



## DRAFT TALKING POINTS

**NBC Radio**

**Update on Roll Update Exercise**

**27 January 2022**

### Opening Remarks

- ◆ Thank you for that warm introduction and for inviting me to share information about the **Electoral Roll Update**.

### PNGEC

- ◆ As many of your listeners know, the PNG Electoral Commission is the electoral authority under the Constitution, and it is tasked with organising and conducting all elections for the National Parliament and legislative arms of the Local-level Governments.
- ◆ National Elections are held every five years and we are working with our stakeholders to deliver a Free, Fair and Safe 2022 National Election.

### Electoral Roll Update

- ◆ Before anyone can vote in the 2022 National Election, their name must be on the electoral roll for the ward they will vote in.
- ◆ So a key priority for the Electoral Commission is the development of an **updated and accurate** Electoral Roll for the 2022 National Election.
- ◆ In January and February PNGEC will be **visiting all wards** to conduct the Roll Update Exercise.
- ◆ It is a **legal requirement to enrol** to vote if a person:
  - Is a citizen of PNG, and
  - Is 18 years of age or older, and
  - Has lived in their ward for six (6) months or more

- ◆ People who are 17 years old and who will turn 18 on or before the day the writs are issued (currently scheduled for 28 April 2022), can also enrol to vote under what is called “**Provisional Enrolment**”.
- ◆ It is important that everyone understands:
  - Enrolment, and keeping their place of residence updated, is a legal responsibility of all voters;
  - A person can only vote once in the ward they are enrolled in; and
  - A person cannot be registered on the electoral roll in more than one ward at the same time.

### National Roll Update

- ◆ With **three and a half (3.5) months until the intended issue of writs**, PNGEC has commenced working to conduct the **roll update exercise**.
- ◆ To ensure sufficient opportunity for people to enrol, throughout January and February, for two (2) weeks in every ward:
  - Enrolment Agents will assist those who are already enrolled to confirm and update their details if required.
  - At the same time, Enrolment Agents will also accept new claims for enrolment.
- ◆ It is very **important** that people contact their Enrolment Agents and check their enrolment details as soon as enrolment begins in their area.
- ◆ PNGEC Provincial Electoral Offices, Ward Enrolment Committees, Enrolment Agents, and awareness officers will communicate the start of the roll update in each ward.
- ◆ People should listen out for radio announcements, check community notices, and visit the PNGEC Facebook page for additional updates.
- ◆ People can also check the **PNG Voter Look Up application** to check their enrolment status at each stage of the Roll Update Process. The app is free and available for download via Google Play

- ◆ If you are not on the roll in the ward in which you are eligible and intend to vote, you **must** submit a claim for enrolment during the January and February roll update exercise.
- ◆ All new and transfer electors will be given a receipt as proof of having lodged their forms.
- ◆ Only people who are on the roll can vote in the 2022 National Election.

### Quality Assurance and Data Processing

- ◆ After Enrolment Agents have visited a ward, the updated working roll and claims for enrolment will go through several quality assurance processes.
  - As an integrity initiative, we have established **Ward Enrolment Committees** in each ward, to support local ownership and oversight of the roll update process.
- ◆ The updated information and claims for enrolment will then:
  - Be data processed;
  - Go through additional quality checks; and
  - Be vetted by PNGEC headquarters to produce the Preliminary Roll.
- ◆ Then there will be a **public display and verification of the Preliminary Roll.**

### Active Enrolment

- ◆ Enrolment is an active process and your name must be on the electoral roll to vote.
  - Being enrolled at school or university, or just being a resident somewhere does **not** automatically mean you are enrolled to vote.
  - Having a National Identification (NID) card does **not** mean that you are automatically enrolled to vote. You do not need an NID card to enrol to vote.
- ◆ You **must actively enrol to vote by:**
  - Checking your enrolment status with the Enrolment Agent if you are not enrolled;
  - Submitting a claim for enrolment with the Enrolment Agent; and

- During the public display and verification of the Preliminary Roll, confirming your enrolment status.

### First time youth voters

- ◆ First-time youth voters are a key priority for the Roll Update Exercise.
- ◆ There is a large group of young people aged 18-34 who do need to enrol.
- ◆ I encourage all first-time youth voters to contact their Enrolment Agent as soon as the Roll Update starts in their ward – it's free, it's easy, and you don't need an ID.
- ◆ And tell your friends and family to enrol too!
- ◆ It is important that young people have the opportunity to enrol as required by the electoral law AND participate in the democratic process
  - This election needs all our voices.
- ◆ And please remember:
  - Being enrolled at school or university does not automatically mean you are enrolled to vote.
  - Having a National Identification (NID) card does not mean that you are automatically enrolled to vote.
  - Your name must be on the electoral roll in order to vote.
  - This means you must actively enrol to vote by:
    - checking your enrolment status
    - submitting a claim for enrolment with the Enrolment Agent, and
    - during the public display and verification of the Preliminary Electoral Roll, confirming your enrolment status.
- ◆ Follow and use the hashtag #YouthEnroll2Vote on social media!
- ◆ Become a voter and enrol to vote as soon as it is possible in your ward!

### Closing Remarks

- ◆ Enrolling to vote is both a democratic right and legal responsibility.

- ◆ Before anyone can vote in the 2022 National Election, their name must be on the electoral roll for the ward they will vote in.
- ◆ I encourage everyone to check their enrolment details and talk to their Enrolment Agents in their ward. Tell your friends, family, and neighbours to do this too.
- ◆ PNGEC Provincial Electoral Offices, Ward Enrolment Committees, Enrolment Agents, and awareness officers will announce when Enrolment Agents will visit each ward.
- ◆ I encourage all first-time youth voters to contact their Enrolment Agents as soon as the Roll Update starts in their ward.
- ◆ Only your Enrolment Agents can add your name to the electoral roll.
- ◆ More information about the Electoral Roll Update is available on the PNGEC's Facebook page.

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