



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL (PNG) INC  
Lokua Avenue, Boroko, Section 54 Lot 31  
PO Box 591 Port Moresby, NCD Phone 323 7517/4917  
E-mail: [yvonne.ngutlick@transparencypng.org.pg](mailto:yvonne.ngutlick@transparencypng.org.pg)  
Website: [www.transparencypng.org.pg](http://www.transparencypng.org.pg)

## PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

---

### Independence of ICAC is Crucial for its Mandate & Public Trust

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025, Port Moresby – Preserving the independence of the PNG Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) from political influence will be crucial to restoring public confidence and ensuring it can deliver its mandate, says Transparency International PNG (TIPNG). In a media statement following reports of administrative issues within the ICAC, TIPNG is calling for the constitutional basis for the ICAC's functions to investigate, arrest and prosecute corrupt conduct in PNG to be protected and not fall to political control.

“From the information emerging, the issues affecting the organisation could be tussle for power amongst the leadership of the ICAC, and seem largely administrative in nature. Papua New Guineans are justifiably right to be disappointed as we expected a greater degree of professionalism and better conduct from senior people who were appointed to a publicly-funded entity such as ICAC. They were all senior and experienced individuals who should have been able to resolve these issues among themselves, rather than impacting the operations of the institution under their care,” said Mr Peter Aitsi, TIPNG Chair, in a media statement.

“In light of the circumstances it is important to remember that the fundamental objective of all concerned citizens is to ensure ICAC is free of political influence. While the individual office holders might have issues, the integrity and independence of the office and its mandate must be upheld for the protection of all Papua New Guineans. From reports, the ICAC Appointments Committee has considered the findings received from the internal Government investigation Team and have made their decision in order to maintain stability of ICAC to suspend the incumbent commissioners and to appoint interim commissioners pending further investigations. TIPNG remains ready to support and ensure ICAC is able to fully take up its responsibilities and deliver the results our public is demanding,” said Mr. Aitsi.

The interim commissioners will be required to provide leadership and direction during this period, and it is hoped they will reinforce proper governance and provide further support to the ICAC oversight committee as they are appointed. TIPNG urges Government to assess and firmly establish the findings from their internal review Team and move to conclude this matter with urgency.

Ends...///

**Authorized by:**

**Arianne Kassman**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Media contact:**

**Yvonne Ngutlick**  
Deputy Director Communications

---

**What is TIPNG?**

TIPNG is a member of Transparency International a global anti-corruption movement committed to fighting corruption. TIPNG is an independent organization in PNG known as a Chapter of the international movement. The PNG chapter advocates against corruption and promotes transparency, good governance, honesty and accountability both in private and public sector dealings. TIPNG tries to assist strengthen the integrity systems of our country such as the police, the parliament, the public services and the judiciary.