



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

# OUR VOICE

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

March 31st, 2023

## DPM Hosts First Media Roundtable Workshop



**Acting Deputy Secretary, Mr Ellison Kalimet delivering the opening remarks on behalf of the Secretary, at the opening of the Media Roundtable Workshop.**

### Inside this issue:

*Women's Month*

DPM Hosts First Media Roundtable **1**

Women Urged to do Breast Checkup **2**

Female Officers Health Awareness **3**

'Embrace Equity' **4**

GESI Session for NEA Staff **5**

**D**epartment of Personnel Management, Public Service Information Centre (PSIC) Branch hosted the first ever Media Roundtable Workshop this month.

This saw Journalists and Editors from Media Organizations; EMTV, TV WAN, NBC TV, Post Courier, and National Newspaper attending the half-day workshop.

The objective of the workshop was to educate Media organizations or Journalists in particular on the Roles and Responsibilities of the Department of Personnel Management, as one of the Central Government Agencies.

PSIC Branch Manager, Mrs. Denyse Ealedona said there have been a lot of misinformation on the media lately of DPM's roles and responsibilities in terms of Executive Appointments and Employment in general, and hosting such workshop will help media to report correctly about the Department's Processes and Procedures.

Acting Deputy Secretary, Mr Ellison Kalimet who delivered the welcome remarks on behalf of the Secretary, Ms Taies Sansan, told the Media that they have a pivotal role to play in terms of development, and so they must write your stories correctly", said Mr Kalimet.

The Workshop has seen presentations made by the three Deputy Secretaries, Executive Managers, and Branch Managers about the office they hold and the processes and procedures in it to the media.

the Media do not get the processes and procedures of the

## Women Urged to do Breast Checkups



**DPM Secretary, Ms Taies Sansan (Second from Left) is pictured with Dr. Monica Clement (First from Left) and Dr. Priya Baskaran (Third from Left) and staff at the Mammogram Unit after her checkup.**

**S**ecretary, Ms Taies Sansan is encouraging breasts, it's good to come women over the age of 40 and have a checkup just to years to undergo breast screening as the country has high rates of cancer, especially breast cancer.

She made this remarks at the Port Moresby General Hospital this month, after her routine check up at the Mammogram Unit.

"I'd like to encourage a lot of women out there, our public servants, especially those over 40 years of age, here at Port Moresby

even though they are not feeling anything in their very happy indeed", she said.

"The reason I came to have this breast checkup here at Port Moresby General Hospital is because I am in my mid-40s so I thought it was the right time to come and have a breast checkup," said Ms. Sansan.

"I have been given the all-clear by the doctors here at Port Moresby

General Hospital so I am very happy indeed", she said.

Radiology Coordinator, Dr Monica Clement said they are not charging any fees because the Mammogram has not been commissioned.

She said women have been getting free screenings since the machine was installed last year.

Dr Clement said that so far 56 mammograms have been conducted. From this, 8 were for breast screening,

while others were from those who have experienced symptoms like lumps, pains or who have already been confirmed to have cancer.

"If you are over 40 years of age and you feel lumps or pain in your breasts, you can come for a mammogram and also have a scan to correlate," explained Dr. Clement.

"If you are under 40 and have similar symptoms, you will be sent to have an ultrasound and you will be managed from there," she said.

Meanwhile, PomGen Chief Executive Officer, Dr Paki Molumi has revealed an alarming data that it is estimated that 600 breast cancer cases are diagnosed every year in PNG.

He said that is two women per day, however, the figures are underestimated due to the remoteness and lack of effective referral system.

"PomGen is building a modern cancer center to treat all cancers. Cancers have a high cure rate if diagnosed early. Therefore PomGen is embarking on an effective cancer screening program for all cancers including breast cancers," said Dr. Molumi.

"The higher quality Mammogram for Breast cancer screening was purchased by Kumul Petroleum Holdings Limited to support the PomGen modern cancer center", said Dr Molumi.



## Health Awareness for Female Officers



**DPM Female Staff during the Health Awareness Program.**

**D**epartment of Personnel Management's Human Resource Branch held a women's health awareness meeting this month for all female staff.

The health awareness meeting was for the need to inform DPM staff about breast cancer testing and screening, and other female health related issues.

HR Manager, Mrs Lucy Kasu said there is need for more health awareness programs to be conducted to DPM staff, especially females of the increased number of cancer cases and deaths in the Country.

Mrs Kasu told the female staff that those who are interested can give their names to the HR for them to organize and arrange for regular check ups at the hospital.

Female staff said they are interested, but are unsure of the processes involved in doing health checkups.

The meeting ended with the recommendation for HR to organize more of

such awareness programs and meetings, and information sessions for them to understand the processes and procedures involved in screening and testing.

The intent of the gathering was also to inform female officers about the new mammogram machine at the Port General Hospital Cancer Unit that is free of charge and available for women to go for breast cancer testing.

Female officers also asked if the department could organize testing for other health issues such as Pap Smear and eye test and also a full medical check for both males and females and issues relating to mental health.

The ladies were grateful that a meeting was called to discuss these important issues and also appreciative of Secretary Sansan for taking lead.

Meanwhile, the meet was also used to inform staff about DPM's participating in the netball competition at the Sir John Guise Stadium.

Note: Those who wish to go in for check up can see HR.



**DPM Female Staff during the Health Awareness Meeting**

## ‘Embrace Equity’



Panel of top women executives and bureaucrats during the panel discussion on the National Women's Day which falls annually on 24th of March. The event was hosted by DPM's GESI team and celebrated by DPM, Censorship Authority, Immigration and Citizenship Authority, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Investment Department, Department of Agriculture & Livestock and Independent Commission Against Corruption who are situated at the Central Government Office.

**G**uest speaker of the National Women's Day celebration at CGO, Acting Secretary from the Department of International Trade and Investment, Ms Jascinta Warakai-Manua whilst thanking DPM for hosting the event, said the motto for this year's celebration was "Embrace Equity".

Ms Manua said this is part of the ongoing effort centered to raise awareness on the lack of equal opportunities.

The United Nation's theme for this year is 'Digital Innovation and Technology for Gender Equity, Highlighting

Gender Gaps in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Education and Careers, and Calling Attention to the Online Harassment many women face.

Ms Manua said online learning and digital activism have expanded rapidly, creating an unprecedented opportunity for empowerment of women and girls.

She further stated that advancement of technology has its negativity, one which introduces new forms of inequality and heightened threats to women's rights and well-being.

"Today is a time for us to highlight achievements made by women, but also an opportunity to become better informed and collaborate and brainstorm about the path forward" said Ms. Warakai-Manua.

"To make sure that different views and needs are fairly captured, let us not leave others behind who can make that difference, by mentoring and coaching others within your space to enable a more equitable institution and allow fairness and justice to prevail globally", she said.

The PNG National theme for 2023 clings to the international theme, which is 'Digital Innovation and

Technology for Gender Equality', as it is also one of the Government's priorities to transform PNG through Digital Technology that aligns to the priority theme for this year's 7th Session on the Commission on the Status of Women, which is the "Innovation and Technological Change and Education in the Digital Age for Achieving Gender Equality and the empowerment of all women and girls'.

The National Women's day celebration ended with panel discussions from mostly top executives and bureaucrats from other agencies that joined DPM at the event.



## GESI Session for NEA Staff



National Energy Authority Staff photo shoot after the GESI session.

**D**epartment of Personnel Management Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) Whole of Government (WOG) branch continues to implement the GESI Policy through its Gender Equity and Sensitization and Mainstreaming workshops.

The GESI team recently completed a two-day workshop for the National Energy Authority staff, Batch One for this month.

The session was informative and enlightening for most of the participants who have expressed positive feedback particu-

larly understanding the GESI Policy for the first time from the experts from DPM, its principles and values and how they can better implement the GESI Policy in their workplace.

Acting Manager GESI Coordination and Mainstreaming Branch, Ms. Amelia Raka said that the session was impressive and interesting because only four out of the total number of the participants that attended the workshop knew about the GESI policy.

The participants were grateful and appreciative of the delivery of the session in its simplest

form that was in alignment with their roles and responsibilities.

Ms Raka explained the GESI policy in its simplest form to NEA staff and said that they now understand and know that the GESI policy is not only for women, but is an administrative policy for both men and women.

Ms Raka said it helps to create an equal playing field in the workplace so that staff can do their work equitably, in a fair way and also using transparent processes as well as maintain reporting and accountability.

NEA workshop participants recommended that DPM GESI WOG should continue conducting more training to other government agencies as well.

The GESI sensitization and mainstreaming program focuses on the role of the GESI policy and how it can be applied and established in the whole of government and in the public service.



Ms Amelia Raka, (Center) and two NEA Staff at the introduction.



## International Women's Day Vox Pop

In this March edition of the newsletter, we feature Vox Pop of DPM staff of their views of the International Women's Day Celebration and Theme: 'Digital Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality'.

We asked the officers what the Day means to them and this is what they had to say:



"Advocating for every female child to get educated".

**Ms. Agnes Tamate - Executive Manager Capacity Building and Development**



"We recognize women who are key players in development not only in this country but in the global arena

where we've seen

PNG women setting the bar in the international community". **Mr. Jim Barni - Chief Censor / Office of Censorship**



"It means I am grateful, appreciative and acknowledge women's contribution to the development of Humanity every day".

**Airo Bulina - Manager Building & Properties (IHD)**



"Recognizing the day shows the importance of women in our society and in the international arena".

**Mrs. Marita Kouga—Executive Manager - Executive Contracts and Administrations**



"I consider the International Women's day as a very important day because we the general population get to understand the important role that women play in development in this time and era". **Mr Elias Yori -**

**HRAS Manager New Guinea Islands Region**



"This day signifies the need for more accelerated actions on Gender Equality in

this country". **Clyde Likius- Salaries Compliance & Monitoring Committee- Research Officer.**

## DPM IN PICTURES

