



WASDOK NIUS



EYE WITHIN

May 2010 Edition

Manek attends World Press Freedom Meeting

The Chief Ombudsman Chronox Manek attended the UNESCO Global World Press Freedom Day in Brisbane, Australia from 1 to 3 May and addressed media representatives, tactician, policy makers and academics students from around the world.

This is an abstract from his paper he presented at the world conference. Mr Manek spoke on the theme freedom of information, challenges and the way forward.

Papua New Guinea (PNG) has encountered numerous challenges to the media and fledging democracy since independence in 1975. It is fortunate that the freedom of the media is enshrined in its Constitution and all threats to this freedom have been vigorously and successfully opposed. Many of our politicians, leaders, prominent and influential citizens, all declare they are firm believers in the principles of a free media and will strive to embrace it. There are instances however, where many comment negatively when the media spotlight is on them or their institutions or cohorts.

Against the backdrop of critical challenges facing the media and the Constitutional right to freedom of information, the media continues to ride its battles.

Global trends are such that PNG is not exceptional to link up with the rest of the world in the dissemination and delivery of information through the various means and mediums of communication, both electronically and the press.

Global issues are ever present in the PNG cultured media embracing the norms of society as principles of governance and respect. But the way in which the PNG media embraces the international media in my view has become so persuasive in eroding national cultures and traditional values with the programs aired on the BBC and ABC – free to air radio networks and from pay TV broadcasts on CNN and a number of channels in Bahasa, French and Korean.

Foreign influence in the form of material covered and presented in the PNG media is so huge. There is a great need to focus on PNG-oriented program, events and issues.

The recently launched Government Television network, Kundu Two, is a beginner to embracing this notion of broadcasting home grown material, but more needs to be done to improve the service to its audience as there is still scarcity of local content.

It is important to note that the role the media plays in society is not its alone, all professionals and laity and the civil society can also facilitate transparency and awareness of important issues. The media has an important role to play. It is also a watchdog to expose corruption and safeguard development and investment.

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VISION

The Ombudsman Commission's vision is to promote good leadership, good governance and good leaders.

MISSION

The Constitution clearly states the purposes of establishing the Ombudsman Commission:

- To ensure that all governmental bodies are responsive to the needs and aspirations of the people; and
 - To help in the improvement of the work of governmental bodies and the elimination of unfairness and discrimination by them; and
 - To help in the elimination of unfair or otherwise defective legislation and practices affecting or administered by governmental bodies; and
 - To supervise the enforcement of the Leadership Code.
- This constitutional mandate provides the Ombudsman Commission with its mission.

[Ombudsman Commission Strategic Plan 2005 – 2010]

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Chief appointed to IAACA

The Chief Ombudsman Chronox Manek has been elected as an Executive Committee Member of the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA).

Mr Manek was appointed following the organization's meeting held in Brazil last month.

In congratulating Mr Manek, the Secretary-General of the IAACA Mr Ye Feng said the Chief Ombudsman will be a member of the 4th General Meeting of IAACA which will be held from 2 to 5 November 2010 in Macao, China.

Mr Feng said as an Executive Committee member, Mr Manek is expected to lead a PNG delegation to the 4th IAACA Conference and General Meeting.

Mr Manek thanked IAACA executive committee members for their confidence in nominating him into the executive team in his absence.

He paid tribute to his hard working and staff of OCPNG for this important international appointment and he looks forward to contributing meaningfully to the objectives of the association.



**Chief Ombudsman
Chronox Manek**

Planned activities and Placements under the Pacific Ombudsman Alliance

In the coming months, the Pacific Ombudsman Alliance plans to facilitate a number of activities.

Forensic accounting training in PNG

Regional forensic accounting training will be delivered in PNG in June 2010. In March, POA member identified this as a training priority. The training module is being coordinated by the POA Secretariat.

Secretariat to visit Solomon Islands

A scoping visit is planned for June to undertake preliminary plans for next year's annual POA meeting and discuss future activities

with Mr Joe Poraiwai, Solomon Islands Ombudsman.

Counsel to the OCPNG placement

Mr Vergil Narakobi visited the Commonwealth Ombudsman Office as part of the POA twinning relationship to meet with Australian Government officials and staff.

OCPNG Regional Standardisation Placement

The POA Secretariat is making arrangements for a CO staff member to visit the OCPNG and its regional offices for two months to assist with standardisation of complaints-handling policies and procedure.

editorial

Welcome to the April edition of the Wasdoks Newsletter

The appointment of the Chief Ombudsman Chronox Manek to the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA) as an executive member is a show of confidence the international community has, especially an organization advocating in fighting corruption.

This comes at a time when we hear and read in the media and in our communities about corruption being rife in our societies.

Though it may be a coincidence that such appointment has come about, it shows that the International communities do recognise the work being done by OCPNG and its officers in the country, the region and on the international arena.

Happy Reading.

Editor

Walk in my Shoes—Living with HIV

How HIV Changed My Life...

The words echo in my head like a gunshot in the night. Panic begins to swell inside, my heart races and my chest pounds in fear. The sky, so blue and bright a short time ago,

now looks dull and gray. The people around me continue about their daily chores. I have been told I am HIV positive, and realise my life will never be the same. It's been a

the most, is the fact that this feeling of fear and isolation may never go away. I feel that I will never be able to escape the realization that I am sick and I am too frightened to tell anyone."

Don't they know what Happen has happened?

How do tell? Who do I tell?

week now, and I can't stop thinking about it. It's the first I think about each morning and the thing that keeps me up all night. What I dread

Your friend.....

Find out more next month...
sub title- "How do I tell? Who do I tell?"

...continue from front page

Media is also a Watch Dog to expose corruption

It is important to note that the role the media plays in society is not its alone, all professionals and laity and the civil society can also facilitate transparency and awareness of important issues. The media has an important role to play. It is also a watchdog to expose corruption and safeguard development and investment.

Media in developing countries like PNG and other Pacific island countries have the same roles, but the conditions under which they exercise their profession may vary due to economical and social factors.

The Media has no obligation to publicise any specific issue and addresses each issue when it arises. Media agencies or companies are in the business of generating revenue, often at the expense of good governance, despite giving rebates such as free plugs or coverage up to a certain point.

However, to prevent such outcomes, those in the front line of reporting should impart factual information, report fairly and in a balance manner – and help open up doors to development and investment.

Whilst the media has demonstrated that it can cover global and governance issue, it neglects its potential to be a responsible partner, especially in developing countries such as Papua New Guinea and to an extent the Pacific. However, this partnership can be strengthened with the media industry and government departments and agencies working to improve their ability to work with each within their regions and abroad to achieve social, economical and political mileage.

OC—complaints handling cartoon corner



Final part of a four part segment next month



OCPNG Placement in Canberra

Nerol Ilarupa talks to the Pacific Ombudsman Alliance Network News about her experience under the twinning program with Commonwealth Ombudsman.

Senior Investigator with Team 9, Nerol Ilarupa says she is extremely pleased to work and train under officers of the Commonwealth Ombudsman (CO) in Canberra.



Nerol Ilarupa

Nerol is currently attached to the Commonwealth Ombudsman for two months under a twinning program between the OCPNG and CO.

She told the Pacific Ombudsman Alliance Network News (POANN) that her first impression of the twinning program at the Commonwealth Ombudsman, was that she would have to learn the work practises and work culture on her own, but she said that was not the case.

“I was surprised how officers of the CO assisted in providing and equipping me with information and material on how investigations are done in their office.”

“I am working with the Tax Team and am extremely impressed with their gesture to train and equip me with knowledge and skills.”

Nerol says her mentors, Ms Andrea Hogarth, and Director, Ms Margaret Chinnery, have been very supportive, especially their time spent to ensure she was learning and grasping the work practices of the CO.

Nerol said the work culture of the Commonwealth Ombudsman is outstanding and everyone she interacted with is willing to assist her in anyway.

She attended training on Managing Unreasonable Complainant Conduct which taught her some techniques and skills or two to manage such complainants.

Whilst Ms Ilarupa is impressed with the outcome of the twinning program, she is thankful she can identify what unreasonable conducts of a complainant are and know strategies for dealing with such conducts.

She told the POANN, that only a month into the twinning program she has learnt how to use Resolve, the Case Management System, and how case officers manage information on their cases. The Tax complaints are quite new to her as she has not dealt with such issues back home.

Nerol says she believes by the end of this twinning program, she will be able to comfortably say - “ I have adequately gained relevant experience and skills and can return to my home (PNG) able to identify areas in which we can improve our work processes.”

Food for Thought

BOSSES

As everybody knows, bosses have practically nothing to do – except –

To decide what is to be done, to tell somebody to do it, to listen to reasons why it should NOT be done, why it should be done by somebody else, or why it should be done in a different way,

To follow up and see if the thing has been done,

To discover that it has NOT been done; to listen to excuses from the person who should have done it.

To discover that it has been done but incorrectly.

To point out how it should have been done,

To conclude that as long as it has been done, it may as well be left as it is.

To consider how much simple and better the thing would have been done had the boss done it himself in the first place.

To reflect sadly that if he had done it himself, he could have finished it in twenty minutes.

But as things turned out, he spent two days trying to find out why it had taken somebody else three weeks to do it wrong.

Those are the kind of problems that prove that the boss has nothing to do.

It is always much easier to do a thing yourself than to have someone else do it. But that does not each anyone anything.....

“Taken from a book titled Good Morning PNG! By Frank Mihalic.



Long serving Officer retires

The Ombudsman Commission has farewelled another long and distinguished serving officer.

Jack Penning, who hails from the East New Britain Province, was the Regional Manager of the New Guinea Islands Region at the time of his retirement and subsequent departure from the Commission..

Mr Penning had served the OC for 16 years, working his way from an investigator to regional manager .

He joined the Commission as a investigator and worked his way to Regional Manager of the New Guinea Islands region.



Jack Penning - Outgoing Regional Manager of the New Guinea Islands Region

Mr Penning said at a small farewell reception held at the OC office in Port Moresby in honour of him that he had enjoyed working in the Commission.

He said that it was with mixed emotions that he was leaving the Commission but satisfied with what he had gained and achieved over the span of the 16 years in service.

During the farewell reception, those who spoke described Jack as a calm and friendly officer and said they enjoyed working with him throughout his tenure in the Commission.



Mr Penning, his wife and son at farewell reception in Port Moresby.

The members of the Commission said during the farewell reception that Jack had performed well in his term as regional manager and prior to that as Senior Investigator based in Port Moresby.

They thanked him for his valuable contributions to the work of the OCPNG and wished him and his family well in his future endeavours.



The Chief Ombudsman Chronox Manek presenting a gift to Jack Penning

Human Resource Brief

By Augustine Grimbai

Two new officers join the Commission this month. They are Mr Kuri Tumul (Investigator) ADHRU and Mrs Betty Gali-Marlpo (Policy Planning Officer)

Another new officer, Mr Raymond Waieng, appointed as Investigator Team 3 Leadership will commence in June.

first batch of officers including Laniet Tokiala, Igana Goruna, Selwyn Alua, Miriam Wawe and Rhona Steven attended the first session from 12-14 May 2010.

The second group including Lydia Mulina, Roslyn Pochelep, Cecilia Rai, Brenda Oreke, Vivian Forepiso and Raka Peter attended on 26-28 May 2010.

Training

In training news, Counsel Vergil Narokobi was on a short term twinning placement with Commonwealth Ombudsman from 17-28 May 2010. Mrs Nerol Ilarupa (SI-T9 CAID) returns to Port Moresby on June 6 from Twinning placement at Commonwealth Ombudsman Office in Canberra, Australia for 2 months since 3 April.

HP VM Ware Training

This specialist IT course was attended by Tony Giro from 3 – 7 May 2010 and was facilitated by Daltron Training Limited.

MS EXCEL 2003 Basic

This course was conducted by ITI and five officers from the Commission Anita Awan, Janet Tamaweto, Antoinette Auo, Veronica Kumasari and Cecilia Rai attended the training.

Telephone Skills and Quality Customer Service Course

Two groups of officers attended the Telephone Skills and Quality Customer Service Course. The

Project Management Course

Simon Kwalimu attended the course on Project Management facilitated by Deloitte Touche Tomatsu from 13-14 May

Basic Accounting

The course was conducted from 13—14 May in Mt Hagen and 20-21 May in Lae with our two officers Martha Martin and Delvene Woni-Kalia attending at their respective centres.

Motivating Teams Course

The inspiring course was conducted by Price Waterhouse Coopers for the second batch of senior and middle management officers from 18 – 20 May 2010. The following officers attended; Joseph Molita, Samoa Kedea, Dickson Morehari, Ephraim Manhi, Lydia Mulina, Bonner Tito, Phillip Morris, Robert Hondi, Roslyn Pochelep and Andrew Sea.

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