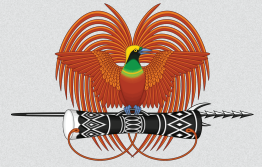




OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



PRESS RELEASE

CALL TO COMMENCE FULL DIGITIZATION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES IN 2023

August 02, 2022

The Department of ICT calls to commence in 2023 a whole-of-government approach to digitize and automate the entire public service .

In the last two years, the Department of ICT, through the ministerial leadership of Hon Rainbo Paita and Hon Timothy Masiu, have worked towards establishing a mandate and enacting enforcement mechanisms for a digital government. The Digital Transformation Policy was endorsed in 2020 followed by the enactment of the Digital Government Act in 2022.

Last week the Department of ICT released the draft Digital Government Plan 2023 – 2027 ('draft Plan'). The draft Plan outlines a roadmap to digitize Government-to-Citizen, Government-to-Government, and Government-to-Business digital services, establish and maintain digital service standards, and complete broadband coverage to 90 percent of the population by 2027.

This is our journey so far and 2023 must now be the year to accelerate in digitizing our government (G2C, G2G, and G2B digital services).

By now, there should be no doubt that ICT is an extremely powerful tool to improve service delivery, eliminate corruption, and grow the economy. And we can only deliver through a coordinated approach. In line with the draft Plan, we must start talking about consolidating all siloed ICT projects into one sector and delivering through a whole-of-government approach.

Moving forward, the Department of ICT will be consulting closely with Government Central Agencies and key stakeholders to continue this priority for a digital nation.

Approved for Release

STEVEN MATAINAHO

Secretary

Department of Information and Communication Technology