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## PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Government Must Include Citizens in Fight Against Corruption

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026, Port Moresby – Anti-corruption efforts by Papua New Guinea should continue to engage non-state actors such as civil society organisations and citizens in the fight against corruption. This statement was made by Transparency International Papua New Guinea (TIPNG) following their participation as part of PNG’s state delegation at the recently held United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of State Parties (CoSP) in Doha, Qatar from the 15-19<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

“TIPNG’s participation as a CSO in the state delegation to the 11<sup>th</sup> CoSP is welcomed as it demonstrates Papua New Guinea’s commitment on the global stage to engage with non-state actors domestically in the fight against corruption. This engagement builds on PNG’s National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2010-2030 and on the announcement in June 2025 that Papua New Guinea had signed the UNCAC Transparency Pledge. The Pledge affirms the Government commitment to continuing to include Civil Society in implementing and reviewing the country’s progress on meeting its international obligations to address corruption,” said Peter Aitsi, TIPNG Board Chair in a media statement.

“These proactive steps to holistically address corruption in PNG go some way to restoring confidence beyond our shores, but what is needed is broader and more consistent action in enforcement at the domestic level to turn the tide. Actions such as appropriations to anti-corruption agencies such as the PNG Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) should be adequate and released on time. Citizens and journalists reporting corruption should be protected and not harassed into silence, as we have seen with alleged abuse of the Cybercrime Code by those in power. Only then can international commitments translate into local improvements in the lives of Papua New Guineans,” said Mr. Aitsi.

TIPNG’s participation was supported by the UN Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) PNG Country Office. TIPNG’s technical support to the PNG delegation at the 11<sup>th</sup> UNCAC CoSP was on the finalisation of an UNCAC resolution on Corruption in Small Island Developing (SIDS), led by Pacific Island Countries (PICS). TIPNG also supported a panel discussion at the CoSP which included a state delegate speaking on PNG’s engagement with non-state actors to address corruption.

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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.