



DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
Office of the Secretary

MEDIA RELEASE

DPM Bids Farewell to Three Long-Serving Officers with 92 Years of Combined Public Service

Port Moresby – June 16th 2025: In a bittersweet moment filled with emotion and heartfelt gratitude, the Department of Personnel Management (DPM) today farewelled three of its most dedicated officers, who together have devoted an incredible 92 years of service to the people and government of Papua New Guinea.

The farewell ceremony, held at the department's headquarters here in Central Government Building, was marked by laughter, tears, and moving reflections as colleagues gathered to pay tribute to the contributions of Mr. Gabriel Woiang MPS, (who served a total of 45 years), Mr. Mores Ulea MPS (who served a total of 33 years), and Mr. Billy Mahin (who served a total of 14 years).

Mr Gabriel Woiang and Mr Moses Ulea both have been awarded medals by the queen for services to the public sector.

In her speech, DPM Secretary Taies Sansan expressed deep appreciation for the trio's unwavering commitment to the public service. "We are farewelling three remarkable individuals whose work and values have shaped this department in countless ways. Their departure leaves behind a legacy of professionalism, wisdom, and loyalty," she said.

While celebrating their contributions, Secretary Sansan also acknowledged the inevitable reality of the government's retirement policy that led to their exit. "As much as we value and love our staff, retirement policies must be upheld, and we are therefore letting go of some of our most experienced officers. It is not easy, but it is a part of the system we all serve," she added.

Among the retirees was Mr. Gabriel Woiang, a humble and steadfast officer known for his patience and dedication. Reflecting on his long years of service, Mr. Woiang said:

"I want to sincerely thank the Government for giving me a job and taking care of me and my family all these years. With a job, I would not have been able to educate my children, feed my family and for that I am truly grateful. It has been a journey filled with purpose, and I am proud to have served my government and country."

Also retiring was Mr. Mores Ulea MPS, a respected mentor and faithful public servant whose words touched many. "First and foremost, I thank God for everything. I've seen the highs and

the lows, but I never gave up. I urge all current staff to serve the Department of Personnel Management wholeheartedly—it is an honour to be here,” he said passionately.

The third officer farewelled was Mr. Billy Mahin, who made the difficult decision to resign from DPM to take up a new role with the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG). “It is with a heavy heart that I leave this department, which has been like my second home and staff my second family,” Mr. Mahin shared. “But I believe the time is right—for me, for Bougainville, and for our people. I am thankful to the department for shaping me into who I am today and I thank Secretary for her foresight and the plight of Bougainville as we strive for better things to come.”

The ceremony concluded with presentation of gifts, as colleagues embraced the departing officers, many overcome with emotion. The Department of Personnel Management, while saddened by their departure, sends them off with the highest respect and gratitude for a combined 92 years of dedicated service to the people of Papua New Guinea.

Approved for Release



TAISE SANSAN

Secretary



Pictures attached:



1. Secretary Taies Sansan, Retiree Moses Ulea, Deputy Secretary Constance Baisi, Retiree Gabriel Woieng and resigning officer Billy Mahin farewelled on Monday at the Central Government Building.



2. Retiree Moses Ulea and Gabriel Woieng, DPM Secretary Taies Sansan and Billy Mahin during the farewell celebrations