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## **PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### ***TIPNG commences 2025-2026 Internship Program - nurturing future governance leaders***

Port Moresby, November 17, 2025 – Transparency International Papua New Guinea (TIPNG) is pleased to announce the commencement of its 2025-2026 Internship Program. The comprehensive 11-week work experience welcomes six promising young professionals, drawn from legal, communication, and accounting disciplines. This year's cohort is composed of six high-performing students.

The 9th cohort of the Legal Internship Program welcomes three talented 3rd-year students from the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) School of Law. This year's legal interns are Miss Rhoda Baisiro, Miss Vanessa Boga, and Mr Chris Marpena.

Representing the 3rd intake of the Communication Internship is Miss Alexandra Manu, a 4th-year student completing her Bachelor of Communication for Development at the University of Technology (UNITECH) in Lae.

The Legal and Communication interns will be deeply engaged in Legal Research and Advocacy, conducting research on legislation, drafting policy briefs, and fact-checking publications. They will also provide critical support to TIPNG's Anti-Corruption Help Desk (AnCoHD) by managing confidential client information and assisting with case review and referral. Furthermore, they will support Stakeholder Engagement, attending high-level partner meetings, and providing Program and Event Support for TIPNG activities.

Joining the TIPNG team for the 2nd intake of the Accounting Internship Program are Miss Mercy Waingi and Mr Newman Lerry. Both are 3rd-year students pursuing a Bachelor in Accounting at UPNG. The Accounting interns will be immersed in the full cycle of the organization's financial management. Their core responsibilities include hands-on Financial Operations, meticulous Payroll and HR Support and Reporting, Tax, and Compliance. Their program will culminate the organization's annual audit preparedness by managing the Asset Register and ensuring comprehensive Audit Readiness.

In welcoming the interns, TIPNG CEO, Ms Arianne Kassman said: "This internship is a vital part of our mission to empower people to stand up against corruption. By engaging these young men and women in the practical, active work of good governance—whether it's drafting policy, managing client cases, or ensuring financial integrity—we are nurturing the next generation of active professionals and embedding the values of transparency and accountability in their careers. They are not just gaining experience; they are becoming powerful agents of change."

TIPNG looks forward to a successful and productive 11 weeks with the 2025-2026 interns.

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***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.