



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF SOLOMON ISLAND
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW
GUINEA
ON
COOPERATION IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
TECHNOLOGY**

The Government of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea ("**GPNG**"), and the Government of Solomon Island ("**SIG**") (herein referred to as "the Participants"):

RECOGNISING the *Pacific ICT Ministerial Declaration 2023* ("**Lagatoi Declaration**") and its shared aspiration to advance ICT cooperation in the Pacific, the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent that sets out the strategic development cooperation aspirations as the Blue Pacific Continent; and the importance of Information and Communication Technology in nation building as a catalyst to creating economic opportunities and improving living standards;

COGNISANT of the '*Framework Agreement on Economic and Development Cooperation*' signed on **28 February 2020** in Honiara, and the '*Agreement Concerning Development Cooperation*' signed on **15 March 2005** in Port Moresby, between the Government of Papua New Guinea and the Government of Solomon Islands;

REAFFIRMING the existing connections between our countries as Melanesians, with common and shared values for building stronger diplomatic relations between our governments;

RECOGNISING the need for a well-connected region driven by ICT technology, infrastructure and services that are inclusive, accessible and affordable;

DESIRING to adopt affordable, accessible and emerging sustainable digital technologies and infrastructures through effective partnerships to enhance public service delivery and promote economic development in the Pacific Region;

have reached the understandings now provided in this Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU"), as follows:

PURPOSE:

- A. To establish a robust **foundation for cooperation, collaboration, and dialogue** between the Government of Papua New Guinea and the Government of Solomon Islands in areas of mutual interest related to ICT **policy development, infrastructure and institutional capabilities, and regulatory systems and processes**. This collaboration aims to enhance the ICT capabilities of both countries, promote sustainable development, and improve the quality of life for their citizens;
- B. To provide a comprehensive **platform for agency-to-agency cooperation, facilitating collaboration** and coordination across various aspects of the ICT sector, including industry standards, institutional frameworks, technological systems, and governance structures. This platform aims to enhance the exchange of knowledge, best practices, and resources, thereby promoting innovation, efficiency, and resilience within the ICT ecosystem;
- C. To outline the **areas of cooperation between Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Island**, including but not limited to digital transformation, satellite technology, television broadcasting, cybersecurity and safety etc. This cooperation aims to address various aspects of the ICT sector, promote innovation, and ensure a secure and resilient digital environment.

By working together, the Participants seek to address common challenges, leverage their strengths and resources and shared opportunities, as well as foster innovation and growth within the ICT sector for the betterment of both nations.

ARTICLE 1:

AREAS OF COOPERATION

Subject to prevailing international and domestic laws, rules, regulations and national policies in force in each country, the Participants commit and endeavour to work together in developing, promoting and advancing the following areas of cooperation:

(1) Digital Identification Framework and Systems.

- (a) *Policy and Framework Development:* Collaborate to develop and establish a robust digital identification policy and framework that will enable the creation of efficient and effective digital identification systems and processes for the citizens of both countries.
- (b) *Implementation and Integration:* Work together to implement and integrate interoperable digital identification systems that are secure, reliable, and accessible, ensuring seamless identification and authentication processes.

(2) G2C eGovernment Portals.

- (a) *Legal Framework Establishment:* Develop and establish a comprehensive legal framework for the creation and operation of Government-to-Citizen (G2C) eGovernment portals.
- (b) *Service Delivery Enhancement:* Design and implement eGovernment models and systems that improve government service delivery, enhance citizen engagement, and promote transparency and accountability.

(3) Satellite Technologies and Shared Data and Resources.

- (a) *Knowledge and Expertise Sharing:* Facilitate the exchange of knowledge, expertise, and resources and data related to satellite technologies for improved communication and connectivity.

(4) Cloud Hosting Solutions.

- (a) *Development and Implementation:* Develop and implement cloud hosting framework, solutions, and infrastructure that provides secure, scalable, and reliable services for government applications and enhance the digital capacity and capabilities of both countries.
- (b) *Data Security and Privacy:* Ensure that cloud hosting solutions adhere to the highest standards of data security and privacy, protecting sensitive information and promoting trust.

(5) Television and Broadcasting.

- (a) *Capability Strengthening*: Strengthen television broadcasting capabilities, including program design, technology, network and systems development, and information dissemination.
- (b) *Public Service Access*: Improve access to public services through enhanced broadcasting infrastructure, ensuring that citizens receive timely and accurate information.

(6) Telecommunications, Broadcasting, and ICT Infrastructure Development.

- (a) *Infrastructure Enhancement*: Develop and enhance telecommunications, broadcasting, and ICT infrastructure to support the growing digital needs of both countries.
- (b) *Innovation and Growth*: Promote innovation and growth within the ICT sector by investing in state-of-the-art infrastructure and technologies.

(7) Telecommunications/ICT Policy and Regulation.

- (a) *Formulation and Harmonization*: Develop and harmonize telecommunications and ICT policies and regulations to ensure consistency and alignment with international standards.
- (b) *Policy Development*: Collaborate on the development of forward-looking policies that promote innovation, competition, and consumer protection in the ICT sector.
- (c) *Regulatory Frameworks*: Establish robust regulatory frameworks to oversee the telecommunications and ICT industries, ensuring fair practices and compliance with laws.

(8) Spectrum Management.

- (a) *Spectrum Allocation*: Coordinate the allocation and management of radio frequency spectrum to optimize its use and avoid interference.
- (b) *Spectrum Sharing*: Explore opportunities for spectrum sharing to maximize the efficient use of available frequencies.
- (c) *Monitoring and Enforcement*: Implement monitoring and enforcement mechanisms to ensure compliance with spectrum regulations and prevent unauthorized use.

(9) Building Capacity and Exchange of Expertise

- (a) *Training Programs*: Develop and implement training programs to build the capacity of ICT professionals in both countries.

(b) *Knowledge Exchange*: Facilitate the exchange of knowledge, best practices, and technical expertise through workshops, seminars, and joint projects.

(c) *Technical Assistance*: Provide technical assistance and support to enhance the capabilities of ICT institutions and organizations.

(10) Collaboration and Sharing of Information

(a) *Joint Research*: Conduct joint research and development projects to advance ICT technologies and solutions.

(b) *Information Sharing*: Establish mechanisms for the regular exchange of information, data, and insights related to the ICT sector.

(c) *Partnerships*: Foster partnerships between government agencies, private sector entities, and academic institutions to drive innovation and growth.

(11) Mutual Working Relations

(a) *Innovation and Development*: Collaborate on innovative projects and initiatives that leverage emerging technologies such as AI, IoT, and blockchain.

(b) *Public-Private Partnerships*: Promote public-private partnerships to enhance the development and deployment of ICT infrastructure and services.

(c) *Mutual Agreements*: Explore and implement other mutually agreed-upon forms of cooperation that fall within the scope of this MoU, addressing specific needs and priorities of both countries.

ARTICLE 2:

METHODS OF COOPERATION

The Parties agree to the following methods of cooperation:

(1) Regular Meetings and Consultations: to develop and maintain productive relations between relevant government agencies, industry parties, and other organizations concerned with ICT in Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea; Conduct regular meetings and consultations between the Participants to discuss and review progress, share insights, and address any challenges related to this MoU.

(2) Capacity Building and Resource Sharing: Facilitate the exchange of information, data, and resources related to ICT initiatives, best practices, and technological

advancements; Organize capacity-building programs, workshops, and training sessions to enhance the skills and expertise of ICT professionals in both countries.

- (3) Technical Assistance and Support:** Provide technical assistance and support to address specific needs and challenges in the development and implementation of policies, infrastructure, and regulations; contribute resources, expertise, and personnel as necessary to achieve the objectives of this MoU in compliance with their domestic laws and processes.

ARTICLE 3: IMPLEMENTATION

(1) Joint Working Group.

- (a) The **Parties** will establish a Joint Working Group ("**Joint Working Group**") consisting of equal representation from the relevant agencies and institutions of each Participant and will be responsible for coordinating and facilitating and providing oversight over the implementation of the MoU.
- (b) The Working Group shall endeavour to hold regular online and or face-to-face meetings at mutually agreed times to review progress, address challenges, and identify new opportunities for collaboration under the MoU.

(2) Implementing Agencies and Departments.

- (a) The Joint Working Group will designate relevant officials and or agencies and departments to be responsible for the implementation of specific tasks, goals and objectives set forth in the MoU ("**Implementing Agencies**").
- (b) The implementing agencies of both Participants shall collaborate to develop priorities, workplans, and programs related to the areas of cooperation identified in this MoU.
- (c) These priorities, workplans, and programs shall be designed to achieve the goals and objectives set out in the MoU and shall be regularly reviewed and updated to reflect changing needs and circumstances.
- (d) The Working Group shall provide guidance and support to the implementing agencies and departments in the development and execution of these priorities, workplans, and programs.

(3) Expenses.

Except where otherwise agreed in writing, each Party will be responsible for its own costs and expenses in connection with this MOU without recourse to the other Party.

(4) Allocation of Resources.

- (a) Each Participant shall commit and allocate resources towards the achievement of the goals and objectives set out by Joint Working Group and the Implementing Agencies.
- (b) The allocation of resources shall be based on the principles of equity, transparency, and mutual benefit, ensuring that both Participants contribute proportionately to the implementation of the MoU.
- (c) The Joint Working Group shall monitor and evaluate the allocation of resources to ensure that they are being used effectively and efficiently to achieve the desired outcomes.

(4) Coordination and Collaboration:

- (a) The Implementing Agencies shall work closely with the Joint Working Group to ensure effective coordination and collaboration in the implementation of the MoU.
- (b) Regular meetings and consultations shall be held between the implementing agencies and the Joint Working Group to review progress, address challenges, and identify new opportunities for collaboration.
- (c) The implementing agencies shall also collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including industry Parties, academic institutions, and non-governmental organizations, to leverage their expertise and resources.

(5) Monitoring and Evaluation:

- (a) The implementing agencies shall establish monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess the effectiveness of the workplans and programs.
- (b) Regular progress reports shall be submitted to the Joint Working Group, highlighting achievements, challenges, and recommendations for improvement.
- (c) The implementing agencies shall use the feedback from the monitoring and evaluation process to make necessary adjustments and improvements to the workplans and programs.

ARTICLE 4:

IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Participants may enter into other subsidiary arrangements or agreements for the effective implementation of this MOU.

ARTICLE 5:

CONFIDENTIALITY

The Participants shall not disclose confidential information received by either, to any third party unless the disclosure is for the purposes of implementing this MOU or a Participant has obtained prior written approval for such disclosure from the other Participant who has provided the information.

ARTICLE 6:

ANTI-BRIBERY & ANTI-CORRUPTION

- (1) The Participants have determined that, in connection with this MOU, they will each ensure that their respective officers, employees, agents and any other persons who perform services for them or on their behalf in connection with this MOU will:
- (a) not commit any act or omission which will cause or is likely to cause the other Party to breach, or commit an offence under any laws relating to anti-bribery and/or anti-corruption;
 - (b) keep accurate and up to date records showing all payments made and received and all other advantages given and received in connection with this MOU and the steps taken to comply with this Paragraph, and permit the other Participant to inspect those records as reasonably required;
 - (c) promptly notify the other Participant of:
 - (i) any request or demand for any financial or other advantage received by it (or that person); and
 - (ii) any financial or other advantage received or given, whether directly or indirectly, in connection with this MOU; and
 - (d) promptly notify the other Participant of any breach of this Article.

ARTICLE 7:

LEGAL EFFECT

- (1) This MOU serves only as a record of the Participants' intentions and is not intended to

create rights or obligations under domestic or international law, and will not give rise to any legal process or be deemed to constitute or create any legally binding or enforceable rights or obligations, expressed or implied.

- (2) The Participants nevertheless acknowledge the importance of upholding the spirit of partnership and cooperation embodied herein, and commit to working collaboratively to achieve the vision and purpose in this MOU.

ARTICLE 8:

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Participants will hold consultations and negotiations in good faith to amicably resolve any differences in the positions that their representatives in the Joint Working Group and or the Implementing Agencies have in respect of the interpretation and or implementation of this MoU. Mutual resolutions must always be swiftly pursued in the endeavour to protect the integrity and spirit of this MoU.

ARTICLE 9:

DURATION, TERMINATION AND AMENDMENTS

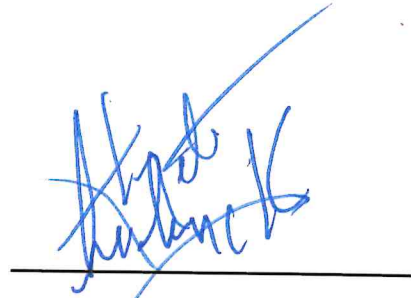
- (1) This MoU shall come into effect upon signature by both Participants and remain in force for a period of five (5) years.
- (2) Any amendments or modifications to this MoU shall be made in writing and signed by both Participants.
- (3) Either Participant may terminate this MoU upon six (6) months written notice to the other Participant.

Signed in [insert] in duplicate on the 23rd day of July 2026 in English.

A blue ink signature of Hon. Robert Naguri, consisting of a large, stylized 'N' followed by a horizontal line.

Hon. Robert Naguri
Minister for Information
and Communications Technology

For the Government of
Papua New Guinea

A blue ink signature of Hon. Frederick Kologeto, featuring a large, stylized 'F' and 'K' with a horizontal line.

Hon. Frederick Kologeto
Minister for Communication
and Aviation

For the Government of
Solomon Island