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PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

Lae, Morobe Province Saturday 23rd May 2026 — Transparency International Papua New Guinea (TIPNG), through their Anti-Corruption Help Desk (AnCoHD) hosted its 2nd free and confidential Legal Aid Clinic this year. Open to the public, the Legal Aid Clinic created an important platform for members of the community to directly engage with partner agencies, seek legal guidance, and lodge complaints in a safe & confidential setting.

Supported by the Australian Law and Justice Partnership, the Legal Aid Clinic brought together representatives from these partner agencies to engage directly with the public, provide free and confidential legal advice and assist individuals in lodging complaints within their respective mandates in a coordinated setting.

The AnCoHD serves as a community service, providing victims and witnesses of corruption with a secure, confidential and free avenue report. Through the AnCoHD complaints are properly documented and referred to the appropriate partner agencies with investigative and prosecutorial mandate for further action.

In promoting collaboration and improving access to justice and public services, the Lae Legal Aid Clinic was delivered in partnership with AnCoHD referral partners:

- The Office of the Public Solicitor
- The Ombudsman Commission of PNG
- The Independent Commission Against Corruption

“ At TIPNG, we recognise that speaking out against corruption requires courage. Our role is to ensure that citizens who come forward are supported and heard. Through the AnCoHD, we provide a secure pathway for people to access justice and pursue meaningful action. Every complaint lodged reflects a commitment to accountability and contributes to building a stronger and more transparent Papua New Guinea. We stand alongside every citizen who chooses to speak up for integrity and reform,” said TIPNG Chief Executive Officer, Ms Arianne Kassman.

The Lae Legal Aid Clinic recorded strong public participation, with 31 clients accessing support services on the day and 32 complaints lodged through the AnCoHD. All complaints received were attended to on-site by participating partner agencies, ensuring that individuals were provided with immediate guidance, legal advice, and information on the appropriate next steps in accordance with each agency’s mandate.

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 Lae Legal Aid Clinic highlights the importance of taking services closer to communities, where cost, distance, and limited awareness often restrict access to justice and reporting mechanisms.

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