



# THE BOUGAINVILLE BULLETIN

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JSB UPDATE

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BOUGAINVILLE REFERENDUM COMMISSION LIFT-OUT



All 33 constituencies in Bougainville have completed their process of declaration as 'referendum-ready', under the Constituency Referendum Ready Concept.

This was a home-grown initiative undertaken by all members of the Bougainville House of Representatives to ensure that all constituencies are declared weapons-free and referendum-ready before the vote.

All constituencies tabled their final reports in the September sitting of the Bougainville House of Representatives followed

by the official declaration of a weapons-free, united and referendum-ready Bougainville. The declaration was made by ABG President, Hon. Chief Dr John Momis.

"This demonstrates our unwavering commitment to ensure that Bougainville is ready to go into the referendum with confidence and as a unified body," Momis stated.

"On behalf of the leaders, past and present, and for the sake of informed decision, free, fair and peaceful referendum, I announce my people's commitment to continue with civic

**“People of Bougainville, in unity we are firm, and Bougainville is referendum-ready,”**

**President Chief Dr John Momis**

education and awareness, good governance, implementation of the referendum outcome, including continuous political consultations, inter-parliament dialogue, negotiations on the

referendum processes, peace-building and political settlement.”

“I reaffirm that the people of Bougainville had made an affirmation to uphold at all times and have respect for the rule of law, resolutions of the Bougainville House of Representatives, Bougainville Executive Council decisions, Joint Supervisory Body resolutions, leadership of the Government of PNG, international partners, Bougainville Referendum Commission, referendum outcome.”

The declaration

recognized the commitments made at the Bougainville Veterans Summit in July this year and committed to upholding these key outcomes.

The President acknowledged the great progress made in the weapons disposal process.

President Momis thanked the ABG constituency and community government members, the National Government, development partners and the people of Bougainville, for their collective efforts in this important process to prepare Bougainville for the referendum.

## ABG announces strategy for post-referendum period

In response to public calls for the post referendum process to include participation by all Bougainvilleans,

the Autonomous Bougainville Government announced its intention to take a 'whole-of-Bougainville'

approach to enable all Bougainvilleans to participate in the consultations after the vote.

ABG Vice President and Member for Atolls, Hon. Raymond Masono, made this announcement in his statement to parliament in September.

He said this strategy aims to ensure all Bougainvilleans participate and take

ownership of the outcome.

“The ABG wants the negotiations to be inclusive, collaborative, consensual and consultative,” he said.

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*Our voice, Our image, Our place*

## Editor's Desk

Hello readers!

Welcome to Edition 15 of the Bougainville Bulletin.

The past few months has seen significant events happen across Bougainville, all in preparation for the referendum.

The Weapons Disposal pillar of the Bougainville Peace Agreement has made great progress with the Bougainville Veterans uniting and leading the process to dispose of all weapons of war to ensure a free and safe environment before the referendum.

A remarkable achievement was the National Pre-Reconciliation held in Kokopo, East New Britain province, earlier this month which saw the National Security Forces facing the Bougainville Veterans for the first time after the conflict, and saying sorry to each other for the atrocities of the conflict. Included in this edition on page 13 are some of the highlights from this historical event.

We have in this edition a special lift-out also from the Bougainville Referendum Commission which we trust will greatly increase your understanding of the voting process and other related issues.

A key question that would be on everyone's mind is what happens next? The National and Bougainville governments have been working collaboratively to ensure all these plans and processes for post-referendum are well in place before the consultations and negotiations take place after the vote. You can read more in this edition and continue to share and have discussions within your families and communities about what you think about this.

Your government, the ABG, is working hard through the Joint Ministerial Taskforce on Post Referendum, to ensure we have the best negotiators in the Team to get the best possible outcome for Bougainville.

While we ponder on this, may we also be reminded that the Bougainville Peace Agreement envisages a joint approach and so whatever the outcome is of the referendum, we must also be ready to accept it peacefully.

On behalf of the Bulletin Team, we wish all our readers and the people of Bougainville, a safe, free and fair referendum period.

The Bulletin Team

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### About the *Bougainville Bulletin*

The *Bougainville Bulletin* is a publication of the Autonomous Bougainville Government, produced by the Directorate of Media and Communication, Department of President and Bougainville Executive Council.

We encourage stories from the public, government and community organisations. To submit an article or letter for publication, please contact us:

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### Improved health care for South Bougainville

The people of South Bougainville will benefit from improved health care services from a new Community Health Post (CHP) that was opened recently through the support of the Australian Government as part of ongoing activities to strengthen provincial health systems in Papua New Guinea.

The new health post in Karato will serve approximately 6,000 people and will have three health workers, with a delivery room, post-natal room, upgraded sanitation and medical



*Pictured: (L-R) ABG Health Minister, Hon. Dennis Lokonai, ABG Health Secretary, Clement Totavun and DFAT First Secretary, Clayton Harrington cutting the ribbon during the opening ceremony.*

waste management facilities and staff housing. The Karato Health Post will also provide training for Village Health Volunteers.

# JSB endorses key outcomes

Four key issues were tabled in the recent meeting held in Buka, between the Bougainville and PNG governments.

The issues discussed included an update on referendum preparations, weapons disposal and national reconciliation period updates and an independent report of the constitutionally agreed Restoration and Development Grant.

The referendum update was provided by Chief Referendum Officer of the Bougainville Referendum Commission Mauricio Claudio, where he assured both governments that the BRC stands ready to deliver the referendum for Bougainville.

ABG President, Hon. Chief Dr John Momis and PNG Prime Minister, Hon. James Marape, endorsed the six week extension. The issue of writs occurred on September 27, 2019 and the revised polling start date is November 23, 2019.

On the issue of weapons disposal, the JSB took note of the progressive work done to date, and endorsed that on September 25, 2019, all Me'ekamui-held weapons must be contained. Further to this, an additional four weeks grace period will be allowed for weapons still being held by individuals to be surrendered for containment. Any weapons held after this grace period will be held accountable under the National Guns Act.

The national reconciliation update noted that while internal reconciliation activities are happening, it is also critical to have the national reconciliation between the National Government, the ABG and veterans.

The JSB endorsed the update provided by National Minister for Bougainville Affairs, Sir Puka Temu, on the post transition process and further endorsed a proposed Joint Secretariat to support the work of



the Joint Ministerial Taskforce on Post Referendum.

Minister Temu also proposed that a process should begin immediately to identify facilitators/moderators (both national and international) to assist the two governments in the negotiation period after the referendum.

The Restoration and Development Grant was the last item on the agenda and had been an issue that was previously unresolved by both governments in previous JSB meetings.

The Restoration and Development Grant (RDG) is a constitutional

grant payable annually to the ABG by the National Government to be used to rebuild and restore government services on Bougainville.

In the March 2019 JSB, a decision was made for the UNDP to engage an expert who will provide an independent review of the RDG calculation formula. This report was presented to both governments during the JSB where an agreement was reached for both leaderships to accept the expert's report and the immediate settlement of arrears.

The JSB endorsed a new arrangement going

forward for the National Government to provide K100 million annually to the ABG over the next 10 years.

President Momis described the discussions and thanked the Prime Minister and his cabinet for their commitment to Bougainville.

"I think we have taken a very important step in the history of Bougainville and Papua New Guinea that will lead, in my belief, to a very good negotiated outcome of the long standing turbulent crisis that has taken the lives of many people on both sides," said Momis.

## Revenue raising powers to be transferred to Bougainville

The National Government says it will transfer all revenue raising powers to the Autonomous Bougainville Government.

Prime Minister Hon. James Marape, made this announcement in his address to the Bougainville House of Representatives during

the National Executive Council visit to Buka in September.

"My new generation of leaders, those who helped me change government want to transfer resources to our people in provinces and you here in the special region of Bougainville," Marape said.

"In the case of Bougainville, our National Government will transfer full revenue raising powers to the regional government and we will assist monitor your collections in fisheries, forestry, agriculture and other industries that you Bougainvilleans may choose to undertake."

ABG President Hon. Chief Dr John Momis welcomed this announcement and described the relationship between the Bougainville and PNG governments as 'taking on a new dimension'.

"It is encouraging to hear that the Prime Minister is not only committed to work with the ABG, but is already showing signs that he's prepared to take some concrete

measures to enable the people of Bougainville to get their teeth into something, economic development," Momis said.

The transfer of revenue raising powers to the ABG will go a long way to enable the autonomous government to create its own revenue in a self-sustaining manner and can prioritize development programs according to unique Bougainville needs.

## National Minister: Public awareness critical

Public awareness is critical for Bougainville to ensure orderly conduct of the referendum, acceptance of the outcome and continued peace after the referendum.

National Minister for Bougainville Affairs, Sir Puka Temu, said this in his statement to the national parliament in June.

"It is accordingly important that the sequence of events that constitute

the referendum process is explained to the public so that impatience and/or unrealistic expectations for or against honoring the people's vote do not lead to disorder or otherwise disturb the peace process on the ground," he said.

The Bougainville Audience Study 2019, found that there has been a significant increase in people's knowledge levels on the Bougainville Peace Agreement and

referendum, however continuous awareness is vital especially to ensure people understand the process that will happen after the vote.

Minister Temu highlighted two critical areas that people in Bougainville have raised concerns about:

(a) that the result of the vote is non-binding and

(b) the result is subject to ratification or final decision by the National

Parliament.

A non-binding result means that the National Government and the ABG are required to consult over the result of the vote.

The next step in the process is then the ratification – or the process by which the national parliament will make the final decision after the consultations and negotiations.

"We need to ensure that all members of the

parliament are properly briefed so that they are fully aware of both of the two governments' positions following the two governments' consultations," he said.

All national members were also provided with copies of the Bougainville Peace Agreement and the Joint Key Messages containing frequently asked questions about the BPA and referendum process.



### Bougainvilleans urged to embrace change through referendum

reiterated that after the vote, the final outcome must be agreed to by the two governments through consultation and negotiations.

Prime Minister Hon James Marape also shared similar sentiments assuring the people of Bougainville that the National Government will ensure that the Bougainville Peace Agreement is achieved.

"I come to honour the spirit and the effect of the Bougainville Peace Agreement to the fullest and we will stand with you every step of the way and the final outcome must be satisfying to us all," Mr Marape said.

According to the Chief Referendum Officer Mr Mauricio Claudio, the presentation of the writs was to officially commend the Referendum Returning Officer Mr John Sisiesi and his team of polling officials to take charge of the polling.

Upon receiving the writs, Mr Sisiesi assured both governments and the people of Bougainville that he and his team of polling officials will ensure to complete the polling as expected of them.

"I thank you all, especially the two governments, the command and the instructions laid out in this writs will be carried out and all those that worked hard to prepare for this, I am confident that myself and the thirty four returning officers will deliver a credible referendum as expected," Mr Sisiesi said.

### Concerns on service delivery after vote

Agrowing concern among Bougainvilleans about service delivery after the vote has led to fear and uncertainty for the post-referendum period. In many parts of the region people, including youths, have questioned whether the current government services such as educational institutions, hospitals and other public services will continue after

the vote.

A man from South Bougainville commented: "in terms of educational institutions and health, we still go back to Papua New Guinea to these big institutions and hospitals. We simply do not have all these things [institutions]"

A Central resident asked: "What will happen if PNG government withdraws all its public servants?"

ABG Minister for Peace Agreement Implementation, Albert Punghau and his National Government counterpart and Minister for Bougainville Affairs, Sir Puka Temu, assured the people that the current government services will continue as normal after the referendum vote.

"The National Government is fully committed to deliver the referendum for Bougainville and we have received confirmation from Minister Temu that PNG will continue to support Bougainville in finances and capacity" said Punghau.

Minister Punghau and Minister Temu both reaffirmed the ABG and National Government's commitment to the



Sir Puka Temu, Minister for Bougainville Affairs

referendum and peace process in Bougainville, during their recent Joint Referendum Roadshow in June.

Minister Temu explained that he and his ABG counterpart are leading the Joint Post-Referendum Taskforce, which is currently focused on identifying issues that are likely to happen after the referendum and possible options to address them.

"I would like to see it [possible scenarios after the referendum] become a focus for community outreach, political dialogue and cooperation by the National government and the ABG."

"Every effort must be made to ensure that implementation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement continues to be peaceful – and that the peace-building continues," said Minister Temu.

## ABG passes 2019 supplementary budget



Hon. Robin Wilson, ABG Minister for Finance and Treasury

Sixty-five percent of the 2019 ABG supplementary budget has been allocated to the governance sector in Bougainville.

ABG Minister for Finance and Treasury, Hon. Robin Wilson, made the announcement when handing down the K10million supplementary budget.

Minister Wilson explained that this supplementary budget saw a change in the original proportionate

percentages, particularly in the governance sector.

"In this supplementary budget, the percentages have been varied after much consideration to meet pressing and immediate priorities thereby giving 65% to governance sector, 20% to economic sector and 15% to social sector," he explained.

The changes were required to settle the backlog of outstanding debts under the governance sector.

"All outstanding debts must be sorted out before this House goes into elections. This also includes administrative support towards post-referendum planning," he said.

The supplementary budget received

unanimous endorsement from the Members of the Bougainville House of Representatives, with most saying that the allocation for the governance sector reflects Bougainville's political agenda to progress efforts to ensure the people are referendum-ready.

ABG President Chief Dr John Momis reiterated that people must be involved in important decision-making in the referendum period which will enable them to take ownership of the process.

Politicians and people must be equally involved. Negotiation is the key now, and must have representatives from all levels, because this house is built by the

people of Bougainville. Participation of the people is paramount in Bougainville's political process," said Momis.

The allocation for economic sector will focus on establishing policies and legislations that will boost economic growth and revenue generation for Bougainville. "There are several such policies and legislations that the ABG envisage to pass by the end of this year which include the Energy Policy and ICT policy among others." Under the social sector, education services will receive the bulk of the funding to ensure all education institutions in Bougainville continue to operate, especially during the upcoming examination periods at

the end of the year.

ABG Minister for Education, Hon. Thomas Pata'aku welcomed this announcement saying that schools in Bougainville have been struggling with the lack of funding under the Tuition Fee Free program from the National Government.

"Schools have been struggling to keep operating with limited funding and faced closure. This allocation will ensure schools stay open," he said.

The K10 million was received from the National Fisheries Authority as revenue for tuna catches in Bougainville waters and will be incorporated as additional revenue into the current Appropriation Act of 2019.

## ABG announces strategy for post-referendum period

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Vice President Masono stated that the Bougainville Executive Council has endorsed a Negotiation Framework which will consist of a Bougainville-based Negotiation Forum and a Negotiation Team.

The Negotiation Forum will include but will not be limited to the following factions:

- ABG Ministers
- ABG Members
- Community Governments
- Bougainville Veterans
- Me'ekamui Government of Unity
- Women
- Youth
- Churches
- Business Houses
- Kingdom of Papala

- Expatriate Bougainvilleans

"The role of the forum would be to discuss and agree on important issues for negotiation which would then be passed on to the ABG post-referendum, pre-ratification Negotiation Team," Masono explained.

The Negotiation

Team will engage in negotiations with the National Government and will provide progressive reports back to the Forum at every stage of the process.

This Negotiation Team will also have representatives from each of the stakeholders involved in the Negotiation Forum, including representatives from the Regional Parliamentary Committees.

With the polling date set for the 23rd of November, the ABG aims to hold the first Negotiation Forum as soon as possible to discuss and agree on issues for negotiation.

The plan received collective support from Members of the House of Representatives, saying it was timely and that this strategy ensures no group in Bougainville is left out of the process after the vote.

## Audience Study shows increase in knowledge levels on BPA

There has been a significant increase in people's knowledge levels on the Bougainville Peace Agreement and referendum, however continuous awareness is vital in the lead up to the referendum and beyond.

This was one of the key findings of the second Bougainville Audience Study, which was launched in Buka in July this year.

ABG's Media and Communications Director, Adriana Schmidt, says the report provides government and its stakeholders with a clear picture of current understanding levels and information needs of Bougainvilleans who will be voting in the referendum.

"The study represents the voice of over 1000 Bougainvilleans within and outside Bougainville, on their knowledge levels of key BPA and referendum information, their aspirations and specific information needs," she said.

A key finding from the



research talked about the people's desire to know more about what the two options mean in very practical terms, and also the need to understand more about the process that will happen after the vote.

The research also provides key recommendations to improve engagement towards having a holistic approach for different audience groups, such as women and young people.

"As government and key stakeholders actively

involved in awareness activities, it is up to us to respond with information that manages people's expectations with transparent and realistic discussion of challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for Bougainville beyond the referendum."

Since the last study was conducted, the ABG has responded to the recommendations by focusing on 'black spots' across Bougainville and actively providing information about the

Peace Agreement and referendum through:

- **Print media: continuous production ABG's Bougainville Bulletin of 30,000 copies each edition distributed across Bougainville**
- **Established community based media outlets such as the RADIO PLES LAIN which has conducted more than 300 community-based broadcasts**
- **Three regional**

**Community Information Centers established**

- **Consistent updates of key BPA/Referendum information based on jointly agreed content**

- **Progressing work to improve Bougainville's radio infrastructure**

These efforts will continue in partnership with all stakeholders to ensure that our people are well-informed on important issues as we look forward to the referendum and beyond.

The Audience Study project was supported through the Governments of Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

The Bougainville Audience Study is available for download on the ABG's website [http://www.abg.gov.pg/uploads/documents/Bougainville\\_Audience\\_Study\\_-\\_Phase\\_2\\_June\\_2019\\_-\\_Final\\_Report\\_-\\_Compressed.pdf](http://www.abg.gov.pg/uploads/documents/Bougainville_Audience_Study_-_Phase_2_June_2019_-_Final_Report_-_Compressed.pdf)

## Bougainville and PNG agree on details on referendum choices

The President of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville and the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea has jointly endorsed the detailed descriptions of the two referendum choices of greater autonomy and independence.

The descriptions were agreed to in an exchange of letters between the President of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Chief Dr John Momis and Prime Minister, James Marape in October this year.

The endorsed detailed descriptions have been provided to the Bougainville Referendum

Commission who will be providing this information to the public through awareness.

BRC Chair Bertie Ahern said the two pages of information supported the conduct of a free and fair vote.

"A credible vote needs to be an informed vote, so we are delighted that the two governments have responded to our concerns and provided more information about what the two options really mean," Mr Ahern.

He said the Commission will translate the information into Tok Pisin and provide in multiple formats for awareness activities

ahead of polling.

"We believe voters are well informed and comfortable with the technical referendum voting process, so the next weeks are really about quality – training polling and counting officials to do their job well, briefing scrutineers and observers so that they can do theirs, and giving voters the information they need to vote in an informed way – no matter which option they decide to choose."

*The full copy of the Detailed Descriptions is on pages 9-12 of this edition.*



EU Delegation in discussion with Sr Lorraine Garasu at Chabai

## EU eyes Bougainville Referendum preparations

The international community wants to see a smooth, credible and peaceful process for Bougainville before, during and after the referendum.

This was the message delivered by the Deputy Secretary General of the EU, Jean-Christophe Billiard, during their two day visit to Bougainville in early October.

Mr Billiard said the EU is aware of the history of Bougainville and that they are keeping a close eye on the referendum planning and preparations.

"We the EU are following it [referendum] very carefully, we hope and we have no doubt that the referendum as such will be smooth and peaceful," he said.

During their visit, the delegation met with ABG Ministers and Members,



Women Peace builders meet with Australia Foreign Minister Marise Payne at Chabai.

including the Chairman of the Parliamentary Referendum Committee, Hon. Joseph Watawi. They also met with the acting Chief Secretary to the ABG Col. Thomas Raivet (Rtd) and the acting Secretary of the Department of Peace Agreement Implementation, Dennis Kuiai.

The delegation also visited the Nazareth Center for Rehabilitation at Chabai where they

had an audience with Sr Lorraine Garasu.

The primary focus for this visit by the EU was to gain a better understanding and awareness of what is happening in Bougainville in the lead up to the referendum.

The international community will play a significant role in Bougainville's referendum process, especially in the post-referendum period.

## New Zealand's relationship with Bougainville strengthens

The New Zealand High Commissioner His Excellency Mr Philip Taula visited Buka that is accomplished given our time frame in Bougainville" he added.

As part of New Zealand's support to the peace process in Bougainville, the New Zealand Government will be coordinating a sub-regional policing mission during and after the referendum.

"I'm very honored to be in Bougainville for a very short period - it's a great honor to be the New Zealand High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea and I'm very pleased for the opportunity to be back here again. I know New Zealand has a very long history involved in Bougainville and I feel very proud of that," Mr Taula said.

The Minister for Public Service, Hon. Robert Hamal Sawa, welcomed His Excellency's visit to the region as a sign of progress in the lead up to the referendum.

Sawa commented: "We will need to work together to ensure that this process [the referendum] be achieved and the aspirations of our people of Bougainville".

"In this short time of preparation for not only how but after

the post referendum period as well we need to work as a family together to ensure that the aspirations of our people and whatever the result is going to be, we are all going to be partners to ensure

that is accomplished given our time frame in Bougainville" he added.

As part of New Zealand's support to the peace process in Bougainville, the New Zealand Government will be coordinating a sub-regional policing mission during and after the referendum.

The security mission will provide neutral capacity support to the Bougainville Police Service and will also consist of police personnel from Australia, Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

It is anticipated that this mission will be deployed to Bougainville after training in early November and will depart after the count is completed in December this year.

ABG Minister for Police, Correction Services and Justice Hon. Willie Masiu thanked the development partners for the tremendous support urged all leaders and people of Bougainville to ensure that the referendum is free and safe.

"As leaders, we must play some role in ensuring that our referendum is safe and trouble free. Assist the security personnel in any way you can. It is our game, let's play it right and win," Masiu said.

# Report highlights issues to increase women's participation in elections



Violence Against Women in Elections in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville: An IFES Assessment

A recent report from the International Federation of Electoral Systems (IFES) found that while women in Bougainville have greater access to politics and decision-making, they still face significant challenges as they seek to participate in the electoral process. The report assessed Violence Against Women

in Elections (VAWE) in Bougainville following the 2015 ABG elections and the 2017 PNG National Elections. The research reported key factors that influence the impact of violence against women and includes status of Bougainvillean women, access to electoral processes and incidents of trends and triggers for violence against women in elections. The report highlighted key recommendations to address and prevent Violence Against Women in Elections including voter awareness and education campaigns, increased support to female candidates and elected officials and collaboration with political

## The Leitana Legacy

One organization that has played a leading role in bringing back peace and order into the lives of women is the Leitana Nehan Women's Development Agency. For the last 27 years it has been serving its cause, aiding the women of Bougainville. The agency is very popular to the mothers and young women of Bougainville who find refuge in times of trouble. It is a safe house and a place for therapy and counseling for women who are affected by or have encountered violence related cases in their homes. Born on 13th September 1955, co-founder and Executive Director Helen Samu Hakena has been

providing service as an organizer and campaigner for peace and women and children's rights for the last 27 years. Leitana emerged as a legacy from the experiences of three women who struggled to give birth, hiding in an empty warehouse for safety during the crisis. Tragically, two women died during childbirth leaving behind their infant sons. Helen, who was one of the women, also gave birth but survived the ordeal. The agency is a legacy to the women who lost their lives. Its motto is "Women weaving Bougainville together." During its 27 years, Leitana has encountered challenges. In 2010, a fire destroyed their headquarters in Buka. The office was burnt to ashes but a new office was built in 2018. Leitana also received recognition for the services it provides and has won many awards, from the United Nations Millennium Peace Prize in 2000 and the Pacific Peace Prize in 2004. Helen Hakena is a strong advocate for peace and unity has supported awareness of the Bougainville Referendum. She says that they have carried out awareness on the enrollment of the eligible voters and will continue to provide services on education, peace, gender issues, community development and advocate on women and children's rights. She is also a strong advocator on weapons disposal and has much dialogue with the former combatants who also support the removal of weapons to bring back peace and stability into the region. Helen's job has taken her to countries like South Sudan and East Timor- countries that have also suffered from conflict. This makes her more adamant to advocate against weapons. She wants a weapons free region and, like all mothers, wants peace to prevail during the referendum period and after the polling. For Leitana, the safe house, it will continue to operate into the referendum period. The future is unknown but the women who carry the legacy of Leitana have survived the Bougainville Crisis and now will vote for the future of Bougainville.

## Bougainville Women's Federation Bill tabled in parliament

ABG Minister for Community Development and Member for Peit Constituency, Hon. Josephine Getsi, tabled the Bougainville Women's Federation Bill 2019 in the September sitting of the Bougainville House of Representatives. Minister Getsi explained that the Bill was formulated following wide consultations with various stakeholders at all levels, particularly the women of Bougainville. "The aim of the bill is to establish the Bougainville Women's Federation as the peak non-governmental organization representing the interest of women and women's organizations in Bougainville," she said. The BWF Bill received overwhelming support from the women of Bougainville to be presented in parliament as they believe this will empower them to contribute meaningfully to development and on-going peace in Bougainville. The BWF Bill was passed for the first reading and will be presented at the next session parliament for the second reading, before it can be enacted as an ABG law.

## Award winning filmmaker addresses misinformation through locally produced film

A lot of effort has been put into correcting misinformation about the Bougainville referendum process by various lead stakeholders, and this locally produced film titled 'Referendum! Em Husat?' is another outstanding community initiative that ensures our people, especially women, are well-informed before the vote. The Bougainville Bulletin interviewed Llane Munau - producer, director and award-winning filmmaker about this latest production. Here's how it went:

### 2. What is the key message the film addresses?

Llane: The key message I want to get through to the people of Bougainville in this film is that whatever the outcome of our votes lets maintain peace. The second message is that we as a people have to really trust God to take us through this whole Referendum and Post Referendum period because He will always have a the final say.

### 3. Tell us about your experience working with the different actors?

Llane: I had a great time working with the actors in this film, as all of them were women and youth. I had taken them through a 2 Days workshop to prepare them before shooting. I had developed an approach that I use to prep actors and crew before filming a story. So it was easy working with all the actors plus some of the actors had already acted in a film I did at the beginning of the year, which we'll release in December.

### 1. What inspired you to produce the film?

Llane: I just wanted to do a film that could simplify the meaning of words like Referendum; Greater Autonomy and independence because a lot of people and especially women ask me these questions. So as a filmmaker; the simplest way i could explain these words was by making a film that could explain these words in layman terms by using a satirical approach.



Llane Munau (pictured right) during the filming at Arawa

### 4. What has the feedback been like from people who have viewed the film?

Llane: I have got a lot of positive feedback from the film. Many people said that the film has really simplified the terms like Referendum, Greater Autonomy and Independence, plus the film is a very good awareness material that a lot of communities are using to show in community, ward or family gatherings.

### 5. What is your message to the people of Bougainville as we come close to the referendum date?

### referendum date?

Llane: My message to the people of Bougainville is to really pray and ask God for His guidance when it comes to voting in the Referendum so that each person votes from their heart.

Llane Munau has directed seven documentaries since 2014, and two of which have received international awards.

This film titled 'Referendum! Em Husat?' will be Llane's second feature film she's directed and filmed in Bougainville. She has an upcoming film titled 'Peter and Grace Make a Difference' which will be released in December this year. Llane comes from a mix parentage of Kieta and Buin/Siwai in South Bougainville and she aims to produce and direct more films in Bougainville and PNG. It is also her dream that these locally-based productions can inspire young Bougainvilleans to take up the challenge of studying the art of telling stories through moving pictures and becoming filmmakers.

## LUDWIG VINARANG Tinputz



Mi yet blong Rabaul na mi marit ikam long Tinputz. Mi bin kam long Bougainville since 2003, na mi istap

## Community views on post referendum

long Bougainville inap nau 2019. Mi hamamas long dispela referendum na mi wok long look forward long em. Long strongpla tingting blong mi sapos yumi kisim indipendens lo na oda imas kamap strong long kamapim gutpla sindaun blong yumi long Bougainville.

## RUTH LARIS Siwai



Taim yumi wok long redi long kisim referendum na wanem samting em bai kamap

bihain long referendum before yumi kisim independence em mi laikim displa peace imas stap namel long umi olgeta lo Bougainville. Namba tu strongpla tingting blo mi olsem umi mas kisim independence bikos planti man lo displa ailan ibin dai, na bulut ibin kapsait na displa hard wok blo yumi long kisim indipendens imas noken lus. So taim bihain yumi

kisim independence, law and order imas stap in place, em bai helpim yumi tu lo displa niupla wokabaut blong yumi. Ating narapla samting tu olsem mi laikim ol leaders na ol people blo yumi insait lo displa region imas wok bung wantaim, unity imas stap insait na strongim yumi wanwan ken achievim wanem yumi wok long look forward long em.



# Descriptions of the Bougainville Referendum Options



The purpose of this document is to provide additional detail about Greater Autonomy and Independence so that voters can make a well-informed-choice.

This is the question that will be asked in the referendum on Bougainville's future status.

**Do you agree for Bougainville to have:**

1. **Greater Autonomy**      2. **Independence**

### Definition of Greater Autonomy and Independence

In an exchange of letters in May 2019, the Prime Minister and President agreed on the following definitions of the terms 'greater autonomy' and 'independence'.

GREATER AUTONOMY	INDEPENDENCE
<b>A negotiated political settlement that provides for a form of autonomy with greater powers than those currently available under constitutional arrangements.</b>	<b>An independent nation state with sovereign powers and laws, recognized under international law and by other international states to be an independent state, separate to the state of PNG.</b>

### Description of 'Greater Autonomy'

A negotiated political settlement that provides for a form of autonomy with greater powers than those currently available under constitutional arrangements.

Under the Bougainville Peace Agreement, Bougainville has a high level of autonomy powers for home grown decision-making. When the ABG began in June 2005, all provincial government powers and functions were automatically assumed. Since then, the Autonomous Bougainville Government has assumed additional powers, such as mining. Bougainville has its own constitution, its own political system and its own public service.

Under 'greater autonomy', the National Government will continue to support the implementation of the existing autonomy arrangements and provide additional powers and functions to the Bougainville government.

Examples of powers that could be available to Bougainville under 'Greater Autonomy' include:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Industrial relations</b></li> <li>• <b>Foreign aid and investment</b></li> <li>• <b>International trade and civil aviation</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Migratory and straddling fish stocks</b></li> <li>• <b>Additional taxation and other revenue-raising powers</b></li> </ul> |
|---|--|

### Description of 'Independence'

An independent nation state with sovereign powers and laws, recognized under the law and by other international states to be an independent state, separate to the state of PNG.

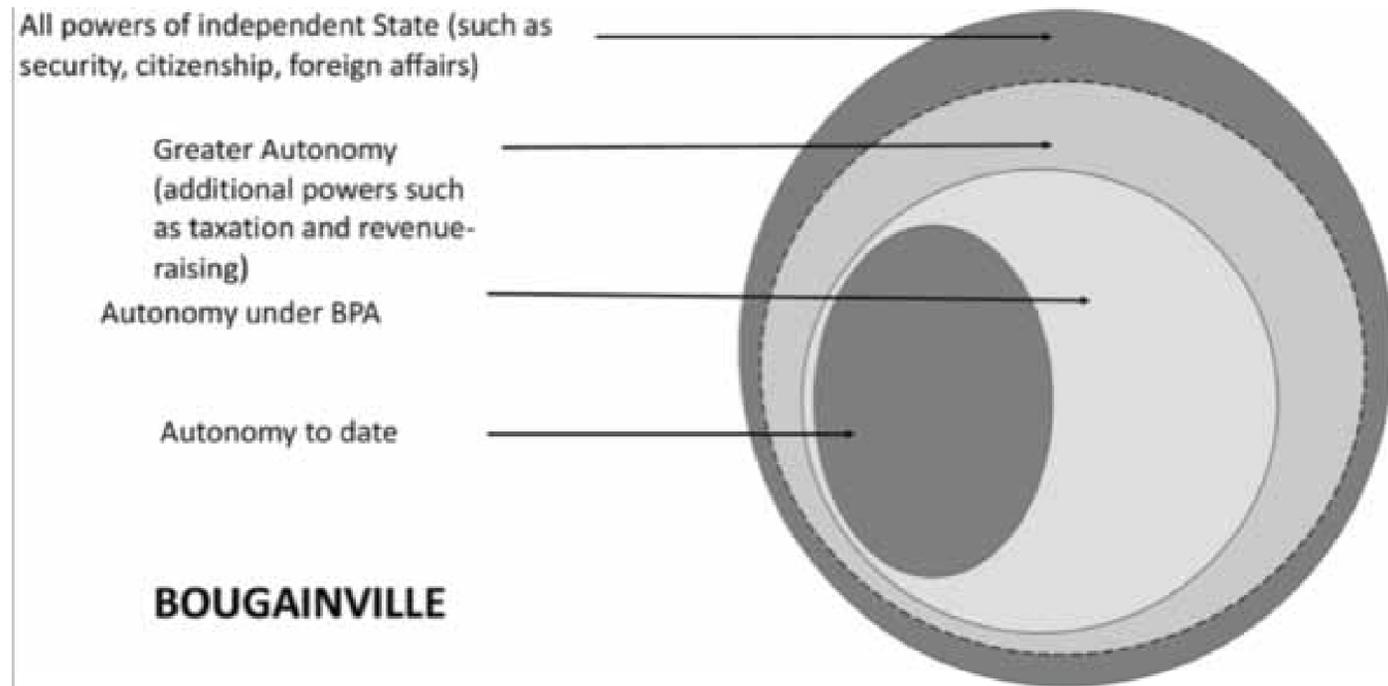
Independence for Bougainville as a nation State with full sovereignty will entail:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A defined territory, inclusive of maritime boundaries and associated Exclusive Economic Zone.</b></li> <li>• <b>A form of government chosen by decisions of the people from time to time.</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Capacity to enter into and manage relations with other states as well as international organizations.</b></li> <li>• <b>A right to apply for UN membership.</b></li> <li>• <b>Capacity to deal with international finance institutions.</b></li> </ul> |
|--|--|

An independent Bougainville would have the full range of powers and functions exercised by independent states, and in particular the powers necessary to generate its own revenues inclusive of control of natural resources, control of all categories of taxation and ability to raise loans Representative Kinds of Powers of an Independent State include:

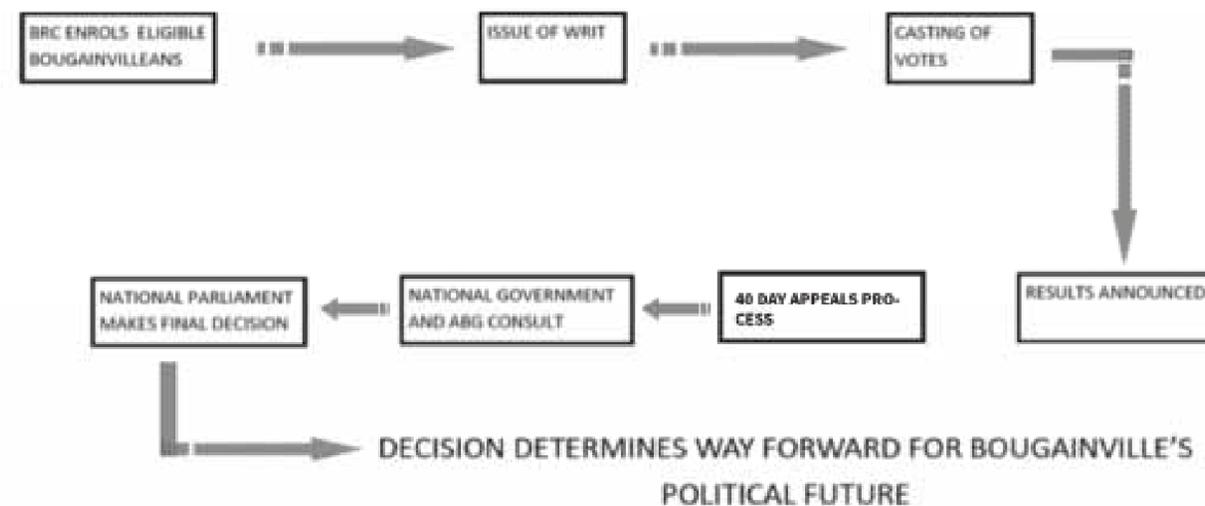
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Security (including border security)</b></li> <li>• <b>Judiciary, including final court of appeal</b></li> <li>• <b>Police service</b></li> <li>• <b>Foreign affairs</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Telecommunications and postal services</b></li> <li>• <b>Citizenship</b></li> <li>• <b>Quarantine</b></li> <li>• <b>Central bank</b></li> </ul> |
|---|---|

Illustration of the current autonomy arrangements compared with 'Greater Autonomy' and Independence.



An explanation of the process up to and after the referendum

### OUTLINE OF THE BOUGAINVILLE REFERENDUM PROCESS



Time-table



N.B The precise time frames for the last two stages: 'National Government and ABG consult' and 'National Parliament makes final decision' is not settled.



Weapons containment in Panguna

## Me'ekamui Factions commit to weapons disposal and peace process

The weapons disposal process in Bougainville continues to make significant progress following the Veterans Unification Summit held in July this year.

A symbolic outcome of the summit was the 'Mary Queen of the Mountains, Panguna Declaration' which saw the reaffirmation of the Bougainville Me'ekamui's commitment to disposing weapons before the referendum in November.

The Panguna Me'ekamui Faction has fulfilled their commitment,

following the containment of 121 weapons which were brought to Panguna by the Me'ekamui Factions throughout Bougainville and stored in an armored shed in Panguna on September 01, 2019.

Me'ekamui Defence Force Commander Moses Pipiro, said "Our weapons will not be destroyed but be placed in the armory and then be displayed on a monument or in a museum for the future generation to see and remember why we fought," he said.

Pipiro said that although the Me'ekamui

was not a signatory to the Peace Agreement, they have agreed to work with the ABG and the rest of Bougainville during the referendum period to see that a free and fair referendum takes place and what they had been fighting for be achieved.

The Me'ekamui Factions expressed their gratitude to the ABG and to Minister for Peace Agreement Implementation Hon. Albert Punghau and National Government Minister for Bougainville Affairs, Sir Puka Temu, for their support to the Me'ekamui to ensure that the weapons disposal exercise is implemented.

The containment of weapons symbolizes the Me'ekamui's support for the whole Bougainville peace process.

Weapons that are still held after the containment exercise is complete will be seen as a law and order issue to be dealt with by the Bougainville Police Service.

## Bougainville and PNG Veterans unite

It was an emotional scene when the Bougainville Veterans came face-to-face with the PNG Security Forces in the symbolic national pre-reconciliation on November 06 at Kokopo, East New Britain province.

Memories of the conflict overwhelmed the Bougainville and State veterans as they openly shared feelings of what they experienced during the conflict, and for the first time, publicly apologized to each other.

Bougainville Veteran Leader Ishmael Toroama in his remarks

during the joint dialogue, reflected on his experience saying that what the veterans did was what they felt was in the best interest of Bougainville.

"We as natural Bougainvilleans just came about and we try to represent what we think, what we knew was the best interest for our people," he said.

But the conflict is a thing of the past and Mr Toroama believes that the symbolic pre-reconciliation is a positive step forward that gives courage and confidence to the people of Bougainville and to strengthen this new partnership

with the national state veterans.

Former PNG Defence Force Commander Jerry Singirok, in a heartfelt statement said the sessions held during the dialogue has enabled them to talk about the lessons learnt from the Bougainville experience.

"The Bougainville experience is a stark reminder of how a nation can be brought down to its knees"

He further made a call to the National Government to ensure that former Prime Ministers who were in government at the time of the conflict, must also be part of this

## Meeka'mui Komanda itok ol Tonnu redi

Wanpela Komandana go pas man bilong Meekamui long Motuna Huyono Tokunutui Constituency long Siwai District i tokaut olsem ol Meekamui iready long vote long referendum bilong Bogenvil.

Paul Ira, i mekim dispela singaut long komuniti radio broadcast bilong Redio Ples Lain taim ol iraun mekim awareness long Saut Bogenvil long mun August bilong dispela yia.

"Mi na ol pipol bilong mi iredi long vote na mipla enrolim nem bilong mipla pinis long referendum roll," em tok.

Mr Ira i tokaut olsem em na ol narapela pipol bilong em long Meekamui i enrol pinis tasol em i singaut stron long ol narapela Meekamui husait ino enrol yet long olmas putim nem long referendum roll bilong wanem dispela em i sans bilong Bogenvil long sowim laik bilong ol long whole world olsem ol ilaikim independence.

"Yumi save tok yumi independence pinis tasol em long maus tasol olsem na nau emi sans bilong yumi long putim han mak bilong yumi long dispela referendum. Yu husait ino putim nem bilong yu mas lukim ol wod rekoda na enrol," Mr Ira itok.

Em i apil tu long ol pipol long lusim wanem pasin na koros bilong bipo na bung wantaim olgeta ol Bogenvilians olsem wanpela pipol long tokaut long laik bilong Bogenvil.

Long wankain taim tu ol chiefs na lida meri long Sininai area i hamamas long RPL bin inap long karim aut awareness long Motuna Huyono Tokunutui Konstituensi.

Ol itok olsem klostu ten pela krismas Komanda Ira ino save toktok o bung wantaim ol narapela long wokabout bilong Bogenvil tasol em i gutpla tru dat nau emi tokaut long redio na olgeta lain pipol bilong Siwai distrik iharem tok bilong em.

Ol tokaut tu olsem em nambawan taim long Ira kamaut long public long adresim ol pipol bilong em na ol i hamamas olsem olgeta nau iredi long bung wantaim na vote long dispela referendum.

RPL i brodcastim ol referendum toksave na awareness long Motuna Huyono Tokunutui Konstituensi long tripla nait long 89.1fm. Dispela em pat bilong Saut Bogenvil Referendum awareness program bilong 2019 wer Dipatment bilong Midia na Komunikesen i karim aut.

reconciliation process.

The joint dialogue concluded with a Reconciliation Service and traditional ceremony which saw both parties partaking in the customary ritual of breaking bows and arrows, the exchange of traditional shell money and chewing of betelnut.

The ceremony was witnessed by

several leaders from the Bougainville and PNG governments, including the ABG Vice President Hon. Raymond Masono, and National Minister for Bougainville Affairs, Sir Puka Temu.

A major reconciliation ceremony is now being planned to take place after the referendum in Panguna, Central Bougainville.



# REFERENDUM LIFT OUT

AUTHORISED BY THE CHIEF REFERENDUM OFFICER PO Box 350, Hutjena, Buka, Autonomous Region of Bougainville

**BRC** BOUGAINVILLE REFERENDUM COMMISSION

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# MIPELA I REDI!



Toktok bilong Siaman  
Hon. Bertie Ahern

Dia ol Rida, Mi mas givim tok kongratulesen long ol pipel bilong Bogenvil long risim o kamap long dei bilong dispela historik Referendum. Peisens na komitmen bilong yupela long kamapim pis, (peace), em olgeta hap long wol i luksave pinis long en. Yupela i win pinis, we ol narapela kantri i bin feil o i no win.

Dispela kain Referendum em i kamap namba wan taim long Papua Niu Gini. Na em i bin kamap long yunik pis proses o toktok na wanbel namel long ol Lida bilong Bogenvil yet wantaim Nesanel Gavman klostu 20- pela yia pinis - em Bogenvil Pis Agrimen (BPA).

Mi mas luksave na tok amamas na givim bikpela tok tenkyu tu long wok bilong planti manmeri long bringim yumi i kam kamap long dispela dei: Em long tupela gavman yet, siks-pela eminen Komisina bilong mi yet, Sif Referendum Opisa, na wantaim handred ol temporari ol Opisa husat ol i wok long kondaktim operesen hia long Bogenvil yet, long meinlan PNG, na ol ovasis kantri olsem Australia na Solomon Ailan. Moa long 400 Wod Rekoda long olgeta hap bilong Bogenvil i bin go pas long mekim wok bilong kamapim dispela gutpela inklusiv Referendum Rol - Mi tok tenkyu tru long yupela olgeta.

Olsem Siaman bilong Bogenvil Referendum Komisen (BRC), mi amamas long go pas long lidim dispela proses. Mipela i pleim part o wok bilong mipela long givim pipel vois long dispela demokretik proses, long gohet yet long kamapim pis. Na tu long provaidim kredibil risal we bai tupela gavman yet bai diskasim. Mipela i no givim sapot long wanpela sait bilong gavman. Mipela i no sapotim wanpela bilong tupela sois. Mipela i stap niutrel na independen.

Mi gat longpela histori bilong negosietim pis proses, statim long



kantri bilong mi yet long Ireland olsem Prais Minista. Mi yet mi wanpela man i bilip strong olsem pawa bilong pis i save winim pawa bilong vaiolens. Mi lukim pinis gutpela risal o benefit bilong risolvim o stretim ol isiu na ol problem long non- vaiolent wei. Wok bilong kamapim Pis em i no isi, em i no bilong hariapim. Em i nidim pasin tru bilong skelim tingting na pasin bilong givim taim na bel tru, na mekim gut wok bai gutpela kaikai i kamap. I wankain olsem pasin bilong lukautim gaden gut bai gaden i ken produisim gutpela ol kaikai.

Mipela BRC i save olsem yupela pilim yet olkain hevi na pen bilong bipo, na yupela bai vot wantaim miks piling. Pipel bilong Bogenvil na Papua Niu Gini i safe bikpela pinis. Tasol, wish bilong mi bai Referendum em taim bilong amamas. Em bai stap olsem mak namel long taim bipo na taim bihain. Dispela amamas em inapim laik bilong ol pipel bilong Bogenvil long ol yet i ken disaid long politikel futsa bilong ol. Em i impoten disisen bilong olgeta.

Bihain long referendum kaunt i pinis, ol dispela step bai kamap. BRC bai anaunsim long Buka:

- Namba bilong vot long greta atonomi
- Namba bilong vot long independens
- Namba bilong informal balot pepa
- Ritenim Writ long Gavana-General 40 -pela dei apil pirioid i stat.

Taim wok bilong BRC i pinis, mi hop olsem spirit bilong pis na kopereisen bilong Referendum bai go het (kontiniu). Pis Agrimen i tok, Referendum em i inkludim ratifikesen bilong Nesanel Palemen- mekim dispela non-bainding referendum. I no olsem wanpela ileksen, wei wanem sois i kisim planti vot i win na dispela em final risal. No gat. Fainal disisen bai ol i wokim bihain long tupela gavman i skelim toktok pinis na agri long wanpela disisen. Olsem na dispela bai i nidim moa taim, peisen na negosieisen namel long tupela gavman bipo long ol i tokaut long wanpela disisen.

Bipo long mi pinis, mi laik tok, "Tenkyu tru". Taim BRC em i independen bodi, referendum em hatwok bilong tim. Em

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

- Pg. 1 Toktok bilong Siaman
- Pg. 2 Wanem samting Referendum, BRC na ol lo Hau long vot Namba wan taim tru bilong Referendum Kwik toksave bilong ol samting bai kamap
- Pg. 3. Greta atonomi o independens? Olkain askim
- Pg. 4 Wanem tingting long fri na fea? Kempein wok bai ron olsem wanem?

## Referendum dates

23 Novemba Stat bilong Poling  
07 Disemba Pinis bilong poling  
08 Disemba Stat bilong kaunting  
40 dei bilong apil bihain long riten bilong Writ.

## Referendum kwesten

Kwesten tupela gavman i bin kamapim long Oktoba 2018 bai i stap long balot pepa: Em dispela kwesten.

## Yu agri long Bogenvil i kisim greta Atonomi o Independens?

## Referendum proses

Tupela gavman i agri pinis long bihainim ol dispela referendum proses:

- Ol manmeri bilong Bogenvil husat inap vot bai ol i vot
- Nesanel Gavman na ABG bai skelim tingting na toktok
- Nesanel Gavman bai i mekim final disisen.

i inkludim yupela ol vota. Moa long 200,000 pipel i bin enrol na planti em ol namba wan taim vota. Tok amamas bilong mi i go tu long ol husat i leim daun ol wepon bilong ol. Ol Ex- kombaten husat ol i komitim ol yet na ol komuniti bilong ol, olsem bai i gat pisful vot. Long risolvim ol isiu long demokratik wei, na i no wantaim gan. Vot wantaim pis. God bless.

**BRC** BOUGAINVILLE REFERENDUM COMMISSION



neutral • impartial • independent • professional • transparent

*A fair vote for your future!*

www.bougainville-referendum.org



## Referendum em wanem samting??

Referendum em wanpela demokretik proses olsem ileksen, tasol i no bilong vot long wanpela kandidat, no gat, em bilong vot long wanpela kwesten o askim. Dispela kwesten em tupela gavman wantaim i bin kamapim. Dispela kwesten i olsem: Yu agri long Bogenvil long kisim greta atonomi o independens?

Ol vota i mas makim wanpela bilong ol opsen o sois long referendum balot pepa na putim 'X' insait long boks klostu long opsen ol i laikim.

## Wanem em BRC?

Bogenvil Referendum Komisen (BRC) em i wanpela Independen ajensi, tupela gavman yet i bin kamapim bilong kondaktim referendum. Em i gat independen internesenel Siaman, (Sia) Bertie Ahern na siksipela Komisina- na tupela ilektoral komsina- Patilias Gamato na George Manun, na narapela tupela komisina wanwan gavman yet i selektim : Dr. Thomas Webster, Robert Igara, Ruby Mirinka na Patrick Nisira. Komisen yet i bin selektim wanpela intenesenel Sif Referendum Opisa, Mauricio Claudia, bilong lidim operesen bilong wan wan dei . BRC yet i beis long Buka, tasol em i gat tripela rijinel opis, wanpela long Buka, Arawa, na Buin.

Baset bilong BRC i gat olsem K 27. 8 milion em tupela gavman yet i bin provaidim na ol dona partna.

## Wanem em ol referendum rul na Lo?

Ol rul bilong Referendum na operesen bilong BRC ol i setim aut olsem:

- Bogenvil Pis Agrimen
- Nesenel Konstitusen
- Bogenvil Konstitusen



**“The BRC does not make the rules, we follow them.”**

- Ogenik Lo bilong Pisbiling long Bogenvil na Referendum.

Tupela gavman i mekim disisen pinis bilong stiaim o gaidim referendum i mas bihainim ol na rul i stap long Pis Agrimen:

- Establisimen bilong BRC
- Seleksen bilong Siaman
- Deit bilong Referendum
- Kwesten bilong referendum na diskripsen bilong tupela sois.
- Kraiteria bilong enrolmen bilong ol Bogenvilien i stap autsait long Bogenvil (non-residen Bogenviliens).

BRC tu i gat Sata (Charter), em Gavana—General yet i bin sainim, em bilong setim aut ol wok bilong BRC. Sata i gat faivpela prinsipel bilong gaidim wok bilong mipela. Em ol i impoten tru long ol pipel i lukim olsem kondak o pasin bilong mipela long referendum i fri na fea. Hia em ol 5-pela prinsipel:

1. Neutraliti
2. Independens
3. Profesenelisem
4. Impartialiti
5. Inklusen.

Pis Agrimen i tok, Referendum autkam em 'non-bainding' na i rikuirim ratifikesen bilong Nesenel Palemen. Mining bilong dispela tok em olsem, fainal disisen bai i kam long tupela gavman yet na i no long hamas vot wanpela opsen o sois i kisim.

## Firstpela kain Referendum

Ol lida na komyuniti bai i lukim olsem hai standat bilong Referendum. I gat nid long onerim BPA long inkludim vois bilong olgeta pipel bilong Bogenvil long dispela demokratik proses. Wantaim pipel na risosen tupela gavman na ol donor partna i provaidim, mipela traime bes bilong mipela long mekim referendum i transparent, inklusiv na aksesibal - isi long pipel i ken kamap na vot.

Mipela go pinis long ol haus bilong ol pipel, long ol haus- sik, long ol haikul, long ol ples bilong wok na long ol koreksenel fasiliti long kisim ol pipel long enrol bihainim ol rul olsem lo i tok, na ol disisen bilong tupela gavman yet i bin setim. Dispela Referendum bai fest long:

- Provoidim enrolmen long ol Bogenvilien long olgeta 21 provins long PNG
- Provoidim enrolmen long ol Bogenvilien i stap long ol narapela kantri
- I gat pablik displei bilong rol long salens na verifikesen
- Oferim provisenel vot long ol i enrol, tasol i no long rol we ol i vot
- Oferim postel voting long ol i travel, o bikos long disabiliti, o i hat long ol i kamap long poling ples i klostu long ol.

## Kwik Feks

### Hamaspela vota? (klostu)

190,254 long Bogenvil  
11,505 long PNG  
269 long Solomon Ailan na Australia

### Hamaspela ples bilong poling?

- Ova 829 inkludim:
- Olgeta Wod long AROB
  - 21-pela long ol PNG Provinsel Senta. Lihir, Ramu, Pogera, OK Tedi
  - Gizo, Honiara (Solomon Ailan)
  - Brisbane, Cairns (Australia).

Over 246-pela poling Tim  
Klostu 2,000 temporeli opisa

## Greta atonomi o Independens?

Tupela gavmen i provaidim pinis ol diskripsen bilong wan wan sois:

### Greta Atonomi

Negotiated o toktok bilong kamap wantaim politikel setelmen long kisim kain atonomi i gat greta o moa pawa, i winim kain pawa i stap nau aninit long konstitusenel arenjmen.

### Indipendens

Independen nesen steit wantaim sovrein pawa na lo, we i kisim luksave long intenesel lo na ol forein steit olsem wanpela independen steit, seperet long Steit of Papua New Guinea.

BRC i save olsem pipel i laikim moa infomesen. Mipela i reism dispela isiu wantaim tupela gavman- mipela i laik bai ol pipel i save na klia gut tru long dispela tupela opsen o sois nau i stap.

## Ol kain askim

### Bilong wanem ol non- Bogenvilien i stap long Bogenvil i ken vot?

Long Bogenvil Pis Agrimen long 2001, ol lida bilong Bogenvil na Nesenel Gavman i bin agri long ol non-Bogenvilien i ken vot. Seksen 315, i tok ol pipel husat i ken vot long PNG nesenel lleksen long Bogenvil inap vot long referendum. Em inkludim ol non- Bogenvilien PNG Sitisen husat i stap olsem six mun pinis long wanpela hap tasol bipo long deit bilong enrolment long vot.

### Bilong wanem ol Bogenvilien i stap autsait long AROB i ken vot?

Tupela gavman i bin agri long dispela kraiteria bilong enrolmen bilong ol non- residen Bogenvilien olsem rekuaimen bilong BPA. Ol pipel i mas:

- I gat link long Bogenvil long birth (mama karim), adopsen, marit, o klen
- Bin bon long o bipo 23rd Novemba, 2001
- Em i PNG sitisen, na
- Em i entaitel long vot long PNG Nesenel lleksen.

### Em enrolmen risit bilong mi i min olsem bai mi vot?

Nogat. Enrolmen risit i no prof long enrolmen na bai ol i no inap akseptim long taim bilong poling. Yu mas gat nem long fainal Referendum Rol long vot.

### Poling bai stap we?

Poling bai stap olsem long 500 lokeisen, inkludim olgeta wod insait long AROB, long 21-pela PNG provinsel senta na

long spesel wok sait, na Cairns na Brisbane (Australia). Long Gizo na Honiara (Solomon Ailan). Wanpela poling skuedel o toksave pepa bai ol i postim o putim bipo long poling i stat bai tokim yu long go wei na bai wanem taim poling bai kamap.

### Wanem mining bilong non- bainding?

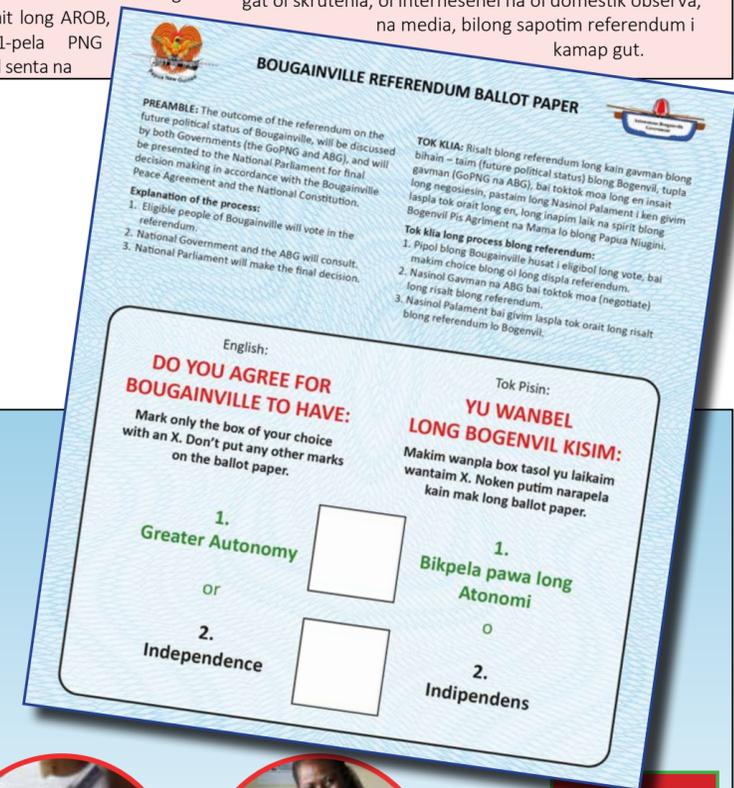
The Bogenvil referendum em non-bainding. I min olsem risal bilong wanem opsen o sois i no inap pasim (not 'bound') tupela sait long mekim disisen. Ol lain i bin sainim Bogenvil Pis Agrimen, ol i bin agri long dispela toktok long 2001, em ol lida bilong Bogenvil yet na Nesenel Gavman. BRC i no bin mekim ap nating. Tupela gavman i disaidim pinis proses bilong mekim fainal disisen, na dispela tok i stap long olgeta balot pepa:

1. Olgeta lain husat i stap long Bogenvil na inap vot bai vot long referendum
2. Nesenel Gavman na ABG bai i konsalt (skelim tingting wantaim)
3. Nesenel palemen bai mekim fainal disisen.

Wok bilong BRC em long ritenim tripela (3) namba, namba bilong vot long greta atonomi na namba bilong ol vot long Independens, na namba bilong ol infomal balot pepa). I Gat 40- dei long apil proses i bihainim proses tupela gavman wantaim i bin agri long en.

### Bai referendum i fri na fea?

Mipela i bilip referendum bai fri na fea. Eim (aim) bilong mipela i olsem: Referendum i mas kamap long intenesenel standard. Ol pipel i mas kisim kliapela na trupela infomesen, inklusiv na olgeta pipel husat inap vot i vot long ekseksaim rait bilong ol, taim ol i makim opsen o sois bilong ol. Ol i mas no gat pret na no gat sampela i mekim olkain pasin o toktok bilong pretim ol. Referendum bai i gat ol skrutenia, ol internesenel na ol domestik observa, na media, bilong sapotim referendum i kamap gut.



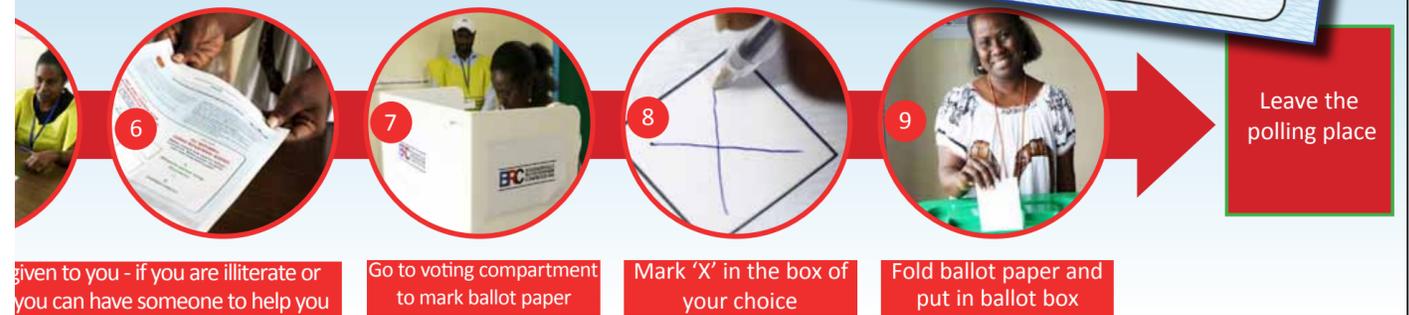
## HOW TO VOTE

Olsem ileksen, Referendum bai i gat ol poling ples long olgeta Wod, ol balot pepa, ol balot boks, ol poling ofisa, ol skruntenia na ol observa. Wanpela spesel ink bilong vot long soim klia olsem, olgeta i vot wanpela taim tasol.



Referendum proses tupela gavman wantaim i bin agri long en, bihainim BPA:

1. Ol manmeri bilong Bogenvil husat inap vot bai ol i vot
2. Nesenel Gavman na ABG bai skelim tingting na toktok/konsalt
3. Nesenel Palemen bai i mekim final disisen.



# Wanem tingting o mining bilong fea na fri?



BRC Chair and Commissioners with the Referendum Writ, issued by the Governor-General, 27 September, Port Moresby.

**O**lleksen na referendum em ol demokratik proses i save bihainim intenesenel standard bilong 'fri na 'fea' ileksens. Tasol em i min wanem tru?

Ol lleksen na referendum em ol demokratik proses i save bihainim intenesenel standard bilong 'fri na 'fea' ileksens. Tasol em i min wanem tru?

'Fea' generali em responsibiliti bilong Komisen long:

- Mekim proses i kamap inklusiv bai ol pipel bilong Bogenvil i ken vot, olsem ol disabel, ol lain i no save rit na rait (illiterate), ol lain long ol haus- sik, ol yangpela, o ol lapun man o meri.
- Mekim toktok i klia tru bai ol vota i save gut long proses na ol opsen o sois i stap long balot pepa.
- Mekim bai proses i transparen o i stap klia na i no gat tok i hait long ol (observa, Skrutenia, media).

'Fri', generali em risponsibiliti bilong komyuniti long:

- Krietim o kamapim envairomen

bilong promotim fri spis (speech) o toktok, fridom bilong ekspresen o autim tingting.

- Fridom bilong harim tupela opsen wantaim
- Rispektim rait bilong ol wan wan long mekim sois ol yet wantaim kliapela tingting.

Em i impoten long ol vot i kamap gut, bai dispela proses i kisim gutpela luksave, na ol husat i bin enrol, maski ol i stap long Bogenvil o PNG, inap vot na i no poret na i no gat intemideisen o olkain toktok o pasin bilong pretim ol.

Mipela i bilip strong olsem dispela proses bai kamap gut. Mipela i bilip tu olgeta i luksave long impotens na rait bilong ol pipel bilong Bogenvil long faineli givim tingting bilong ol.

## Kempein bai i wok olsem wanem?

**O**l lo i no gat kliapela stia-tok long 'kempein'.

BRC i save ol manmeri i pret long olkain kempein i brukim ol lain na i gat negativ asosiesen wantaim nomal ileksen kempein. Mipela i bin provaidim gaidlain bilong dispela isiu bilong referendum, na mipela go raun na toksave long ol pipel i mas vot. Mipela Broadkastim tu ol dispela toktok na putim aut ol Pablikeisen wei ol pipel i ken rit na save moa. Ol ki poin:

### 1. Kempein

- Bai i no gat fomal kempein period o pati (dispela em i stap long laik bilong ol pipel)
- Period of sailens 72 huaa bipo poling.

### 2. Ol midia outlet

- i mas tokaut o anaunsim o diskraibim sampela referendum konten o toktok. Em olsem, ol i ken advertaisim husat i sponsorim Kempein o wanpela grup i kompensetim narapela grup.
- Eni midia atikel, brodkas, anaunsimen o advertisimen ol i ken pablisim inap ol i ritenim o givim bek Writ.
- Ol i mas pablisim nem tru na adres bilong ol husat i toktok o koment long kwesten bilong referendum (greta atonomi o indipendens).
- Olgeta advertisimen, posta, pamphlet etc. i mas inkludim nem na kontek adres bilong man o meri husat i givim tok orait bilong dispela pablikeisen o isiu.
- Em i ofens o rong long pablisim wanpela stetmen, instraksen bilong vot o sampela balot pepa wei bai mislidim o givim rong infomesen o tingting long man o meri husait bai vot.

### Skrutenia

Oganik Lo i provaidim ol lo bilong ol interest grup o pati olsem; GoPNG, ABG na ol narapela interest grup i gat luksave bilong Komyuniti. Em ol dispela grup tasol i gat tok orait bilong provaidim ol skrutenia. Rol o wok bilong ol i olsem:

- Stap long ol poling senta, transpotim ol vot pepa, na wokim wok olsem Skrutenia long taim bilong kaunting.
- Ol i ken askim siksipela kwesten tasol long taim bilong poling.
- Ol i no gat fomal rol long kempein.



**The Bougainville Referendum Commission (BRC)** Bogenvil Referendum Komisen (BRC) em i independen bodi em ABG wantaim Gavman bilong PNG tupela i bin establisim long kondaktim referendum. Komisen i gat independen intenesenel Siaman o Sia (Bertie Ahern) na siksipela Komisina gavman bilong Papua New Guinea wantaim Bogenvil i bin makim. BRC i wok wantaim, tasol i seperet long tupela ilektoral komisen. BRC i no subjek o stap anitong long daireksen bilong tupela gavman wantaim na i no save promotim na givim sapot long wanpela kain autkam bilong referendum.

## In pictures

# National Pre-Reconciliation Ceremony *Kokopo - ENB*



*A fair vote for your future!*



www.bougainville-referendum.org

## Cocoa farming tips *By James Butubu | Part 2*

**In this edition we take a closer look at using plant improved high yielding cocoa planting materials with better pest and disease resistance.**

The logical and fundamental approach for improving cocoa yield or productivity it is advisable to initially start with planting the right improved planting materials. The current officially released materials by PNGCCI (now PNG Cocoa Board) that available in Bougainville are the First series and the second series Hybrid Clone varieties, the SG2 hybrids and the local varieties (See below).



**High clones Varieties:** There are plant size categories such as **Big Clones and Small Clones**. Most important tip is that **Farmers must now learn how to do their own grafting techniques (Bud grafting, top grafting and chupon grafting).**

There are many grafting expertise working with different cocoa projects in Bougainville to teach you how to do the different grafting techniques. Please consult district DPI, PNG Cocoa Board and Donor funded project officers near you if you need further assistance in this. If you have money go the registered commercial nursery and buy the seedlings or you can ask a trusted budder (Grafting expert) to graft them for you and pay his service in return.

obtained or ordered from PNG Cocoa Board as cross pollinated seeds categorized into BIG and SMALL hybrid varieties. Seeds can be raised on polly bags in a commercial nursery, temporary nursery or well prepared seed bed on the ground near your cocoa block. The big varieties should do well in rehabilitated block and carolline soil such as in Buka. Select the good looking and healthy seedling after 4 to 5 months and field plant them in your block which by this time been well prepared with some form of shades (Marmar, Banana, Cassava etc).

and structural pruning (for hybrids and hybrid clones) so that the trees will perform well and give you the high yields expected.

Any yield (dry beans/ha) which is 833 trees (4m x3m spacing ) or 625 trees (4m x 4m spacing) of 1 tonne (16 bags per year) or above is exceptional and you congratulate yourself. However you still improve further as the potential yield acheived in research experiments is still higher (above 24 -32 bags per year) under good management.

### Selecting and developing your own varieties (Local varieties).

Experience farmers can select and develop their own varieties using existing information available and using the few tips offered in this column.

**Important tip: Ask anybody who has previously planted the clone or hybrid varieties for clues on which specific ones are doing well in your local area so you can select them for your block.**

**SG2 Hybrids:** The hybrids seeds can be

## South Bougainville Cocoa Farmers benefit from government initiative

Fifteen thousand cocoa seedlings have been distributed to over 50 rural farmers in Buin, South Bougainville, under the cocoa seedling nursery initiative of the Member

for South Bougainville, Timothy Masiu and his district development authority board. Under a partnership with the Cocoa Board of PNG (CCBPNG) the cocoa

## Bougainville Cocoa Farmers must own process

Bougainville cocoa farmers must own the entire process starting with farming, manufacturing and even to marketing their own cocoa.

This was the message from the ABG Minister for Primary Industries, Hon. Clarence Dency, at the launching of the fourth Bougainville Chocolate Festival in Arawa in August.

Minister Dency says now is the time for some change in the way the government supports cocoa farmers in Bougainville.

“I want to see that cocoa farmers have more monetary value compared to the current practice,” he said.

Minister Dency also announced some of the intentions of his Ministry which includes establishing a Cocoa Development and Research Division, three regional Incubation Centers, an agricultural farming school and a Feasibility Study into the

possible establishment of a Cooperative Society College in Bougainville.

“The objective of the Cooperative Society College is to create an institution whereby a potential farmer can be exposed to business and marketing opportunities.”

“The Cooperative Society College will not be restricted to cocoa only but would include copra and other commodities, including fisheries and marine resources.”

While acknowledging the generous support from the development partners, Minister Dency also stated that he would like to see some radical changes happen in the next festival.

“I would like to see not only the Bougainville chocolate promoted, rather I would like to see Bougainville-made and Bougainville-owned chocolate promoted globally on the international market” he challenged.

South Bougainville electorate.

CCBPNG is undertaking the cocoa seedling distribution project on behalf of the South Bougainville District Development Authority under a memorandum of agreement (MOA) signed between the two parties in 2018.

Launching the rollout

# Agriculture sector can drive economy



“Agriculture has the potential to drive wealth creation for the Autonomous Region of Bougainville”.

ABG Minister for Public Service and Member for Hagogohe, Hon. Robert Hamal Sawa, made this statement when delivering the keynote address at the 2019 Bougainville Chocolate Festival in Arawa.

Minister Sawa described Bougainville as a land that is rich in resources but faces capacity challenges to maximize the benefits of these resources.

“Bougainville has an abundance of resources, but is lacking technology and human capacity to drive these resources so that we can actually create our own wealth in

sector in Bougainville. and welcomed potential genuine investors who intend to help Bougainville achieve its best form of widespread economic development in Bougainville,” he said.

He highlighted the need to establish a regulatory authority under the Ministry and Department of Primary Industries, which he initiated in his former role as Minister for Primary Industries.

The purpose of this regulatory authority would be to oversee and facilitate the process for farmers to export products directly to national and international markets.

Current Minister for Primary Industries, Clarence Dency, in response, assured that the policy will be presented before the September sitting of the Bougainville House of Representatives.

He acknowledged the support from the Australia and New Zealand governments,

and welcomed potential genuine investors who intend to help Bougainville achieve its goal of fiscal self-reliance through agriculture. The New Zealand government representative at the Festival, First Secretary Adam Linell said the cocoa industry in Bougainville has strong potential to support long term economic development in Bougainville.

“All stakeholders here today can work hard to achieve this by successfully showcasing the quality of Bougainville’s cocoa by establishing new and higher value added markets, improving market linkages and boosting industry exposure,” he said. He also reaffirmed New Zealand’s continuous support to the cocoa industry in Bougainville through the Commodity Support Facility program.

### Continue from page 14



He added: “The government does not have adequate funding to help the people so such projects as this cocoa seedling distribution project will put money into the people’s pockets.”

distribution project. Mr Masiu thanked CCBPNG for the partnership for agreeing to set up office in Buin to oversee the implementation of the project. The project aims to distribute up to one million cocoa seedlings and make South Bougainville the leading cocoa producer in the region.

Mr Masiu suggested that the CCBPNG and primary industry officers conduct financial literacy awareness and education to help people adopt a savings culture.

South Bougainville’s cocoa seedling distribution initiative will certainly contribute towards achieving the PNG Cocoa Board’s projected production target of 310,000 tons by 2030.

PNG Cocoa Board Operations Manager, Tony Vigil, said the target was high, however it could

be achieved through partnerships, like that of the Member for South Bougainville and the DDA board.

Mr Vigil said the seedling distribution project was an impact project that put millions of Kina into the people’s pockets.

According to Vigil, the project when fully rolled out and into full production stage, would return an average of K18 million to farmers.

He said the Cocoa Board will be stationing an officer on the ground to oversee the nursery project and ensure quality was maintained.

# Department of Law and Justice

The ABG Department of Law and Justice have recently completed key projects and are now available to other departments, public servants, and the general public across Bougainville.



The ABG Department of Law and Justice have recently completed key projects and are now available to other departments, public servants, and the general public across Bougainville.

awareness message against the harmful effects of drugs with entailed appropriate and updated statistics.

### 2. Juvenile Justice Progress for Bougainville

Since the operations of the Mabiri Juvenile Rehabilitation Center begun in 2018 with the first intake of 9 juveniles, the Center has progressed with programs of re-integration back into respective communities. This re-integration program aims to rehabilitate those who have been discharged by way of providing skills based on development activities so they realize their worth and usefulness when they return to their communities. These economic projects are supported by the Government of Australia and include poultry and piggery projects.

### 3. Facilitation of Legislative Projects for ABG Departments

The Department is also working on a coordinated approach for all ABG Departments in their policy development process. This process will put Bougainville's legislative process in order for possible draw down of priority revenue generating powers, which had begun and will continue during and after the referendum. In consultations with Department of Primary Industries, we have worked on the drafting instructions on the Bougainville fisheries and commodities legislation. Consultations with PNG Cocoa Board and National Fisheries Authority should be complete by October, followed immediately by drafting of the two bills in time for the December Parliament Session.

We are also working with the Department of Lands and Physical Planning to develop the Bougainville land legislation. The Department of Lands is currently working in finalizing the policy document so we can use it as the basis to draft the legislation.

In consultations with the Bougainville Tax Office, we have commenced work for the amendment of the Bougainville Sales (Beer & Cigarette) legislation. Consultations have been already done with various stakeholders including the manufactures of beer and cigarette in the country and the reported recommended for review of the rates on these two taxable products.

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

The 'Shaping

Bougainville Justice Project' is a policy development project with objectives in developing a clear policy guidelines and direction for the justice system on Bougainville. These objectives are based on contemporary research and extensive consultations based the wishes of the people and Government of Bougainville. The intention of that best approach also aims to respond to the changes that stood the test of time since the implementation of justice under the Bougainville Peace Agreement. In implementing this activity we have undertaken the complex tasks on this matter, which includes the establishment of an eminent group of Bougainvilleans and conducting workshops in North, Central and South to consult people's views for a justice model for Bougainville.

# Local business woman shares passion for economic development

Many Bougainvilleans have stories of how they came out from the ashes of war through courage, perseverance and resilience to become leaders and advocates in their communities. This story is about a Bougainvillean woman, Stella Tunim, who has since become a leading business-woman and advocate for the economic development of Bougainville.

Stella shared her story of struggle, attributing her success to her passion for reading. This has helped her overcome challenges in her education, eventually landing her a scholarship to study Business in banking and finance at the Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane, Australia.

"What helped me was I usually carried around books. I would read books and the dictionary. So when I returned to school from grade eight, after missing six years of my education, I did really well."

Stella hails from Torau Constituency in Central Bougainville, where she now lives with her husband and two daughters.



She operates several local businesses and is actively involved in the Central Bougainville Business Association as Secretary.

"Since it was established, it never really took off. I got the association formally registered and started getting the members together and paying fees so that we could run the office," she recalls.

The association recently received support from the Australian Government to enhance the business environment in Bougainville and to strengthen the local economy.

"We now have about 60 registered

**“It was the learning of the culture while in Australia that gave me the drive to come back and help my own people.”**

members with about 20 per cent women, of the around 100 businesses in Arawa. Businesses range from the small tucker box types that are run from the street, to the middle size being retail shops, and the big ones being wholesalers, supermarkets and larger hardware stores."

"The association's main drive is to give Bougainvilleans

the opportunity to capitalise on their business situations and opportunities, and for them to get involved, rather than have other people coming in and operating businesses."

She says one of the key focus areas now for the association is building trade connections outside the region and providing ongoing training to members.

"Most of the business owners in Central Bougainville are learning through experience. Most of them didn't really graduate or go beyond high school due to the crisis, and many hail from the villages and have never lived in towns. That has

been one of our many challenges," explains Stella.

"Because of the low literacy level, there are challenges in understanding basic business skills. Businesses not incorporating these practices are getting left behind. But we have continuous education through the association – how to do banking, bookkeeping and the basic requirements as per the tax office or the investment promotion office."

Stella remains driven in her passion about grassroots development and all-inclusive participation of women in various sectors of the community.

# Bougainville Referendum Regional Support Mission



- Niu Zilan I go pas long wanpela wok ol I kolim Reginol Polis Misin, bai I kamap insait long Bogenvil long taim blong Referandum. Ol polis man na meri ananit long displa wok Misin bai ino nap long karim masket bilong pait o ol narapela wepon bilong pait.
- Dispela ol polis man na meri kam long displa wok Misin, ol i no poroman bilong wanpela grup, ol i bai wok olsem namel man long sapatim wok blong Bogenvil Polis Sevis long taim blong referendam.
- Ol Polis man na meri bilong Australia, Fiji, Niu Zilan, Solomon Ailan na Vanuatu bai wok bung wantaim long mekim displa wok Misin.
- Olgeta wokman husait bai wok ananit long dispela Misin bai kam kamap long Bogenvil long stat bilong mun Novemba. Ol bai behainim stretpla pasin long wokim wok bilong ol. (They will conduct their work with integrity).
- Wanpela balus blong Niu Zilan Defens Fors bai karim ol wokman na meri wantaim ol supplies bilong ol. Dispela balus bai pundaun long Buka na Kieta.



Photo credit: Karen Murphy



# Bougainville women are referendum ready



Women of Bougainville who have joined the federation and now is the time for us to put show of unification and solidarity following the week long forum held in Arawa this month.

“Women have the Power to Lead and Make Changes” was the theme of the forum that was attended by sixty participants of both past and present leaders, inclusive of young women and women living with disabilities from all regions.

President of the Bougainville Women’s Federation (BWF) Rachel Tsien when addressing the women on the first day thanked all the women leaders in Bougainville for coming together to unite before the referendum vote.

“It is an honour to be amongst women leaders past and present, as well as those young women



assisted the leaders to discuss, identify gaps, prioritize and develop Post Referendum Strategy and Plan for Bougainville women.

“This forum is very vital for us as women to work together and develop post referendum strategies to assist women beyond the referendum,” explained Mrs Mana Kakarouts, Secretary for Department of Community Development.

Meanwhile, women leaders also used the

forum to create space for a reconciliation ceremony which saw women leaders from the three regions throughout Bougainville reconciling by way of dialogues that ironed out conflicting issues, followed by exchanging of traditional shell money (mimis) and shaking of hands.

Leaders from each wards, districts and regions, including church representatives also laid rocks as a sign for a monument to be built to seal the

reconciliation. The event also ended on a high note in which women leaders from all three regions led by Hon Isabel Peta officially signed and declared Bougainville Women to be referendum ready witnessed by participants, partners and stakeholders.

This declaration was a sign to show that Bougainville women were now referendum ready alongside the thirty three ABG constituencies that were already declared.

These presentations



# BULLETIN Sports



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# People's year of the Bougainville Referendum

*Our Right - Our Choice - Our Future*

## Bougainville Yumi Wan Games, Hutjena

