

## Ministry of Information and Communications Technology

### Office of the Minister

P O Box 784, **VISION CITY—WAIGANI 131**, National Capital District, Papua New Guinea Email: [ictminister@ict.gov.pg](mailto:ictminister@ict.gov.pg)

#### Press Release

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#### **PNG's Digital Journey: Entering Phase of Procurement and Coordinated Delivery**

Port Moresby: Papua New Guinea commenced on its digital transformation journey in 2020. Our consistent commitment to creating a digitally inclusive nation is reflected through robust policy and legal frameworks that my Ministry has worked on over the last three years. These include the Digital Transformation Policy 2020, the National Cyber Security Policy 2021, the Digital Government Act 2022, the Digital Government Plan 2023-2027, the Government Technology Stack, the Government Cloud Policy 2023, and the inclusion of Digital Government and Cyber Security in the Medium-Term Development Plan 2023-2027 as key deliverables. (Note also that the Ministry is currently finalizing the Data Governance and Protection Policy.)

As we reach the end of 2023, I take this time to inform stakeholders and public that the Ministry is progressing to the next critical phase: the major procurement and coordinated delivery phase. This advancement signals our readiness to put out a list of tenders for development of a wide range of digital services. Notable services include the citizen and business-facing eGovernment Portals, Unified Payment Platform, the Secure Data Exchange Platform (INIT), and vital micro-service building blocks such as digital ID, registry, and payment blocks.



Our eGovernment Portal's inaugural build is expected to offer online police clearance services, digital wallet capabilities for digital IDs, digital licenses, as well as health and education certificates.

In delivering this critical phase, we are actively drawing down from capabilities of our bilateral partners namely Australia, Estonia, Israel, China, Singapore, Japan, and South Korea. However, while we draw from the strengths of our bilateral partners, we are also focused on the prosperity of our ICT Cluster. To this end, I call on our local ICT companies to be prepared for these opportunities, ensuring that you a registered member of the PNG ICT Clusters Association.

Our journey towards digital transformation is as much about technology as it is about people. Thus, to bolster the delivery phase, the Government will also be hosting a Digital Government Delivery Workshop on the 22-24 November with a purpose of providing guidance to public body Digital Transformation Officers leading the digitalization phase within their respective agencies.

I wish to thank the Ministry of Finance and Planning and the Ministry for Treasury for continued supported in Papua New Guinea's digital government agenda thus far. I encourage all stakeholders from both public and private sector to work closely with us as we enter this very important phase of our digital transformation journey.

*Authorized for immediate release*



**HON. TIMOTHY MASIU, MP**  
Minister for Information & Communication Technology  
And Member for South Bougainville