



**"RISE UP, STEP UP, SPEAK UP"**

# OUR VOICE

OUR VOICE is a monthly newsletter of the Department of Personnel Management

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## Groundbreaking of Public Servants Housing Project



Public Service Minister, Joe Sungi (4th from left), Acting PM John Roso (5th left), PMNEC Secretary, Ivan Pomaleu (3rd Right), DPM Secretary, Ms Taies Sansan (2nd Right) during the ground breaking ceremony at Bomana.

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The long awaited public servants housing project has recently been launched at Bomana Portion 1212.

Acting Prime Minister, John Roso officially launched the ground breaking ceremony.

Guests who also attended includes Public Service Minister, Joe Sungi, Housing Minister, Dr Kobby Bomareo, Community Development, Religion and Youth Minister, Jason Peter, PMNEC Secretary, Ivan Pomaleu, DPM Secretary, Ms Taies Sansan, Finance Secretary, Dr Ken Ngangen, Housing Secretary, Benjamin Samson, and other invited guests and partners.

Ms Sansan who gave the welcome and opening remarks said the Whole of Government Public Service Housing Project is a milestone project that DPM through a Whole of Government approach will deliver through a Public Private Partnership (PPP) Home Ownership Model program.

Secretary Sansan said the state will partner with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) under the PPP arrangement.

IFC's engagement will be through the Financial Advisory Services Agreement (FASA) of affordable housing.

"Through FASA, an efficient business model for

the development of affordable housing project is facilitated under the PPP framework", said Ms Sansan.

The project will see over One Thousand (1000) Allotments that will be built.

It will consist of two to three bedroom houses, targeted at the low to middle income earners of which the majority of Public Servants fall under.

Acting Prime Minister and Deputy PM, John Roso applauded DPM for taking an holistic approach to look at the public service housing.

"We need a Whole of Government approach to the housing issue, if we

want to address the issue of housing", Roso said.

Roso said the National Government will continue to support DPM to address public servants housing issue, but demands performance from the public servants.

Meanwhile, Public Service Minister, Joe Sungi said for Public Servants to perform to their utmost best, the government must support them by giving housing allowances or provide housing.

Minister Sungi said this housing project will not be a failed project, and he's looking forward to work with all the partners to ensure the project is delivered.

## Welcome Back Public Service Minister



Public Service Commission Chairman, third from left, Public Service Minister, Hon. Joe Sungi, DPM Secretary, Ms Taies Sansan, PILAG CEO, Michael Barobe, PSC Commissioner Provincial, Ms Judith Stenis, PSC Commissioner General National, Joseph Aka (back), and two Pastors on the far left after the dedicatory pray to welcome Minister Sungi as PS Minister.

**A** welcome ceremony was held this month by the three agencies under Public Service Ministry to welcome the re-appointed Public Service Minister, and Nuku MP, Hon. Joe Sungi in the 11th Parliament.

Staff from the Department of Personnel Management, Public Service Commission, and Pacific Institute of Leadership and Governance (PILAG) gathered at PILAG for the welcome ceremony, later the prayer dedication by Pastor Tony Dalaga from the AOG Cornerstone Church in Port Moresby.

Minister Sungi said he is looking at working with DPM, PSC and PILAG to fix the Public Service performances.

He said Public Service has been in the spotlight by MPs and the Prime Minister for non-performance.

Minister Sungi said this is a challenge for him, and urge all the public servants to work towards fixing it.

Minister Sungi said that while he plans to continue the work he has left before the 2022 National General Election, he is committed to take on new challenges to revamp and fix the

Public Service system.

Firstly, is to look into addressing the welfare of public servants, in terms of making housing a condition of employment or by giving housing allowances that is equivalent to the housing rate.

"This needs to be tabled in Parliament so people must know that if you want to talk about the performance of public servants, you need to talk about their welfare as well," said Minister Sungi.

He added that when public servant's welfare is addressed then they will perform well.

The Minister also said that Governor's and MP's should not be complaining to DPM and PSC for the poor performance of public servants.

He said they should be working closely with their Provincial Administrators and their District CEOs to ensure public servants in the districts and provinces are working, while Departmental Heads in Waigani perform to their utmost best by working with their staff to ensure a smooth delivery of services to the

people.

Minister Sungi is also planning to review the current retirement age of 65 years old.

He said Public Servants need to retire early and enjoy their retirement benefit by owning their own homes and such.

Meanwhile, he said he will spend more time in the office and ensure public service is fixed.



Public Service Minister, Hon. Joe Sungi delivering official remarks.

## DPM Will Continue Implementing Policies



Secretary, Ms Taies Sansan giving her speech during the welcome ceremony for the Public Service Minister.

(L-R): PILAG CEO, Michael Barobe, Minister Joe Sungi, DPM Executive Manager, Legislative & Administration Reforms, Mr Rick Kogen, and Secretary Ms Taies Sansan toasting.

Secretary, Ms Taies Sansan during the welcome ceremony for the Public Service Minister, Hon. Joe Sungi, said the Department will continue to work with the Minister to implement policy initiatives and visions going forward.

Ms Sansan announced that DPM has made great strides with the 'Whole of Government Housing Project', which will be launched in mid-September this year.

For the benefit of the Public Service Commission and Pacific Institute of Leadership and Governance (PILAG) who gathered at the welcome ceremony, Ms Sansan said the groundbreaking ceremony of Portion 1212 Bomana Correctional Service land, has been given to build houses for public servants through a Public Private Partnership arrangement with the support of the Government.

"I hope we can continue from where we left off prior to the National General Elections, especially your

vision to ensure that housing becomes a 'condition of employment' for public servants," says Ms Sansan.

Another important initiative which DPM has progressed in is the Medical and Life Insurance for public servants.

Ms Sansan said this initiative came about after the Prime Minister, James Marape made public comments on the need to consider a medical and life insurance scheme, which he saw as a prime importance of welfare of the public servants since he took office in mid-2019.

She said it is also one of the Key Result Areas (KRA) of the Public Service Minister and herself, in ensuring that a national medical and life insurance scheme for public servants is developed and implemented.

"I am happy to say that

since the approval by NEC in May 2022, the Public Service Niucare Association has been registered and certified by the Registrar," says Ms Sansan.

She added that, "the Public Service Board of Trustees will be responsible for the affairs of the insurance scheme and will be managed by experienced management team from the industry".

Its establishment, operations, and awareness will commence once Government allocated Seed Capital inline with the NEC decision.



Secretary, Ms Taies Sansan reading out the writings on the cake.

## DPM Part of 11th Parliament Orientation



Secretary Ms Taies Sansan delivering her presentation during the orientation of the 11th Parliament.

**D**epartment of Personnel Management was among other government agencies who made presentations to members of the 11th parliament as part of the orientation week for members of parliament.

Secretary Ms. Taies Sansan made a presentation on the legal mandate of the department.

Ms. Sansan presented that the Department is responsible for all public servants throughout the country.

"Public Service is stipulated as one of the state services under the constitution. Secretary's presentation touched on a number of areas on the duties and responsibilities of the department under the Public Service Management Act highlighting the areas that relate to members of parliament.

In her presentation Secretary Sansan highlighted the issue of Executive Appointments providing to Ministers and Governors a flow chart of the process of executive appointments for agency heads and provincial administrators.

Secretary Sansan also provided statistics on the latest figures of the number of public servants, where teachers, doctors and nurses make up the largest chunk of the number of public servants.

She also highlighted that the largest number of public servants are front liners who are in service delivery.

These are

mostly teachers and medical officers.

Secretary Sansan in her presentation also highlighted that the Minister for Public Service plays a key role in the appointment of agency heads and provincial administrators and is also given the delegated powers to make acting appointments of departmental heads.

She informed the members

of 11th parliament on the role of Governors as Chair of the Provincial Executive Council who are involved in the substantive appointment of the provincial administrator.

She further informed members of parliament of the role of Open Members who are involved in the appointment of District Administrators under the DDA Act.



L-R Front: DPM Secretary, Ms Taies Sansan, FLC & NEC Secretary

L-R Back: Acting Deputy Policy & Reforms, Elison Kalimet and DJAG Secretary, Dr Eric Kwa at the orientation.

## DPM Briefed on Preliminary Findings of Audit Report



DPM and Deloitte team at the workshop to discuss findings of the Audit Report.

**D**epartment of Personnel Management and Deloitte met for 2 days this month to finalise the audit report of the Government Payroll system.

Deloitte was engaged to audit the government payroll system at the end of last year and were given 8 months to complete the report.

Deloitte had a 2 day session with DPM staff whose duties and responsibilities fall within the audit that they conducted.

Discussions were around preliminary findings of the audit and fine tuning the executive summary for the 100 page report.

Secretary Taies Sansan who was part of the 2 day session posed pertinent questions to the Deloitte team on the preliminary findings.

At the close of the 2 day session, Deputy Secretary Policy, Alison Kalimet standing in for Secretary DPM and said as an implementing

agency appreciate all the discussions forward to the final report.

"Please provide us with the draft of the exeutive summary so we can look through and provide our feedback before you finalise the final report", Mr Kalimet said.

Once the report is finalized, it will be handed over to the Minister for Public Service who will then present to the National Executive Council.

## DPM Hosts Independence Meet & Greet Fun Day



Introduction and meet & greet of new DPM staff.

Department of Personnel Management had a busy independence week, with the ground breaking ceremony of the Public Servants Housing Project on the 14th of September, and the 47th independence celebration on the 15th.

An internal memo was issued to all staff to participate in these two important events.

The independence celebration was held at Tutu Beach, outside Port Moresby.

It was a fun-filled day that all staff came together for team bonding and in good celebration spirit of PNG's 47th Independence.

## Australia Looks in Strengthening ties in Human Resource

**A**ustralian Foreign Affairs Minister, Penny Wong in her recent visit to PNG had a brief visit with PNG's Foreign Affairs Minister, Justin Tkatchenko and later held a media

conference at the Central Government Office Building.

DPM Secretary, Ms Taies Sansan and Chief Immigration Officer, Mr Stanis Hulahau were there to welcome her.

Australia is looking at strengthening ties with PNG through Human Resources up-skilling and jobs.

DPM currently facilitates Australian Awards Scholarship for Public Servants in PNG.



L-R: Acting Secretary Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Elias Wohengu, Australian Foreign Affairs Minister, Penny Wong, DPM Secretary, Ms Taies Sansan, Chief Immigration Officer, Stanis Hulahau, & Foreign Affairs Minister Justin Tkatchenko photo shoot after Wong's Media Conference.

### DPM IN PICTURES:

