

2008 Law and Justice Sector Sports Day

The Law and Justice Sector took to the field a day of sporting activities on Saturday 9 February 2008 at the Sir John Guise Stadium. The highlight of the day was various sporting activities that included volleyball, basketball, netball, soccer, touch rugby and crowd pleaser tail ender novelty games of coconut husking, beer drinking relay and the infamous tug-of-war.

Sector institutions that took part in the tournament include OCPNG, Magisterial Service, Department of Justice & Attorney General, Legal Training Institute, Police, CS, National Planning & Monitoring Department and State Solicitor's Office.

Team OCPNG did very well for the first time capping off a personal best for Ombudsman John Nero who was named the best player of the soccer round-robin.

Australian High Commissioner to PNG Chris Moraitis speaking at the opening ceremony praised the sector for its continuous efforts in finding solutions to the law and order challenges.



OC players in defensive mode during the volleyball competition.

He said events like the sports day played an important role in bringing together key stakeholders helping to build and consolidate relationship between the various agencies which are so important in developing a successful law and justice sector.



Omb. Sangetari prepares to serve the ball during the volleyball match. This is her first time to participate in the sports day this year since taking office in November last year.



The best of the Novelty Games—we lost.

OC Eagles make it to the semis



Our lady for the sports bits and bobs, Aroai Alu, reports that the high flying OC Eagles are well placed to grab the Division 3 minor premiers in the Port Moresby Private Sector Netball Competition.

And with a little bit of luck they may even cause an upset in their triumph for the finals if all goes well for our girls at the weekend.

The girls need the morale support of everyone in the Commission so let's give it to them—Good Luck!

File photo of the OC Eagles following their successful performance in last year's grand finals.

Ombudsman Commission of Papua New Guinea, Ground Floor, Deloitte Tower, Douglas Street, PO Box 1831, Port Moresby 121, NCD, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, Phone: 675-308-2600 Fax: 675-320-3260, Email: ombudspng@ombudsman.gov.pg

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WASDOK

ISSUED FOR FEBRUARY 2008 BY THE OMBUDSMAN COMMISSION

Legal fraternity meet for 2008 legal year

The Boroko Baptist Church was packed to capacity on Monday 4 February 2008 when lawyers, magistrates and judges in the National Capital gathered there for the opening of the 2008 legal year.

A bus load of lawyers from the Ombudsman Commission accompanied by scribe from the Media Unit arrived just in time to join the procession which started from the Saint Joseph's International School and ended at the Boroko Baptist Church main hall.

The procession was led by the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary Band followed by judges, magistrates, lawyers and staff of the legal fraternity. Acting Chief Justice Sir Salamo Injia and NCD Governor Hon. Powes Parkop were among the lawyers. Rev. Dr. Joshua Daimoi who took charge of the commissioning and dedication prayer, encouraged the judges, magistrates and lawyers not to enrich themselves but to work for the betterment of the people and the country.

"In everything you do as judges, magistrates and lawyers you must work alongside Jesus while carrying out your duties in the 2008 legal year"

He said "in every thing you do as judges, magistrates and lawyers you



Members of the legal fraternity in full attire in procession to mark the 2008 legal year—OC lawyers in background.

must work alongside Jesus while carrying out your duties in the 2008 legal year".

Rev. Dr. Daimoi encouraged the legal fraternity to be humble, devoted and submissive to God as "currently our country is facing leadership crises" and this was attributed to us being not devoted to God.

The legal year 2008 marks the beginning of Supreme, National and Local Court hearings throughout the country.



Jubilant Ombudsman John Nero shows off his trophy for the best player of the men's soccer event in the 2008 LJS sports day— picture & story p.4

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Chief Ombudsman receives prestigious award

Chief Ombudsman Ila Geno was the proud recipient of the prestigious Siaguru Integrity Award for his outstanding leadership in fighting corruption at all levels of government and community.

This honor was accorded to Mr. Geno in December 2007 at a ceremony that coincided with Transparency International's 10th anniversary celebration in Port Moresby during which the Chief Ombudsman was given exceptional praise.

In commending the achievement Transparency International Chairman Mike Manning said the award was the first of its kind since the inception of TIPNG and had been established to honor individuals and organizations that have demonstrated exceptional courage and outstanding leadership in fighting corruption.

Mr Manning said Mr Geno was a deserving individual who was recognized for his determination and bravery in fighting corruption and the award was meant to mark the legacy of the esteemed founder Sir Anthony Siaguru and other like minded individuals such as Mel Togolo, Richard Kassman, John Nongorr and Dame Meg Taylor who started the TIPNG 10 years

ago.

The Chief Ombudsman in acknowledging the award said he was stunned by the news and was lost for the appropriate words to express his appreciation saying, "I personally treasure this award as prestigious and inspirational to myself to continue the fight against corruption without fear or favour".

"I personally take this award as most meaningful and is the best ever I could aspire for since joining the Public Service life on 2nd February 1968. This award makes my life and I will treasure it as long as I live with determination and independence of mind to continue the fight in collaboration with the like minded individuals and institutions such as Transparency International (PNG) Chapter", He added.

"I personally take this award as most meaningful and is the best ever I could aspire for since joining the Public Service life on 2nd February 1968."



Chief Ombudsman Ila Geno proudly shows off the Sir Anthony Siaguru Prestigious Award.

Mr Geno also thanked Lady Mina Siaguru and her children for supporting the late Anthony Siaguru and the firm stand he had taken in combating corruption with the support of the co-founders of Transparency International (PNG) Chapter.



An Eye within

Welcome to the second edition of the Wasdok for 2008.

In this edition, we highlight the Prestigious Siaguru Integrity Award the Chief Ombudsman Ila Geno received recently for his outstanding leadership in fighting corruption at all levels of government and the community.

We also bring to you news about the opening of the 2008 Legal Year in Port Moresby and the participation of the Ombudsman Commission Legal Officers.

We wish to mention that the 4th quarter Performance Management Review of 2007, which attracted a good turnout of Team Leaders and Managers of the Commission was successfully concluded at the Lamana Hotel.

Also in the line up are pictures and stories of the 2008 Law and Justice Sector Sports day.

On the Pacific Ombudsman Network News Online we have been able to feature as well as source information of relevance to OCPNG.

Of particular significance is the news about an Independent Anti-Corruption Commission being planned for Tonga before the end of the year.

Administrative and legal framework are in place for an Independent Anti-Corruption Commission. And if all goes well Tonga will be one of the first Island Nations not only to investigate but bring charges against suspected people.

OC in Performance Management Meeting

Executive members of the Ombudsman Commission including the Regional Managers, Senior Managers and Team Leaders gathered for a two day workshop on performance management review at the Lamana Hotel which started on Tuesday 26th and ended on Wednesday 27th February 2008.

This was the fourth of a series of such workshops organized for 2007 by the Policy and Planning Unit of the Commission to review the performance of all divisions and units and to assess whether tasks given have been fulfilled to meet the general objectives of the Commission under its statutory obligations for the period.

The Commission's acting Secretary, Allan Bari-

lae in his introductory remark told participants to be positive in their presentations. The fourth session of the 2007 Performance Management Review will form the basis of the 2007 Annual Report which is being progressed.

A good turn out of participants was observed in the last two days of the workshop with all divisional heads programmed to participate in lead discussions while a selected few stood in as facilitators.

The presence of Chief Ombudsman Ila Geno, Ombudsman Nero and Ombudsman Sangetari added strength to participative decorum which ended with a good feedback note from the three Members of the Commission.

PACIFIC OMBUDSMAN NETWORK NEWS UPDATE

Pacific Ombudsman Network News Online

CANBERRA, Australia
-The Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman on behalf of the Pacific Regional Ombudsmen Network invites you to join its online community of practice.

Since May 07 the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman has been using the Airtel service to coordinate a 'Community of Practice' amongst Ombudsmen and their staff in Australia, PNG and the Pacific.

The Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman is currently expanding the network to Pacific Island Countries who are currently exploring their options to develop an Ombudsman or similar complaint handling service.

You are invited to join the Commonwealth Ombudsman in this private network,

which includes a shared calendar, shared blog, and an extensive list of useful files and weblinks.

Once you join you will be able to share information and ideas with your colleagues from around the Pacific.

Tonga to set up Anti-Corruption Commission

NUKUALOFA, Tonga (Matangi Tonga, Feb. 23, 2008) -An Independent Anti-Corruption Commission will be set up and it should be in operation before the end of the year, according to the Solicitor General Linda Folaumotu'i.

Linda said that the commission would have extensive power, "to investigate suspected corruption, and prosecute civil servants of wrong doing."

The establishment of the Commission is co-funded by the Australian Government, and the position of a commissioner is currently being advertised. A commissioner should be announced by March.

"The Commission will have extensive power to investigate suspected corruption and prosecute civil servants of wrong doings"

The Solicitor General supported the move by government to establish an independent Anti-Corruption

Commission.

She said that the Commissioner would be assisted by nine deputies who will investigate suspected corruption of any person or authority that was brought to the Commission's attention by a complainant.

Linda pointed out that an Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2007 had been passed, detailing the functions of the Commission, as well as the nature of corrupt conduct in relation to a minister of the Crown, a government official and a member of the Legislative Assembly.

The Act also allows for the Commission to have powers not only to investigate but to bring charges against suspected people."
