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## OFFICE OF ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

# “PNGEC WILL TAKE NOMINATIONS ON THURSDAY 19<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022,” SAYS CHIEF ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022

Chief Electoral Commissioner, Mr Simon Sinai clarified this afternoon that Writs for 2022 National Elections were issued last Thursday (12/05/22) but nominations will be taken starting tomorrow (19/05/22) throughout the country and it starts at 8am.

“Let me reaffirm what I said earlier; the writs for the 2022 National Elections have now been issued by Governor General, H.E. Sir Bob Dadae as of Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022, thus formally kick-starting the election process.

“But out of respect for the tragic and unexpected passing of Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the United Labour Party, the late Sam Basil. ULP is a major coalition partner in the current government and we had to give them time reorganise themselves because they are part and parcel of our election process and the passing of their leader has affected their preparations and we had be fair to them,” he said.

Mr Sinai said Returning Officers can will start taking nominations from tomorrow (19/05/22) onwards starting at 8am.

“The close of nominations will therefore be at 4:00pm on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022, seven (7) days after the start of nominations,” Mr Sinai said.

Chief Commissioner Sinai said writs have also been dispatched to all the provinces and their respective nominations will begin as soon as the Returning Officers and their officials receive them.

Mr Sinai said polling would start on 2 July and end on 22 July 2022 with the Return of Writs expected from 23-29 July 2022.

“Let me reassure our people, the various political parties and candidates, stakeholders and everyone else that the national elections are on schedule to be delivered as per the requirements of the Constitution and the Organic Law on the conduct of this national event.

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“I am confident that by working together, we will deliver a fair and just elections result that our country expects and deserves,” he said.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Simon Sinai', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

**SIMON SINAI ML**