



MINUTES OF TIPNG 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

11:20am – 12:40pm
Saturday 28th June 2025
Famagusta Room | Lamana Hotel | Port Moresby

AGENDA

- 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting**
- 2. Reports from Office Bearers**
 - i. Chairperson’s Report**
 - ii. Secretary’s Report**
 - iii. Treasurer’s Report**
- 3. Election of the Board**
- 4. Appointment of Auditors**
- 5. Any Other Business**

ATTENDANCE

Financial Members Present:	27
Financial Members by Proxy:	2
Non-Voting Members Present:	1
Members Present via Zoom:	4
<u>Observers:</u>	8
TOTAL:	<u>42</u>

Financial Members Present:

Members Present Via Zoom: ExxonMobil (PNG) (represented by Belinda GURRA), David POKA (Individual), Stefan SOWEI (Individual) and Evelyn DENU (Individual)

INDIVIDUAL: Aiden SOLIEN, Amahlia LAKA, Arianne KASSMAN, Borone ISANA, Brian SINGUT, Charles

VAGI, Dempstar KIASAKA, Elizabeth ARIBI, Hezron WARIKE, James LUNGE, Jeanette JOSEPH, John MOORE, Margret DIRO, Mariah BUALIA, Mary Jacinta UDU, Paul

BARKER,

Peter AITSI, Priscilla BALANA, Richard KASSMAN, Richard KEGA, Ricky NAREWEC, Yuambari HAIHUIE, Yvonne NGUTLICK

FAMILY: Stephannie KIRRIWOM-SAWONG (Sawong Family), Shane KENNEDY (Kennedy Family),

Michelle HAU’OFA (Hau’ofa Family)

CORPORATE: SP Brewery Ltd (represented by John NILKARE)

PROXIES: Christopher Elphick (Individual), Danny Robinson (Robinson Family)

Non-Voting Members Present: Ranga SAWONG

OBSERVERS: Alma SEDLAR (*UNDP*), Christine VAI (*SKT*), Daniel EVANS (*DT - GLOBAL*), Doreen IGA (*BCEP*), Esti DURASHANTI (*US EMBASSY*), Joycelyn MICKY (*SKT*), Lillian DANG (*DT- GLOBAL*), Michelle MONDIA (*PNGRGC*)

WELCOME REMARKS

TIPNG's 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) was opened by the Chairperson, Mr. Peter John Aitsi at 11:20am. The chairperson welcomed all present and went through the Agenda of the AGM.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The attendees were given time to read through the Minutes of the TIPNG 2023 AGM. There was no correction to the Minutes.

RESOLUTION: John Moore moved to accept the Minutes. The motion was collectively seconded by a show of hands.

2. REPORTS FROM OFFICE BEARERS

i. Chairperson's Report

- Acknowledgement was given to the leadership of CEO Arianne Kassman, Deputy Director Yvonne Ngutlick, and recently transferred Deputy Director Yuambari Haihuie, now at ANU, for their continued efforts in ensuring that despite the demanding nature of operations, the organisation remained on course with its implementation plan and successfully delivered key projects and programs throughout the year.
- It was noted that a major concern remains the increasing disconnect between citizens and the state, a trend that continues to deepen and has therefore become a central focus of the organisation's attention and strategic action.
- The theme for the AGM, "Rise to the Occasion," was reinforced as a timely call to action, especially in light of ongoing warnings about the very real risk of entering the 2027 national elections without proper preparation, a scenario that must be avoided through proactive and focused engagement.
- In response to the current environment, there has been a strong effort to mobilise the community coalition and to strengthen internal resilience through partnerships with trusted stakeholders, with the overarching goal of restoring public trust, offering hope, and providing citizens with a credible organisation they can rely on during uncertain times.
- The strategic focus for 2024 was structured around four key areas: advancing electoral reform; opposing the National Gold Corporation Bill due to concerns over its transparency; progressing work with the Auditor General's Office through the Accountability Scorecard to simplify and share public audit findings; and directly advocating for the removal of agency CEOs who failed to submit annual reports over multiple years, with one such call being formally made to the Prime Minister.

- Engagement with the Media Council was also highlighted, particularly in the collective efforts to oppose the Media or Communications Bill, and to ensure that adequate public consultation and stakeholder input were incorporated into the policy and legislative process.
- Three core platforms were used for stakeholder engagement: the Open Government Partnership to work with government agencies on transparency and anti-corruption policies; the Community Coalition Against Corruption, now reactivated with 52 registered member organisations representing approximately 3 million citizens; and the PNG Resource Governance Coalition, which plays a critical role in enhancing transparency around the flow of revenues from the resource sector to government and ultimately to public services.
- Significant progress was also marked by the relaunch of three flagship initiatives: the Sir Anthony Siaguru Walk Against Corruption, honouring the founding chairman; the Mike Manning Youth Democracy Camp, named in recognition of a former chairman's legacy; and the Youth Against Corruption Alliance (YACA), which empowers young people to actively participate in anti-corruption education and civic engagement.
- Members were encouraged to continue supporting the organisation by maintaining their membership, promoting the work of the organisation within their networks, inviting others to join, and expressing interest in participating in committees and events, as this collective strength and support form the foundation of the organisation's ability to remain a credible and trusted voice for integrity and accountability in Papua New Guinea.

ii. Secretary's Report

- The year 2024 was described as a vibrant and eventful one for TIPNG, with a strong focus on fundraising, membership engagement, and strategic communication, all contributing to a powerful year of growth and public mobilisation.
- On June 15th, 2024, TIPNG successfully relaunched one of Papua New Guinea's most symbolic anti-corruption events, the Sir Anthony Siaguru Walk Against Corruption (SASWAC), after a three-year pause due to the global pandemic, with simultaneous events held in Lae and Port Moresby, attracting over 232 teams from schools, families, businesses, civil society, and government, and raising K226,500 to support TIPNG's work.
- The SASWAC was described not just as a fundraiser but as a powerful movement of unity and purpose, serving as a public reminder of the nation's collective strength in standing up to corruption.
- In the area of membership, it was noted that membership remains the base of TIPNG, with each individual, family, or organization that joins making a strong statement against corruption and supporting the values of transparency and justice.
- For 2024, the organization set a bold membership revenue target of K235,349.22 by September, and while the total raised was K100,362.11 from 267 registered financial members, the real success lay in the diversity, momentum, and passion that the growing membership base brought to the movement.
- Throughout the year, TIPNG focused on deepening relationships with members and supporters by hosting four 'Lunch and Learn' sessions with Dentons, KPMG, Newmont, and Santos, providing a platform for dialogue on how corporate and institutional support contributes to national anti-corruption outcomes.
- The first 2024 newsletter featured compelling stories from the Melanesian Institute and George Monouluk, showcasing the personal and institutional impact of TIPNG's work and highlighting the importance of engagement with faith-based and civil society groups through events such as the public leadership dialogue in Goroka.

- Regular bi-monthly updates via MailChimp kept members informed and connected, reinforcing TIPNG's commitment to transparency, accountability, and consistent communication with its growing supporter base.
- The TIPNG Board of Directors met 10 times in 2024, ensuring strong leadership, strategic direction, financial accountability, and alignment of programs, underlining that the work done throughout the year, including every event, publication, and advocacy campaign, was only made possible through the combined efforts of members, donors, volunteers, and partners who continue to believe that change is possible.

iii. Treasurer's Report

The financial statements for the year 2024 were independently audited by NKA Chartered Accountants, in accordance with international auditing standards and the Papua New Guinea accounting standards. The audit returned an unqualified opinion, confirming that TIPNG's financial records are accurate and compliant, continuing a strong track record of governance and financial integrity.

In terms of performance, TIPNG achieved a net income of **K105,883**, marking a substantial improvement from the **K81,893 deficit** recorded in 2023. This positive result was attributed to increases in core income and disciplined project expenditure.

The financial breakdown for 2024 is as follows:

- **Total income:** K1.97 million
- **Project income:** K1.42 million
- **Core income:** K556,000+
- **Total expenditure:** K1.86 million
 - **Project expenses:** K1.48 million
 - **Core expenses:** K390,000

This resulted in a surplus of **K105,883**, demonstrating stronger income diversification and financial health.

The balance sheet as at 31 December 2024 showed:

- **Total assets:** K3.23 million
- **Liabilities:** K625,000
- **Net assets:** K2.6 million (up from K2.49 million in 2023)

Cash flow also saw a marked improvement, with opening cash at K57,000 and closing cash at K363,000. This growth was driven by K1.7 million in project receipts, careful expense control, and increased core income from registration fees and donations. Net cash inflow from operations was K43,000, with K241,000 generated from project funding activities.

In terms of donor and core income:

- **DT Global:** K1.06 million
- **DFAT:** K928,000
- **US Government:** K309,000
- **TI Secretariat:** K74,000

Core income sources more than doubled compared to 2023 and included:

- K221,000 from registration fees
- K129,000 in donations

- K82,000 from corporate membership fees
- Nearly K100,000 from rent, management fees, and other sources

Unspent project funds at the end of 2024 amounted to **K363,796**, all of which are donor-committed and will be carried forward for implementation in 2025.

Investments in property and equipment continued, with total assets in this category closing at **K2.454 million**. Provisions for annual and long service leave increased slightly to **K148,000**, ensuring compliance with employment obligations.

TIPNG is recognized as a **Not-for-Profit organization under Section 27 of the Income Tax Act** and retains its **tax-exempt status**. The organization remains in good standing with the Internal Revenue Commission and is currently in a refund position.

Special recognition to Amahlia and Kalia for their management of day-to-day financial operations and compliance, and to SKT for assisting with financial reporting. The CEO, Ms. Arianne Kassman, is thanked for her leadership in maintaining strong financial governance.

With a reflection on the importance of hope, sharing a personal story of being reminded that TIPNG's work brings inspiration and purpose, particularly to young people across the country. Mention was made of flagship youth programs, Mike Manning Youth Democracy Camp, Youth Against Corruption Alliance, and the Legal Internship Program which continue to play a vital role in shaping future leaders committed to justice and good governance.

TIPNG is financially strong, compliant, and transparent, with contributions from members and partners managed with care and accountability.

TIPNG 2024 Audited Financial Statements

Treasurer referred members to the TIPNG Financials in the 2024 Annual Report. The Treasurer presented the audited financial statements for the year 2024. It was noted that the accounts were independently audited by NKA Chartered Accountants, in accordance with International Auditing Standards and PNG Accounting Standards. The audit resulted in an unqualified opinion, confirming that the financial statements are accurate and compliant.

- **Comment from (Paul Barker):** Just one point with respect to the audit report where it mentions DT Global's contribution of K1 million, that's actually funding from the Australian Government. DT Global is simply the manager of that process, so it should be recognised as such.
- **Comment from (Doreen IGA - BCEP):** I'm from the Building Community Engagement Program managed by DT Global. Just to reiterate what Paul said, maybe in future, when reporting donor financials, instead of listing DT Global, it would be good to acknowledge that the funding comes from the Australian Government, through DT Global.

(John Nilkare) Question 1: In light of President Trump defunding USAID that K300,000 we get from the US Government, is that at risk in 2025?

- **CEO's Response (Arianne Kassman):** If we do get funding, it would be through the arrangement we already have with the US Embassy.

RESOLUTION: John NILKARE moved to approve the 2024 Audited Financial Report. This was seconded by Paul BARKER.

3. ELECTION OF THE BOARD

- Chairperson stepped down and handed over to the CEO, to proceed with nominations and to appoint the office bearers and directors.
- CEO acknowledged the support from the Chairperson

- For the position of Chairperson, Peter Aitsi was the only nomination received and was elected unopposed as Chair of TIPNG.
- For the Position of Treasurer, Michelle Hau’ofa was nominated and elected unopposed as Treasurer
- For the position of Secretary, a new nomination was received for the role of Secretary, and James Lunge was elected to the position.

As of this AGM the following as nominated will take on the role of office bearers and directors:

- Peter Aitsi (Chairperson), James Lunge (Secretary), Michelle Hau’ofa (Treasurer), Michael McWalter (Director), Richard E. Kassman (Director), Christopher Elphick (Director), William Koregai (Director), Paul Barker (Director), Mary Jacinta Udu (Director), Stephannie Kirriwom-Sawong (Director) John Moore (Director), Shane Kennedy (Director)

RESOLUTION: Chairperson, Mr. Peter Aitsi acknowledged that there are existing vacancies on the Board that will need to be filled in due course. Mr. Aitsi mentioned the TIPNG Board be granted the authority to fill the remaining three casual vacancies by co-opting, vetting, and appointing suitable candidates over the course of this calendar year. The motion was moved by Hezron WARIKE and seconded by Stephannie KIRRIWOM-SAWONG.

4. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

The Chair noted that TIPNG’s current auditors are NKA Chartered Accountants. On the recommendation of the management team, it was advised that TIPNG retain NKA as its auditors, given their diligence and that they remain within their three-year term. It was further noted that following the completion of this term, TIPNG will go back to market to review its audit arrangements.

RESOLUTION: That NKA Chartered Accountants be maintained as TIPNG’s external auditors, in line with their current three-year term, with a review to be undertaken upon its conclusion. The resolution was endorsed by the AGM through a show of hands.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Richard Kassman commended the work of TIPNG and reflected on its purpose, stressing the importance of building internal funding capacity to maintain independence. He reminded members that fundraising is not just for operations, but to ensure the organization can stand on its own, with the acquisition of TIPNG’s own property being a major milestone in that journey.
- Mr. Ricky Mato Paisip Narewec, Technical Writer & Quality Assurance Analyst at Kumulsoft Limited, proposed that TIPNG advocate for improved and standardized parliamentary procedures in PNG. He highlighted the link between weak parliamentary processes and recent unrest, the need for greater awareness, and suggested TIPNG lead a campaign to strengthen transparency, accountability, and good governance through procedural reforms.
- Yuambari Haihue acknowledged the newly appointed Secretary and noted that his appointment represents not just a successful plan but a broader movement, recognizing his involvement as a former participant in the Mike Manning Youth Democracy Camp.

- John Nilkare proposed that the TIPNG Open House event to be held annually, the Chairperson agreed.
- The CEO delivered the closing remarks, providing a summary of TIPNG’s key achievements and activities throughout 2024. This included Mr. Haihuie’s secondment to the TI Global Movement as the TI Pacific Regional Engagement & Advocacy Lead, and Ms. Kassman’s appointment and contribution to the TI Asia Pacific Strategy Reference Group. She also thanked everyone in attendance and acknowledged the ongoing support from staff, board members, financial members, supporters, and donors.

RESOLUTION: The Chairperson, Peter Aitsi proposed TIPNG undertake background research and due diligence on the proposed paper. This process will include sharing this paper with TIPNG’s wider stakeholders, members, and partners for comments and feedback and the insights gained will then inform the development of a structured project approach, which may serve as a basis for future engagement with the National Parliament.

RESOLUTION: Members collectively agreed for TIPNG to annually host Open Office to showcase the work of TIPNG.

AGM ended at 12: 40PM.

Secretary’s Certification of Minutes as a true record of the TIPNG 2024 AGM

Name: James Lunge

Signature:



Date: 5/08/25