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PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANTI-CORRUPTION HELP-DESK (AnCoHD) LEGAL AID CLINIC

Port Moresby, Saturday 25th April 2026 — Transparency International Papua New Guinea (TIPNG), through their Anti-Corruption Help Desk (AnCoHD) hosted a free and confidential Legal Aid Clinic, open to the public. The Legal Aid Clinic provided an avenue for members of the community to engage directly with partner agencies to lodge complaints and receive free and confidential legal advice.

The AnCoHD is a community service that provides a safe, confidential, and free pathway for victims and witnesses of corruption to lodge complaints. It ensures that all complaints are properly documented and referred to relevant partner agencies with investigative and prosecutorial powers for further action. In the spirit of partnership and strengthening access to justice and public services, the Legal Aid Clinic was delivered in collaboration with AnCoHD referral partners:

- Centre for Environment Law and Community Rights
- The Office of the Public Solicitor
- The National Fraud and Anti-Corruption Directorate of the Royal PNG Constabulary
- The Legal Training Institute

The Legal Aid Clinic is supported by the Australian Law and Justice Partnership and brought together these partners, enabling the respective officers to engage directly with members of the public, provide free and confidential legal guidance, and facilitate the lodgment of complaints within their respective mandates in an accessible and coordinated setting.

“At TIPNG, we know that stepping forward takes immense bravery. TIPNG’s mission is to ensure that the **courage of conviction** found in our communities is never met with silence. Through the AnCoHD, we provide a secure bridge for citizens to access justice and take meaningful action. Every report made is an act of leadership that strengthens the moral fabric of Papua New Guinea. To every citizen who has the conviction to stand up: you are the heart of this reform, and TIPNG stands firmly with you.”

The Legal Aid Clinic recorded strong community engagement, with 11 clients accessing support services on the day and 15 complaints lodged through the AnCoHD reporting pathway. All complaints were attended to on-site by participating partner agencies, in line with their respective mandates, ensuring immediate advice, guidance, and appropriate next steps were provided.

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.

The AnCoHD Legal Aid Clinic underscores the importance of bringing services closer to people, particularly at the grassroots, where barriers such as cost, distance, and lack of information often limit access to justice and formal reporting channels.

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