



## INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

### MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

#### **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

*FOR MEDIA RELEASE*

*Port Moresby, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2026*

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF US\$30 MILLION UNITED STATES COMMITMENT FOR SATELLITE INTERNET CONNECTIVITY IN PNG**

I welcome the announcement by the Government of the United States of America of its intention to provide US\$30 million for satellite internet connectivity in Papua New Guinea.

This support, announced following the second United States–Papua New Guinea Strategic Partnership Dialogue, is intended to connect remote health facilities, schools and disaster centres, and expand access to education, healthcare, economic opportunities and global markets.

This is a timely and practical commitment. For Papua New Guinea, satellite internet can help bridge the connectivity gap for rural and remote communities where geography, cost and infrastructure challenges remain significant.

The Government of Papua New Guinea, through the Ministry of ICT, is already undertaking work on a *National Telecommunications Blueprint* to identify connectivity gaps and guide future investment in telecommunications infrastructure.

I have also spoken today with Secretary Matainaho - Department of ICT to coordinate a targeted needs assessment to align this support with our frontline service delivery priorities, particularly:

1. Schools;
2. Health posts and rural health facilities;
3. District Development Authority offices;
4. Provincial Health Authority offices;
5. Disaster response centres;
6. Targeted Special Economic Zones; and
7. rural-based communities without reliable connectivity.

Our Government is keen to continue to work jointly with the United States Government and Starlink during the deployment phase to ensure implementation is properly coordinated with national priorities, regulatory requirements and service delivery needs.

Satellite connectivity solutions, both direct to consumer, and enterprise (Starlink Community Hub) will complement, not replace, existing mobile, fibre and other telecommunications infrastructure. Our focus is to use the right technology in the right place to connect our people.

I thank the Government of the United States for this important commitment and reaffirm Papua New Guinea’s readiness to work with all partners to expand reliable connectivity to underserved communities.

*Approved for Release*  




**HON. PETER L. TSIAMALILI, JR., OBE, MP**  
ACTING MINISTER

