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OFFICE OF ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

26 April 2022

PRESS RELEASE NOTICE

ISSUING OF THE WRITS AND THE CONFIRMED ELECTION DATES FOR THE 2022 NATIONAL ELECTION

Under the authority of Section 73 (Writs for General Elections) of the *Organic Law on National and Local-level Government Elections* ("Electoral Law"), the Electoral Commission hereby advises the Head of State to issue the Writs for the eleventh (11th) General Election for Members of Parliament in accordance with the provisions of Section 105 (General Elections) of the *Constitution of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea*.

The number of writs to be issued for the Provincial Electorates is twenty-two (22), including the National Capital District and Autonomous Region of Bougainville. The number of Open Electorate writs to be issued increases from eighty-nine (89) to ninety-six (96) following the 10th Parliament's acceptance of the Electoral Boundaries Commission's recommendations for seven (7) new Open Electorates in line with Section 35 (Open Electorates) and Section 41 (Determination of New Electorates) of the Electoral Law. The total number of electorate writs is now one-hundred and eighteen (118).

The Electoral Commission also advises on the following electoral calendar for the 2022 National Election as provided for by Section 75 (Form of Writs) of the Electoral Law:

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| 1. Issue of Writs/Nomination Opens: | Thursday, 12 th May 2022 @ 4:00pm |
| 2. Nomination Closes: | Thursday, 19 th May 2022 @ 4:00pm |
| 3. Polling Period Starts: | Saturday, 9 th July 2022 |
| 4. Polling Period Ends: | Friday, 22 nd July 2022 |
| 5. Return of Writs on or before: | Friday, 29 th July 2022 @ 4:00pm |

Calculation of Dates:

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| ◆ (7 days) Period of Nomination: | 12 th May to 19 th May 2022 |
| ◆ (8 weeks) Period from Issue of Writs to Start of Polling Period: | 12 th May to 9 th July 2022 |
| ◆ (14 days) Period of Polling: | 9 th July to 22 nd July 2022 |
| ◆ (7 Days) Period from End of Polling Period to Return of Writs: | 23 rd July to 29 th July 2022 |


SIMON SINAI, ML
Electoral Commissioner



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