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## OFFICE OF ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

## PRESS STATEMENT 01 June 2022 "PNG SEES INCREASE IN NOMINATIONS FOR 2022 NATIONAL ELECTIONS"

Electoral Commissioner Simon Sinai today confirmed the nomination figures for 2022 National Elections has surpassed the total number of candidates who nominated in 2017.

He said after checking through the nomination lists submitted by Returning Officers and Election Managers throughout the country, a total of 3493 nominations have been received compared to 3340 nominations in 2017.

"As of the close of nominations last Thursday (19 May 2022) at 4pm, we have received in total 3493 nominations, an increase of 153 from the last election. Of the total 142 are female candidates and rest are males. The female candidate numbers have dropped from 167 in 2017, he said.

Mr Sinai said the highest number of nominations by electorate was received from Moresby Northeast with 76 candidates and second highest Chimbu Provincial with 75 candidates.

The other electorates that received less than 10 nominations include-Ialibu-Pangia – 9 candidates Tari-Pori – 9 candidates Hagen Central – 9candidates Moresby South – 8 candidates Pomio – 9 candidates Rabaul – 9 candidates South Bougainville – 9 candidates and Bougainville Provincial – 6 candidates

Nominations by regions, Highlands received 1, 251 nominations, followed by Momase-980 and Papuan region 921 respectively. The New Guinea Islands received 341 nominations covering all fives provinces including the Autonomous Region of Bougainville.

The Commissioner urged all candidates and supporters campaign peacefully and to observe the electoral laws and work together to promote a free, fair and safe elections.

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"This election is not for the Electoral Commission. We are only managing the process to ensure that you cast your votes and choose your leader. The success of the 2022 national elections depends on you and that's why I am appealing to all our voters and community leaders to take ownership and together we can deliver a free and fair election," he said.

SIMON SINAI ML Commissioner

