provide to this Honourable House an update on the activities of the law and justice Agencies during the 2018 working year and especially the last 9 months. These Agencies are;

- 1. BOUGAINVILLE POLICE SERVICE**
- 2. VILLAGE COURTS & LAND MEDIATIONS**
- 3. DISTRICT COURTS OR MAGISTERIAL SERVICES**
- 4. NATIONAL COURTS OR NATIONAL JUDICIAL SERVICES**
- 5. CORRECTIONAL SERVICES BOUGAINVILLE**
- 6. COMMUNITY BASED CORRECTIONS**

## **7. PUBLIC SOLICITOR SERVICES**

## **8. PUBLIC PROSECUTOR SERVICES**

## **9. OMBUDSMAN COMMISSION SERVICES**

### **1. BOUGAINVILLE POLICE SERVICE (BPS)**

The BPS which is the largest of all law and justice agencies, still requires a lot of Infrastructure and Capacity needs in order to better perform its role and lift itself to expected standards. However, despite challenges faced, the BPS continues to implement its law and order functions within the current capacity it has, and which is required under Bougainville law and the BPA.

#### **1.1) Crimes Reported By BPS in 2018**

There were a Total of **1,458** Reported Crimes (Inclusive of Traffic Cases) for which **1,040** Arrests were made in 2018. This means that the BPS was able to make arrests for 71.3% of the total number of cases/crimes reported to the Police. This is a very big improvement from the 56.5% Arrest Rate in 2017.

#### **1.2) Police Manpower In The Region**

The BPS has a Total Strength of **574** Personnel across the Region which is made up of **227** Uniformed Personnel; **13** Civilians of which 10 are casuals

and **347** Community Auxiliary Police (CAPs) Personnel. There are 131 Women in the BPS of which **45** are Regular Members, **7** are Civilian and **86** are CAPs.

The BPS has a Total of 28 Vehicles in total and only 14 of these are Operational. And out of the 14 Operational Vehicles, 5 are due for Urgent Replacement which leaves the BPS with only 9 vehicles serviced currently.

As Minister, I wish to admit that there is still a far greater need to boost the level of Manpower and Logistical support for the BPS. But that will only come at a time when there is consistent annual funding to the ABG.

### **1.3) Robbery Cases**

In terms of the 3 or 4 robbery cases which happened over the last couple of years not much information had reached my Office as Minister responsible. The only robbery case I am informed of is the 'Pristine 101' robbery case whose investigative files have now been completed.

However, two suspects in relation to another more recent robbery which happened at Busbin (Ieta) late last year had been apprehended and investigations are still continuing.

### **1.4) Recent Murder Cases**

*The Kukul Murder Case*

A total of 4 arrests had been made in relation to the murder case at Kukul, however the 5<sup>th</sup> suspect had escaped and is still on the run and police are still investigating and will confirm his whereabouts in due course.

#### *The Sohano Murder Case*

A total of 4 suspects had already been charged with 1 count of murder each and investigations are still continuing on this case,

#### *The Sohano Arson Case*

This case has been allocated to a specific police officer and several arrests had been done and further investigations are still ongoing

Questions relating to the recent string of robberies in Buka requires me as Minister to answer but with accompanying Technical Factors that I must admit will need a Whole of Government approach through wider Consultations, Bills and Debates because this Process also leads into the Project 'Shaping Bougainville Justice' which I will mention later on.

However Mr Speaker, The BPS had been directed and are progressing with their Investigations and will announce their latest progress on these alarming Criminal Activities in due time.

There are no witnesses coming forward to produce any statements which makes it difficult for the BPS to determine and to do any arrests on criminals involved. This makes the work of BPS Investigators very slow. It is now a clear indication that possible witnesses are willing to come forward but are also concerned about their own security. Mr Speaker, options to improve and

better coordinate our Policing Strategies on crimes of such magnitude will be explored from now on however, this will involve a process of more wider consultations with the People.

I Believe the BPS alone will not solve the ever increasing crimes rates. This situation calls for all relevant Stakeholders in Bougainville to address the increasing criminal activities and to avoid further loss of Innocent Lives. Measures are gradually being taken to address such crimes within the Complex Political Context we are journeying through.

Since the Improvement of Policing Services is a Key Priority for Bougainville, My Ministry has a continuing momentum in working together with the National Law and Justice Sector and the Australian Government to maintain the Rule of Law and in ensuring that Justice Services are available to our people at all times. This process must be seen as a transitioning process aimed towards building a more independent Bougainville Police Service as envisaged by this Government and its people.

There are BPS Projects that have been undertaken in 2018 and have been completed.

- *INFRASTRUCTURE ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE BPS IN 2018*

In terms of BPS Infrastructure, we have achieved a lot of Police Infrastructure Projects for the last three years and some of these projects have been handed over to the Police in Arawa, Torokina and Buin, and the latest set of

Projects handed over in February this year includes the 3 Duplexes for Senior BPS Officers at the Hutjena Police Barracks.

- *COMMUNITY POLICING ACHIEVEMENTS*

During the 2018 working year, the Community Policing section of the BPS achieved the following;

1. A total of 102 Community awarenesses were conducted throughout the whole Region,
2. A total of 54 school visits were done to primary schools and high schools in the Region,
3. A total of 9 visiting awarenesses were done to 9 different churches across the Region.

- *TRAINING ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE BPS IN 2018*

Capacity Building and trainings for BPS is a major part in lifting the performance standards of the BPS so they are enabled to battle crimes and to enhance their role in protecting lives and properties. Important highlights in 2018 included the recruitment of 13 young Bougainvilleans who received Police training at Bomana and who were later posted for APEC duties in 2018.

A total of 5 senior Police Officers also successfully completed a Management Course that was delivered in 2018.

The other achievement is the continued training for Frontline Policing which was conducted to 40 BPS Personnel at the Hutjena Training Centre.

- *CHALLENGES FOR BOUGAINVILLE POLICE SERVICE IN 2018*

The BPS still faces a lot Administrative Challenges and thus there is a need for things like: A consistent supply of necessities such as Fuel; Station Books and Forms; Reliable and well Serviced Vehicles and having good supervisors and managers; Competent CID and Prosecutions Staff are critical to further improvements being made in the area of Crime Investigations, Arrests, and Prosecutions.

## **2. VILLAGE COURTS & LAND MEDIATIONS**

In 2018, the Village Courts had registered a total 895 cases of which 662 had been disposed through the mediation process while 233 were disposed through village courts. There were 36 cases referred to other agencies such as the District courts. A total of 37 Imprisonment Orders were made.

Land Mediations had registered a total of 111 land dispute cases in 2018 and 10 of those cases had been disposed. 4 cases were referred to the Local Land Court and 13 are still in progress. 77 cases have not yet been mediated and 7 cases were referred to the Chiefs.

- *ACHIEVEMENTS FOR VILLAGE COURTS IN 2018*

In 2018, Village Courts & Land Mediations achieved the following with most of its assistance being directly sorted from the National Village Courts Secretariat in Port Moresby;

1. One (1) Village courts officials training was conducted in February 2018,
2. One (1) District Village Courts Officials Training in August 2018,
3. Village Courts Inspections to 35 village courts during the months of August, November and December 2018,
4. Field visits to 8 Village courts in March 2018,
5. Completion of the Review of Land Mediators in 2018.

This Trainings will ensure the consistency and improvement in how our village courts and land mediation systems will work and translate in future.

- *CHALLENGES FOR VILLAGE COURTS IN 2018*

In 2018, our Village Courts & Land Mediations Office also had its share of challenges and these challenges were;

1. The unavailability of land mediations functional grants
2. The lack of recurrent operational grant for Justice Officers in the District level around the Region.
3. Mobilisation of officials and mediators during the course of duties due to the huge areas of operational areas where they usually operate.

4. There was a huge number of vacancies within the District Office positions for the proper coordination of the Village Courts and Land Mediations system.
5. Funding constraints which had an adverse impact on village court officers' regular inspections of the systems.

## **2. DISTRICT COURTS OR MAGISTERIAL SERVICES FOR BOUGAINVILLE**

- *ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE DISTRICT COURTS IN 2018*

District Court services can be better delivered to the three sub Regions only if each Region has a court house. And with Buka and Buin now having their own district court houses, plans are now underway to build a district court house for Arawa.

The Arawa District Court Plans have been discussed in several high level meetings. The agenda of building a separate District Court House for Arawa is timely as we have been utilizing a building that belongs to Telikom.

The Office of the Chief Justice of PNG has been very supportive of the Arawa District Court Project initiative and preliminary survey and assessment work which will include fencing will soon be underway.

- *CHALLENGES FOR DISTRICT COURTS IN 2018*

In 2018, Court circuits to isolated districts such as Nissan and Torokina due to funding constraints is still one of the biggest challenges for magisterial Services.

Funding constraints for District courts continue to hamper the maintenance of court infrastructures in 2018.

### **3. NATIONAL COURTS SERVICES**

The National Court Services still operate out of Buka which currently still holds the only National Court Registry in Bougainville. Plans have been put in place to expand National Court registries to Arawa in Central Bougainville and Buin in South Bougainville.

- *ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE NATIONAL COURTS IN 2018*

Even though there were no infrastructure projects for the National Courts in 2018 in relation to the planned expansion of its Registry at the Buka Court House, as well as a separate registry for the Arawa Court House, the National Court continued to perform its expected functions as per its Annual Court Calendar for 2018.

In 2018, a total of 12 National Court Sittings were conducted throughout the Region. There were 4 National Court Sittings conducted in Buka, 4 National

Court circuits conducted in Buin, and 4 National Court circuits conducted in Arawa. There were only 2 civil cases referred to ADR in 2018.

- *CHALLENGES FOR THE NATIONAL COURTS IN 2018*

The National Court has a backlog of cases to deal with and which is being constantly attended to for reduction however, it is a challenge as fresh committals continued to increase in 2018.

In 2018, some old cases which had been dismissed in Buka has now been opened in POM. Bench warrants on Criminal cases is between 400-500 still pending, while fresh committals is around 100-150.

#### **4. CORRECTIONAL SERVICES FOR BOUGAINVILLE**

The 2018 working year was yet another challenging year for my Ministry in terms of our support to Correctional Services Bougainville. This whole year was spent on seeking land to build a major Prison facility after the cancelation of Bekut as a major facility.

We did try our best to acquire a new piece of land to build a major Prison Facility.

There was counter funding that was originally made available by both the National Department of CS and the Australian Government to upgrade the Bekut Facility which included the fencing project however due to a

land dispute, funding had to be withdrawn and utilized elsewhere by the sector.

- *ACHIEVEMENTS FOR CS IN 2018*

In 2018, apart from normal daily operational activities, nothing has transpired for Correctional Services and this due to issues related to land for CS.

In the absence of a major Prison Facility for Bougainville which is being hampered by land issues to build one, we have been trying our best to manage our prisoners within the limited spaces we have in the police cells because Bekut itself cannot cater for the large number of prisoners which continues to increase on a weekly basis. And of the strategies we had adopted to ensure that the issue of overcrowding in the cells is controlled is by way of managing prisoners.

1. Prisoner Management

Prisoner Management is all about addressing overcrowding in the cells and ensuring that the rights of prisoners are not violated.

In 2018, the Activities that were carried out to help address the issue of overcrowding in the cells include;

- Magisterial Services did several visits to the Police cells lockup to assess the living conditions of prisoners held,

- The Office of Public Solicitor had assisted prisoners well with bail applications as per required procedures,
- As part of the drive to divert juvenile offenders from committing serious offences, a diversion training was conducted for Police and juvenile justice Committee members,
- Also theatre performances on crime prevention were held in different locations in communities and schools in South Bougainville.

In 2018, National CS had expressed support to rebuild a CS Facility once land is secured and made available by the ABG.

- *CHALLENGES FOR CORRECTIONAL SERVICES IN 2018*

In 2018, CS continues face a huge challenge regarding the Containment of Detainees and the problem of overcrowding in the police cells.

In 2018, CS continues to face shortfalls in securing funding for an Administrative Office space. CS has been operating from its tiny space within the Buka Police Station cells. This issue for CS extends to lack of equipment to produce required documentations and proper data reports.

Based on our CS Bougainville Strategic Development Plan 2018-2021, the National Department of CS and the Australian Government stand ready to support the ABG in building a Major Prison Facility however since there is a

delay in the process of acquiring land, that funding would also be withheld until a permanent piece of land is acquired fully.

## **5. COMMUNITY BASED CORRECTIONS**

Community Based Corrections continues to strongly engage with other law and justice Agencies and Stakeholders. During the 2018 Working year, My Ministry through my implementing Department ensured that CBC played a key role in strengthening the relationship between all law and justice agencies and stakeholders through regular consultative avenues and membership platforms such as;

1. Bougainville Law & Justice Coordinating Mechanism (BLJCM) Meetings,
2. Prison Management Committee Meetings,
3. Mabiri Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre (MJRC) Advance Team Meetings,
4. A MJRC Operational & Planning Workshop,
5. Probation Support System Meetings,
6. Bougainville Juvenile Justice Committee.

- *ACHIEVEMENTS FOR COMMUNITY BASED CORRECTIONS IN 2018*

Once again, successful outcomes for Community Based Corrections in 2018 can be attributed to its commitments in liaising with other agencies

through consistent meetings/Workshops/Conferences as well as participating externally with provincial engagement and stakeholder consultations aimed at enhancing or improving its services while at the same time building up this service for transitional purposes.

For the Probation role, there was a total of 20 probation intakes in the 2018. For Parole, a total of 18 prisoners were granted parole in 2018 and 2 had already been discharged.

A total of 66 participants received training through two Voluntary Probation Officer Trainings that were conducted by the Joint Parole Training team from the National level in 2018, and as a result of these trainings, there are now seven newly appointed supervisors who are supervising 10 parolees.

- *CHALLENGES FOR COMMUNITY BASED CORRECTIONS IN 2018*

The Challenges faced by Community Based Corrections in 2018 had been pre existing and relate to resourcing and funding constraints. The following are some of these challenges;

In 2018, Staff Housing in the Headquarter is still a problem for officers who commute to work from the villages daily.

The supposedly separate CBC Office in Buka is still located within the Buka Courthouse.

In 2018, all staffs are still based in the North and there is no permanent staff oversee CBC roles in relation to Central and South District Courts. The need for more CBC staffing extends to demands of the full operation and commencement of the Mabiri Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre (MJRC).

In 2018, the CBC Office was in dire need of office assets since equipment is out of date and cannot adequately address daily office operations.

In 2018, CBC's main function in the supervision of offenders placed on community based orders was hampered by the lack of a vehicle to do home visits or patrols and to effectively monitor supervised cases on community work orders.

## **2. OFFICE OF PUBLIC SOLICITOR SERVICES**

The Public Solicitor's Office has progressed significantly since its establishment in the Region in 2009. The Public Solicitor's Office established in Buka in 2009 used to be the only office in Bougainville. As community awareness on the roles and functions of the Office of Public Solicitor increased, so too did the number of Bougainvilleans seeking its services. 2019 becomes the fifth year for the OPS to operate its services in Central Bougainville.

- *ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC SOLICITOR'S OFFICE IN 2018*

The Office of Public Solicitor services are now being accessed throughout the Region with two current access points being Buka and Arawa. Those in the South can now travel to Arawa to get required assistance from the Public Solicitor who is based in Arawa.

Despite challenges affecting the performance of its core functions, the PSO has seen promising improvements in terms of Office management to ensure that its services were delivered to Bougainvilleans.

In 2018, The Public Solicitor's Office was able to close a total of **thirty six (36) criminal matters** with the National Court. And by the end of 2018, the PSO had only about **fifteen (15) civil matters** pending in the **National Court**.

In 2018, the Public Solicitor's Office was able to manage and attend National Court circuits that were conducted in Buin and Arawa.

- *CHALLENGES FOR THE PUBLIC SOLICITOR'S OFFICE IN 2018*

Even though the construction of the shared CBC/Pubsol Office complex in Arawa has been stalled due to funding constraints since 2017 right through to 2018, the public solicitor in Arawa still performed his roles and functions in assisting clients who cannot afford private lawyers.

By the end of 2018, there are still over 300 criminal matters still pending in the National Court. Most of these matters are for accused persons who are on bench warrants dating as far back as 1995 and have yet to be arrested and brought before the Courts by the Police.

In 2018, the PSO faced a shortage of lawyers with only two present at any one time in Court. One was based in Arawa whilst the other was based in Buka. However, since the beginning of this year, the number of lawyers as per the branch structure has increased to four (4) lawyers and a strength of five (5) support staffs.

Given the experiences of the past year 2018 I am hopeful that this year (2019) we will be able to further assist the Office of the Public Solicitor in enhancing its services to our people.

### **3. PUBLIC PROSECUTOR SERVICES**

Since establishment of the Office of the Public Prosecutor in 2017 as well as the appointment of a permanent Officer-in-Charge for Buka in 2018. This is a big improvement as it now eases what the situation used to be in the past where an officer as such is usually flown in from Port Moresby every time.

The appointed Officer has attended to a lot more court sittings and court circuits compared to those that used to fly in and out of the Region.

#### **4. OMBUDSMAN COMMISSION SERVICES**

The Office of the PNG Ombudsman Commission (PNG OC) branch has been established in Buka in early 2018, and this Government has an agreed understanding that the OC branch will pave the way for the creation of the Region's independent Office of Bougainville Ombudsman Commission (OBOC) in future. That agreed understanding is cemented through a Memorandum of Agreement signed between this Government and the PNGOC in 2018.

The Regional Office of the PNGOC has begun performing its roles and functions on investigations into both Administrative anomalies and also in providing an oversight to the performance of leaders against the Leadership Code. The Office's initial work has started working on several allegations and complaints received since last year.

The Regional Office currently has a total of 58 received Administrative complaints and a total of 7 Leadership complaints received in 2018, and which have been referred to the OCPNG Headquarters in Port Moresby.

#### **NEW PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018**

I wish to provide to this House a Summary on the following;

1. The Establishment of the Narcotics Help Desk

## 2. Juvenile Justice

### 3. The 'Shaping Bougainville Justice' Project

#### 1. The Establishment of the Narcotics Help Desk

In 2018, my Department requested for the National Narcotics Board to set up a help desk in the Region. That Narcotics 'help desk' will assist in combating drug and alcohol related substances in the region.

Consultations have been taking place between the Department and the National Narcotics Board which comes under the Department of Justice and Attorney General in Port Moresby.

In 2018, an introductory narcotics workshop was held with stakeholders at the Hahela YC and a drug and alcohol awareness was held at the Mabiri Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre for juveniles and the surrounding community.

A BEC Submission which is to be deliberated upon by our officials is being prepared by the National Narcotics Board. The anticipated signing of an MOU in the setting up of the Help Desk is forecasted for May this year.

#### 2. Juvenile Justice

In 2018, two trainings aimed at equipping Volunteer Probation Officers were conducted for village court officials who will assist with

supervising probationers and parolees throughout the Region due to the limited number of CBC Officers.

In 2018, and in its first operational year a total of 9 juveniles were sent to the Mabiri Centre to serve their sentences. 4 were discharged in January 2019 while 1 is on probation, and 4 are currently remaining in the centre. There is another 9 juveniles who are currently awaiting their court decisions and will likely be the next lot to be rehabilitated at the Centre.

And as part of the Mabiri Centre's plans to sustain its operations in the future, its planned and well initiated economic projects will hopefully be opened in April this year along with a Duplex for resident teachers.

### 3. The 'Shaping Bougainville Justice' Project

As Minister Responsible for Law and Justice, the current trend and signals indicate that a fully functioning Internal Security Measure for Bougainville is paramount. Thus, the BPS is and must be the Priority before other Justice Agencies fall in line to be developed and so that they operate more independently without security threats, fear and intimidation.

My Ministry's current focus now is on the following areas;

- Infrastructure Support;

- Increased Staffing Levels; and
- Capacity Development (which means Development of Organisational Structures, Skills Development and Implementation of Bougainville Systems and Procedures)

Important Projects that we need to support are very much in line with the Bougainville Law and Justice Sector's Mid-Term Development Plan 2016 – 2019, as well as my Department's Corporate Plan for 2018 – 2019.

The 'Shaping Bougainville Justice Project' is a very large Project that will take a Minimum of 5 Years to a Maximum of 10 Years to fully function on its own and to stand the test of time as it develops further. This means that the Project, "Shaping Bougainville Justice" involves an enormous task with a lot of costs involved, which this government will never be able to fund alone. This Project will also need a lot of funding inputs both from this Government's other partners including the national government during its initial stages.

And because of factors associated with the Project's costs involved, it is more realistic to develop our systems through this Project on a gradual basis.

My Office had worked on a 'Terms of Reference' for this Project and there are Plans to engage a Consultant to coordinate this huge and technically complex Project starting next month.

It is through realistic and tangible Infrastructures that will drive Law and Order, as well as secure other transitioning Justice Services to operate well and develop into a system that is suitable for Bougainville overtime.

A series of meetings and a 'Lead Up' Workshop held between the Bougainville Law and Justice Coordinating Mechanism and the National Law and Justice Working Group in both Buka and Port Moresby between the months of June and August in 2017, were centred around discussions on how best to develop the Law and Justice Institutions in Bougainville on a transitional Basis with emphasis on the responsibility of the National Government for support, particularly given that the forthcoming Referendum is to be conducted in 2019.

During several discussions with National Counterparts, Bougainville Police Service and Correctional Services are the agreed Top Priorities within the Law and Justice Sector which prompts my Ministry to ensure we seek all the support for the ABG by putting more emphasis on these two Priority Areas leading up to the Referendum and onwards.

To Conclude I wish to inform this Honourable House that my Ministry will maintain a realistic approach in its role in ensuring Law and Justice Services are provided to the people while its capacity is developing and transitioning through. As Minister, it is my wish to ensure that our law and justice projects are timely delivered within our Corporate and Strategic Plans as we continue to strengthen our Institutions before and after the conduct of Referendum. It is a very big challenge which also tests the time validity to maintain the rule of law within the spirit of the Bougainville Peace

Agreement Of 2001, and as envisaged by Bougainvilleans through both The National and Bougainville Constitutions.

Lastly Mr Speaker, I Wish To Give My Sincere Thank You to our Development Partners (The Government of Australia and The Government of New Zealand) for their continuing efforts in supporting the ABG in not only assisting to bring about law and justice services to the people of Bougainville, but also for strengthening the Infrastructure and capacity building Agenda in Bougainville.

Thank You Mr Speaker

HONOURABLE WILLIE MASIU

MINISTER FOR POLICE, CORRECTION SERVICES AND JUSTICE