



Section 75 lot 76, Frangipani Street, Hohola
P.O. Box 5348
BOROKO, National Capital District
Papua New Guinea
Tel: (675) 303 1560/7005 9348
Email: ssinai@pngec.gov.pg
Website: www.pngec.gov.pg

OFFICE OF ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

3rd July 2022

PRESS RELEASE NOTICE

REGARDING THE THIRD BATCH OF BALLOT PAPER PRINTING AND DISPATCH

The Papua New Guinea Electoral Commission (PNGEC) gratefully acknowledges the generous support from the Government of Australia to re-print ballot paper shortfalls for certain wards and constituencies in the country.

After further analysis of the 2022 preliminary electoral roll data, the PNGEC respectfully requested the support from the Government of Australia to print the following replacement or supplemental ballot papers in corresponding wards in Enga and Eastern Highlands and two Open Electorates in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. The reasons are described below.

Reinstated Kandep Rural LLG Wards (Kandep District, Enga Province)

On 31 December 2021, the Governor-General issued a proclamation that reinstated 16 wards that had been abolished by the Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs (DPLGA) in 2019. As a result, the PNGEC was compelled to move electors from the 36 wards remaining after the 2019 alterations and back into the 16 reinstated wards to recreate a total of 52 ward electoral rolls as existed during the 2017 National Election. Most of the ballot papers printed for the 36 proclaimed wards (approximately 35,000) can be used for the 2022 National Election; however, the corresponding ballot papers for the 16 reinstated wards (approximately 16,000) have the incorrect ward names on the ballot pad cover sheets and embedded in the security features on each of the ballot papers and thus were reprinted. The ballot papers that had been printed before the proclamation for those polling places that had been part of the abolished 16 wards are now excess ballot papers and are slated for destruction in Port Moresby on or about the start of the polling period to ensure public confidence in the integrity of the electoral process.

Manager Elections P.O. Box 794 MT. HAGEN Western Highlands Phone: 542 2349	Manager Elections P.O. Box 73 MENDI Southern Highlands Phone: 549 1378	Manager Elections P.O. Box 109 WABAG Enga Province Phone: 547 1144	Manager Elections P.O. Box 1031 GOROKA Eastern Highlands Phone: 532 2349	Manager Elections P.O. Box 446 KUNDIAWA Chimbu Province Phone: 535 1204	Manager Elections P.O. Box 424 MADANG Eastern Highlands Phone: 422 2349	Manager Elections P.O. Box 224 LAE Eastern Highlands Phone: 422 2349	Manager Elections P.O. Box 672 WEWAK East Sepik Province Phone: 456 2090	Manager Elections P.O. Box 355 VANIMO West Sepik Province Phone: 457 1187
Manager Elections P.O. Box 811 RABAUL East New Britain Phone: 982 8357	Manager Elections P.O. Box 488 KIMBE West New Britain Phone: 983 5484	Manager Elections P.O. Box 881 ALOTAU Milne Bay Province Phone: 641 0355	Manager Elections P.O. Box 226 LORENGAU Manus Province Phone: 970 9494	Manager Elections P.O. Box 295 KAVIENG New Ireland Province Phone: 984 2317	Manager Elections P.O. Box 62 KEREMA Gulf Province Phone: 684 1074	Manager Elections P.O. Box 86 LAE Western Province Phone: 328 1037	Manager Elections P.O. Box 136 POPONDETTA Northern Province Phone: 629 7167	Manager Elections P.O. Box 5348 BOROKO Central Province Phone: 321 2053

Ward 21 Wakumare (Wabag LLG, Wabag District, Enga Province)

Ward 21 is situated on the border of the Wabag and Kompam-Ambum districts in Enga province. Even though the ward is administratively under Wabag LLG, during elections, this ward is included in Ambum LLG. As a result, the ballot papers printed for Ward 21 contain the incorrect Open Electorate designation, and thus approximately 1,150 additional generic ballot papers were requested to be printed to supplement the generic papers that are being used to address the shortfall of generic papers in the Kompam-Ambum Open Electorate.

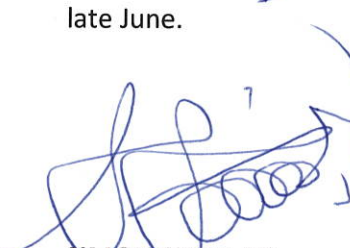
Ward 14 Tunukau (West Okapa LLG, Okapa District, Eastern Highlands)

Ward 14 also had a shortfall of ballot papers due to the misplacement of electors in neighbouring Ward 9 Orandatu during a previous electoral roll update exercise. As a result, the PNGEC supplemented the correct ward ballots with generic ballot papers but still had a shortfall, and thus approximately 750 additional ballot papers were printed to supplement the generic papers that are being used to address the shortfall of generic papers in the Okapa Open Electorate.

Autonomous Region of Bougainville (North and Central Districts)

Based on fresh electoral roll data received by the PNGEC from the Office of the Bougainville Electoral Commissioner (OBEC) in early June, the PNGEC identified a shortfall of approximately 20,500 ballot papers in two of the three Open Electorates distributed among several constituencies. The shortfall derives from the use of the 2017 electoral roll data when estimating the number of ballot papers to print early in 2022. As a result, the PNGEC requested for approximately 10,500 generic ballot sheets for Central Bougainville Open Electorate and approximately 10,000 generic ballot sheets for North Bougainville Open Electorate to be printed to supplement the ballot papers already printed for those two districts and corresponding constituencies.

The PNGEC confirms that these supplemental ballot papers were printed through the generous support of the Government of Australia at the request of the PNGEC and were delivered on 16 June. They were dispatched with the sensitive materials between mid and late June.


SIMON SINAI, ML

Electoral Commissioner

