

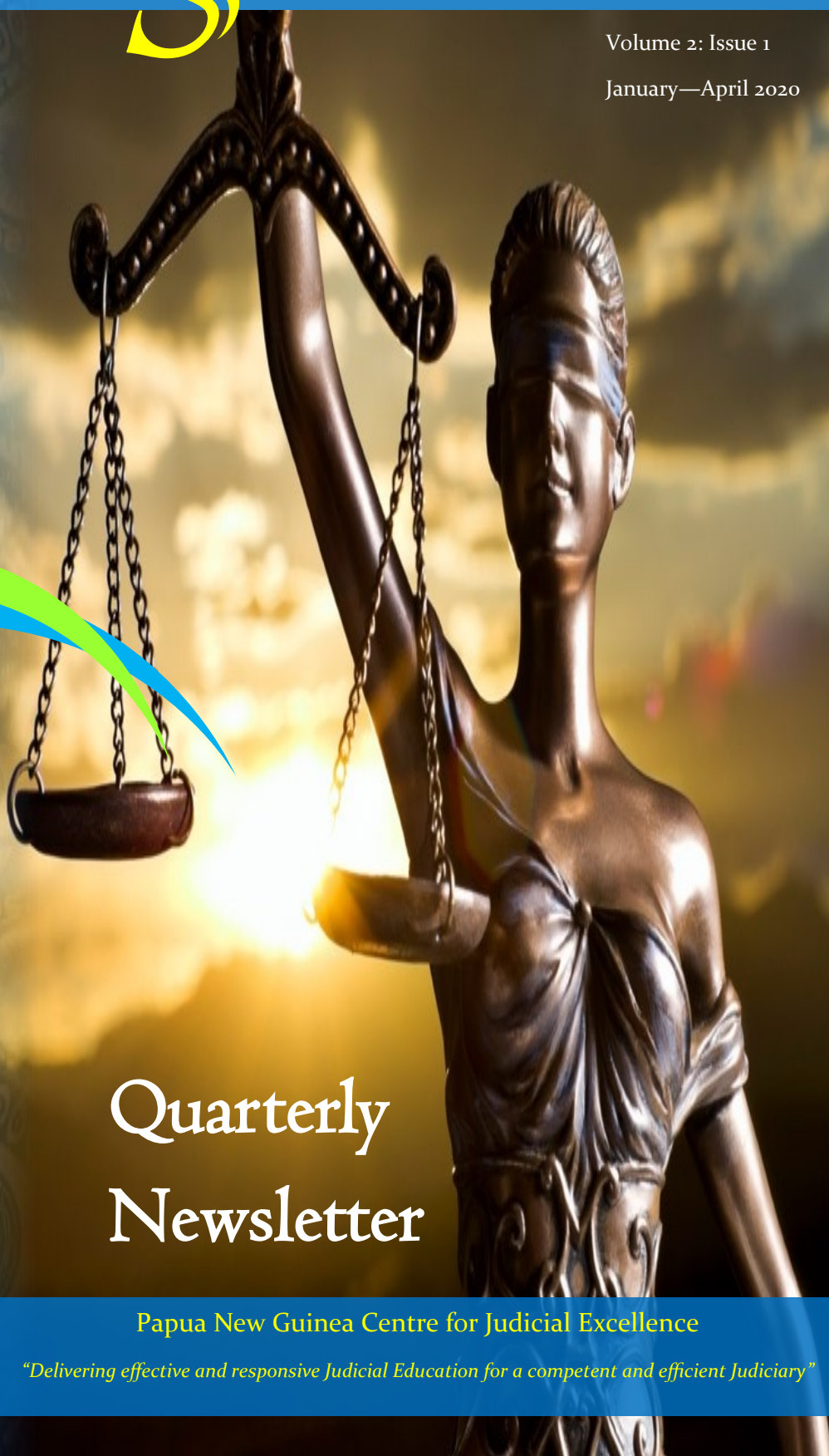


# PngCJE Updates

## Summer

Volume 2: Issue 1

January—April 2020



## Quarterly Newsletter

Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence

*"Delivering effective and responsive Judicial Education for a competent and efficient Judiciary"*

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## Editor's Note



Greetings!

I am delighted to bring you the first edition of the PngCJE Quarterly Newsletter for 2020.

I hope you have enjoyed reading the last issue (2019 Annual Newsletter) and found the articles to be informative and interesting.

The PngCJE first newsletter came out in December 2019 as an annual newsletter and was part of our first volume. This year we have decided to release quarterly issues in order to cover details of our professional judicial education and training activities in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific region.

Our focus in the first quarterly issue is to recount the various judicial training activities and projects undertaken by PngCJE between January and April 2020, beginning with the announcement of the CJE 2020 Training Activity Plan by the Executive Director Mr. John Carey and the Legal Year Opening message from the Chief Justice, the Honourable Sir Gibbs Salika in Port Moresby.

Our main articles will cover highlights of the Global Judicial Integrity Network Conference in Doha, Qatar, the workshop on Media and its Impact on Judges and the Courts, PngCJE Management visit to Courts in the Momase region of PNG and experienc-

es of a Program Officer.

Concluding the newsletter will be a look at what the Judiciary (NJSS) is doing in its effort to address the threat of Covid-19 in the country and help protect the health of staff members and its stakeholders.

Many thanks to the Editorial Team, the PngCJE staff, and all persons who have contributed to the write-up of articles for this issue.

For those who would like to keep up to date with the activities of the PngCJE, please visit our website (<https://pngcje.gov.pg/>) and subscribe for our quarterly newsletter for direct updates through your email. Our next issue will be released on June 30 this year.

Finally, a sincere thank you to all our stakeholders for the continuous support in promoting judicial education and awareness in the region.

**Debbie Laudiwana**

Manager - Research and Publications

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## Editorial

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## From the Executive Director's Desk



AS the Executive Director for Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence, I am pleased to announce that the Training Activity Plan for 2020 will see PNGCJE conduct a total of 34 trainings in the year.

Eight trainings for Judges, seven for NJSS Registry and Corporate Staff, four for Magistrates, five for Magisterial Services Registry and Corporate Staff and eight for Law and Justice Sector Agencies' staff.

The Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence (PngCJE) continues to support the PNG Judiciary in being an independent, honest and competent judiciary through the training activities planned for the year.

We are motivated by the advancements made in legal academia and technology to provide training facilitated by subject matter experts on topics that are relevant to the country, up to date with the times as well as initiate stimulating discussions among participants. We are confident that the training activities for this year will be educational and invigorating.

The first training activity conducted by the PngCJE was the Judges and the Media workshop which was held at the Hilton Hotel on January 31 where the facilitator Mr. Jon Faine introduced the

concept of having open conversations between the PNG Judiciary and the media in order to promote the work of the courts to the general public. This is an interesting topic and something PngCJE can assist the Judiciary in promoting.

In terms of research and publication, the PngCJE has been given the task of assisting His Honour Justice Nicholas Kirriwom to update both the National and Supreme Court Bench Books. PngCJE will publish quarterly newsletters, produce informative videos and podcasts in order to promote the work of the PNG Judiciary through the training activities that are conducted by PngCJE.

With the improvement of internet accessibility in PNG, PngCJE will also focus on delivering online training that would be cost effective and give flexibility to participants. These plans are currently underway and will open up new and exciting possibilities for Judicial Education.

The PngCJE has expanded significantly since last year, with the construction of the new office and training facility. We have seen an increase in our staffing complement, and I am grateful to announce the commencement of Mr Samson Kaipu, OBE, as the new Deputy Executive Director of PngCJE. His wealth of legal knowledge expanding almost 40 years will contribute greatly to the work of PngCJE in delivering excellence in judicial education.

I am pleased with and have confidence in the PngCJE staff who have experience and are capable of delivering training programs. I have always encouraged capacity building and this year I hope to inspire staff to learn from training activities they participate in and those they assist to plan in order to improve access to justice through the work that we do.

In light of the Corona Virus Pandemic, all training activities planned

for the first quarter of the year have been deferred but we are working hard to keep PngCJE functional as best as possible with our staff working from home. Please self-isolate but if you need to go out, practice social distancing and wash hands as often as possible.

With that, I hope you enjoy this edition of the PngCJE newsletter and I encourage all stakeholders to continue to keep up to date with the activities of PngCJE by visiting our website (<http://pngcje.gov.pg>) and reading all newsletters. We at the PngCJE are expanding our role to provide judicial education opportunities to Pacific Island Judiciaries by establishing the Pacific Centre for Judicial Excellence and we look forward to your continued support.

**John Carey, JP**

Executive Director

PngCJE

# THE JUDICIARY

## Chief Justice opens New Legal Year



We will continue to put our house in order and maintain efficiency in the delivery of justice, says Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika during the opening ceremony of the 2020 Legal Year on February 3.

The Chief Justice (pictured) was referring to the pending backlog of cases in the National and Supreme Courts of PNG saying that the Judiciary has done its best to deal with the cases and will continue setting its focus on solving those cases and reduce the backlog.

house is built, by understanding it is established and by knowledge it is filled.”

He said the context of the message was that, the Judiciary has the following challenges:

- 25,149 current pending cases in the National Court (inclusive of both civil and criminal cases). The number also represents active cases, dormant cases, reserved decision cases and bench warrant cases.
- Of the 25,149 pending National Court cases, 5937 are bench warrant cases.
- There are 1208 pending cases in the

ones will work and be effective. If we can all work hard this year we can reduce the lists. I urge all of us to work towards that. I am determined to do that; to work hard.

“I therefore ask all of us to keep having a disciplined approach.”

He said any judges, magistrates, lawyers and even parties who have bright ideas on contributing effectively to maintaining the effectiveness and efficiency of the courts should speak to him, as working together would help solve many issues and maintain the courts’ work in the long run.

He said the courts have been doing good so far but will continue to push harder especially in closing the backlog list.



**Police officers, Correctional Services Officers and Judges marching during the 2020 Legal Year Opening Ceremony at the Don Bosco Technological Institute in Port Moresby. Picture by NIGEL TAVATUNA**

“Put your house in order could mean clean your house and arrange everything in order. Clean it and put the furniture in their right places, ensuring the windows are opening in the right way to allow fresh air and sunlight to come in so that you are comfortable. Arrange the family and put them in order too. Have obedience to the rules – there must be peace at home.”

His Honor quoted a verse in the Bible, Proverbs 24: 3-4, “By wisdom a

Supreme Court, of which:

- 2016 – 434 dealt with
- 2017 – 521 dealt with
- 2018 – 495 dealt with
- 2019 – 223 dealt with

The Chief Justice said there was a sharp decline last year and he was yet to do a post mortem on the figures.

“My message is therefore to put our house in order. We will come up with strategies and try them out to see which

### Fun Facts: Weird Laws

- Whenever extra-terrestrial tourists plan on visiting Earth they might not want to land in France, especially in Châteauneuf-du-Pape. In 1954, some local farmers spotted “deep sea divers” emerging from a “cigar-shaped” space ship and the mayor passed the French anti-UFO Municipal Law which states that “any aircraft, known as flying saucer or flying cigar, which should land on the territory of the community will be immediately held in custody.”
- Wearing flip flops in Capri, Italy is illegal. Any form of shoes or sandals that is categorized as “noisy footwear” is considered illegal to wear and is banned to “protect public security”! Wait what? Capri is a beautiful island with magnificent beaches and you can’t wear flip flops?



## PROGRAMS

### PNGCJE to host pilot project in the Pacific

THE Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence (PngCJE) has been selected to host the pilot project for judicial integrity training in the Pacific Islands.

“It is a reflection of the commitment of the Papua New Guinea Judiciary to prevent corruption in the justice system”, says Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika.

The Chief Justice, who is also the PngCJE Chairman said, “Our Executive Director Mr John Carey, who is also a Financial Services Lawyer will lead the implementation of this significant and vital program that will strengthen our judiciary, and as we expand to also assist judiciaries of other Pacific Island jurisdictions.”

Accompanied by Mr Carey and e-Judiciary Advisor Ms Alison Holt, His Honor attended the High-Level Meeting of the Global Judicial Integrity Network (GJIN) in Doha, Qatar, which was held on February 24 to 27.

The GJIN is one of the key results of the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration, which aims to assist member states in implementing key areas of the Doha Declaration adopted at the thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (UNCCPCJ) in 2015.

The Network assists judiciaries in strengthening judicial integrity and preventing corruption in the justice system, including through the promotion of networking opportunities, facilitation of access to resources and concentration on existing and emerging challenges related to judicial integrity.

There were over 450 delegates including 35 Chief Justices and other senior representatives of judiciaries, from 100 countries and 30 judicial associations. It was one of the largest gatherings of judges ever organized under the auspices of the UN.

The purpose of the second High-Level Meeting of the Network is to:

- take stock of the achievements of the Network since its launch and discuss the work conducted in the priority areas of the 2018-2019 Work Plan of the Network;

- discuss existing and emerging challenges related to judicial integrity and explore the efforts made by judiciaries to address them; and
- identify priority areas for the Network going forward.

Additional information about the Global Judicial Integrity Network and the High-Level Meeting can be found at [www.unodc.org/ji](http://www.unodc.org/ji).

### Judges and the Media

ACCESS to Justice can be promoted effectively via positive media publicity, says PngCJE Executive Director Mr John Carey during the Seminar on Judges and the Media on January 31.

The seminar was held at the Hilton Hotel in Port Moresby for Waigani based judges of the National and Supreme Courts. It was coordinated by the PNG/Pacific Island Countries Centre for Judicial Excellence (PngCJE/PicCJE). It was the first judicial educa-

and technology and how these developments could be used positively to improve the delivery of justice.

The seminar was facilitated by Melbourne’s renowned former ABC Radio broadcaster and lawyer Mr Jon Faine. Mr Faine shared his many years of experience as a practicing lawyer and a radio broadcaster on some of the issues on “judges and the media”.

The purpose of the seminar was to share experiences on issues relating to judges, the courts and the media as encountered in some parts of the world including Australia, PNG and the Pacific.

PNG’s Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika gave the opening remarks stating that the media provides an important function by informing people in PNG and abroad about the activities of the courts.

“Our role as judges is to determine cases based on evidence pre-



**Participants of the Seminar on Judges and the Media. Standing (from left): PngCJE Executive Director Mr John Carey, Justice Jim Wala Tamate, Justice Hitelai Polume-Kiele, Justice Jeffrey Shepard and Justice Nicholas Miviri. Seated (from left): Justice Teresa Berrigan, Justice Colin Makail, Mr Jon Faine, Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika, Justice Danajo Koeget and Justice Royale Thompson. Picture by GIDEON KINDIWA**

tion program for this year, 2020.

The media plays a very important part in the dissemination of information related to developments in the law and the administration of justice across the world. The half-day seminar engaged the judges in interactive and informative sessions about latest developments in the mainstream media, social media

presented by parties in person or through their lawyers. We also make sure all parties and witnesses follow proper court room procedure and by doing so, we ensure that everyone who comes to court gets a fair trial,” said Sir Gibbs.

The program covers a range of topics including: media and impacts



on the courts, how Australian courts, judges and lawyers engage with social media, criticism of judges and courts on social media, issuing of suppression orders and enforceability of orders against digital platform.

## Executive Management visited Courts in Lae



From left: PngCJE Deputy Executive Director Mr. Samson Kaipu, Justice Frazer Pitpit, Justice Jacinta Murray and PngCJE Executive Director John Carey, JP.

Picture supplied by JOHN CAREY.

PNGCJE Executive Director Mr. John Carey and Deputy Executive Director Mr. Sam Kaipu visited National Court staff, Magisterial Services staff and judges at the Court House in Lae on February 17 and 18.

With a theme focused on improving access to Justice, Mr Carey and Mr Kaipu discussed a wide range of judicial education and training opportunities available and encouraged training which further supports the work of the Courts in PNG.

“It is important that we continue to support the work of our judges, magistrates and court staff in PNG to strengthen their ability to deliver justice for the people throughout PNG and in this particular instance, Lae”, says Mr Carey.

The PngCJE continues to expand its role in the Pacific as it transitions to the Pacific Islands Centre for Judicial Excellence (PicCJE) with responsibility for providing judicial education and training for 15 Pacific Islands judiciaries and court staff.

There was great enthusiasm on the part of the Lae court staff on meeting with Mr. Carey and Mr. Kaipu who expressed their commitment to assisting them in securing training on a range of topics that will further enhance their ability to meet the needs of the courts and serve the public in a more responsive and efficient way.

## National tour continued to Wewak and Madang Courts

PngCJE is committed to ensuring excellence in registries in Wewak and Madang. ‘We continue to recognize the need to deliver the PngCJE’s curricula across PNG for court staff’, says Executive Director Mr John Carey.

During visits to Wewak and Madang on February 19 – 22, there were discussions with Judges, Magistrates and court staff on a wide range of training needs.

Judicial Education has been embraced in the courts in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Islands. There is a consistent demand for programs and

workshops which close the gaps in performance that are not where they should be.

As a result of the education programs, each stakeholder is able to qualitatively and quantitatively evaluate their progress in improved job performance which ultimately enhances access to justice.

‘In my time with PngCJE, I intend to use my expertise from academia to help to guide our team of program officers to develop appropriate courses for court staff throughout the country,’ says Deputy Executive Director Mr Sam Kaipu.



Above: PngCJE Executive Director Mr John Carey (back row, centre) with court staff in Madang.



Left (from left): PngCJE Deputy Executive Director Mr Sam Kaipu, Justice Nicholas Kirriwom, Justice Sinclair Gora and PngCJE Executive Director Mr John Carey in Wewak.

Pictures supplied by JOHN CAREY.



## STAFF FOCUS

## New Deputy Executive Director - Mr Sam Kaipu, OBE



Newly appointed Deputy Executive Director for PngCJE Mr Sam Kaipu, OBE (right) shaking hands with PngCJE Executive Director Mr John Carey. Picture by ARABELLA OWEN

THE Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence (PngCJE) has announced the appointment of Mr. Sam Kaipu, OBE as the Deputy Executive Director.

Mr. Kaipu commenced in his role on February 3, 2020.

"It is very heartening to have a seasoned and experienced administrator, lawyer and academic join our team to lead the domestic mandate of the PngCJE", says PngCJE Executive Director Mr. John Carey.

The PngCJE is an organization which promotes access to justice and is focused on providing judicial education and training for judges, magistrates, court staff and the Law and Justice Sector in PNG and the Pacific.

Mr. Kaipu, from Moveave village in Malalaua, Gulf, completed his Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree at the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) within 3 years from 1973 to 1975. He also graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree at UPNG in 1976.

Mr Kaipu was admitted to the bar in 1981. In 1995, he completed his Masters in Law (LLM) with Distinction at the University of Waikato in New Zealand.

From 1997 to 2000, Mr Kaipu was the

Deputy Secretary Legal with the Department of Justice and Attorney General.

From 2002 to 2005, he was the Deputy Director at the Legal Training Institute.

He has been teaching at the School of Law, UPNG from 2005 to date. Whilst at the UPNG Law School, he was appointed as the Deputy Executive Dean and acting Executive Dean from 2008 to 2019. He has practiced law in the National and Supreme Courts under his private law firm, Kaipu and Associates Lawyers.

## About Mr Kaipu



## Personal Information

Name: Sam Kaipu

Nationality: Papua New Guinea

Province: Gulf

Village: Moveave

District: Malalaua

Religion: Christianity

Denomination: Catholic

## Academic Qualifications

- Masters in Law (LLM) with Distinction - University of Waikato (1995)
- Admitted to the Bar (1981)
- Bachelor of Arts (BA) - UPNG (1976)
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB) - UPNG (1975)

## Experiences

- Deputy Executive Director - PngCJE (2020)
- Acting Executive Dean - UPNG Law School 2017-2019)
- Deputy Executive Dean - UPNG Law School (2008-2019)
- Senior Lecturer - UPNG School Of Law (2005-present)
- Deputy Director - Legal Training Institute (2002-2005)
- Deputy Secretary Legal - DJAG (1997-2000)
- Principal - Kaipu and Associates Lawyers (2009—present)

## POETRY CORNER

## "Dry"

The road, so long  
I walk, earnestly I walk  
Brown, the colour everywhere  
No plants, no sign of life  
No wind, yet the dust  
Dry, oh dry  
Sense of death, things dying  
This place, so green  
Once it was, it was once  
Life giving streams, fresh streams  
Tall, leafy trees, used to shade my path  
And revive my strength each step I take  
It was full of life, was living  
Was life itself

I now stand at its doorstep  
Cranky sounds underneath the planks  
My past replays, in fast motion  
Muted fast motion, and grey scaled  
As my hand reaches for the knob  
Rusty, old doorknob

The house, so old  
Rotten wood scent  
Termites, terminating its body  
Empty, creepy lounge  
Eerie long staircase  
Pieces of ceramics  
Laying hopeless on the dusty floor  
Once it was so full of life  
Smooth white vinyl siding exterior  
Waxed mesquite floor  
Marble coated knobs and tiles  
Fine Belgian linen curtains  
Frames of coloured portraits  
Porcelain vases  
Smooth staircase with accent ornamental rails

Now it's no more  
No more it is  
Once a mansion, now in ruins  
Shattered to the ground  
Dust of earth engulfing its bits  
Rotten hotel  
At the world's end

Is this to be my destiny?  
No it's not, NO! NEVER!  
But it is, only for today  
For dusk has arrived  
I shouldn't replay the past  
For it is rotten, dry, buried deep  
I should spend a night  
And walk the dry earth once more  
Dawn, meet me halfway  
Cast me into the open sea of time



## PROGRAM REVIEW

Content writer GIDEON KINDIWA spoke with program officer ARABELLA OWEN on a major training program - the Human Trafficking Workshop - held in partnership with the International Organization of Migration (IOM) in seven different provinces of Papua New Guinea.



**Arabella Owen**

*Program Officer*

*Lay Judicial Officers— PNG and Pacific Islands Centre for Judicial Excellence (PngCJE/PicCJE)*

PROGRAM officers play a vital role in making sure areas in need of training and development in the court system are identified, programs are designed and delivered effectively according to PngCJE's annual calendars, and program outcomes are achieved.

PngCJE has five Program Officers facilitating judicial education and training for the following:

- Judicial Officers (Judges and Magistrates)
- Court Staff (National Judicial Staff Service)
- Magisterial Services
- Law and Justice Sector Agencies, and
- Lay Judicial Officers (Village Court Magistrates, Clerks, Peace Officers, etc)

I had the privilege of having a chat with **Ms Arabella Owen** on the recent **Human Trafficking Workshops**, a first of its kind carried out in seven different provinces in PNG. Arabella was the former Program Officer for Law and Justice Sector Agencies who was recently given a new role as the program officer for Regional Lay Judicial Officers.

### **What is the Human Trafficking**

### **Workshop?**

Basically, human trafficking, according to the International Organization of Migration (IOM), involves the recruitment, transportation, transferring, harbouring or receipt of persons by threat, force, coercion, deception, or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to have control over another person for the purpose of exploitation including prostitution, sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery, domestic servitude and other similar practices.

The Human Trafficking Workshops were training programs aimed at teaching and equipping court staff, especially the clerks, with skills and knowledge to identify and distinguish human trafficking cases from other cases of violence or rape.

Many victims of trafficking report their cases to the court, however, most of the clerical staff do not know how to identify and distinguish a human trafficking case from other cases, and in most instances, treat them as another violence or rape case when in actual fact, the person is a victim of forced labour or sexual exploitation.

The workshops helped the staff to identify these cases of human trafficking so that appropriate charges could be laid against the perpetrators, so that justice is rightfully served.

### **Who were the partners and content experts involved in facilitating the program?**

The workshops were held in partnership with IOM. The IOM funded the workshops and also supported in contributing to creating learning materials for the trainings through content expert Ms Enid Kantha, who is IOM's Programme Specialist for Counter Trafficking and Sorcery Related Violence.

### **How did you go about identifying the content expert to run trainings?**

Identifying suitable content experts

and trainers is a very important part of planning a training activity.

You have to find someone with relevant skills, knowledge and experience in a particular subject area, in this case human trafficking. It is also important to consider other factors that make someone a trainer or teacher apart from being a subject matter expert. This is because you want participants to fully absorb the content in the training activities and actively participate rather than just sitting and listening

As part of my experience in running trainings, I sometimes come across programs where participants just listen without asking questions or formulating topics of discussions amongst themselves.

I believe identifying the right trainers and content experts to run programs on specific areas of need is a very important part to getting the message across to participants and impart change in their work.

For the Human Trafficking Workshops, I sat in consultation with the IOM and identified Ms Kantha, as a suitable trainer for the workshop. I liaised with her and planned the workshops and designed the contents that were presented in the Human Trafficking Workshops.

### **Which provinces in PNG did the program cover?**

The workshops were planned to cover seven provinces in the country within 2019. We reached six provinces last year and are looking forward to only one this year. The six provinces were, the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Western, New Ireland, East Sepik, Western Highlands and Oro. The remaining province is East New Britain, which has been scheduled for 27-28 March

## PROGRAMS REVIEW

this year but was postponed due to the State of Emergency response to COVID-19 in the country.

**Do you think the Human Trafficking Workshops should be conducted in all the 22 provinces of PNG?**

Yes.

I think this program covers some of the very important lessons that most provincial courts in the country need. Human Trafficking is a vast topic of its own and several different offences are committed under this single crime.

**Give a brief outline of the steps taken to plan and deliver the Workshops.**

First, I had a face-to-face interview with my counter parts from the Department of Justice and Attorney General to identify the training needs, the target audience, the dates of the trainings and the budget of funds needed for conducting the activity.

Second, we identified the content expert, who was Ms Kantha.

Third, I liaised with the content expert to list the topics to be covered in the trainings.

Fourth, we sent out letters (nomination, invitation or general letter) to all our participants.

Fifth, we made logistical and other arrangements for venue, accommodation, travels, materials per diems for facilitators, etc.

And finally, after facilitating the workshops, we carried out surveys through questionnaires, made evaluations, and draft our report for the overall program.

**What are some challenges you faced during planning and delivering of the program?**

There have been several challenges faced when planning and delivering the program. One of the major challenges I've faced was to secure funding.

The program was planned to cover seven provinces in the country which involved a lot of travel and accommodation costs and we needed more fund-

ing to successfully complete it. Fortunately, the IOM fully sponsored the workshops and met all the necessary costs and it was a relief to me as the program officer facilitating it.

In some other cases, funding does not come in full and so we have to redo our program plan and remove some items or activities.

Another major challenge was communication barriers. I had to go through a lot trying to communicate with fellow staff in the different provincial courts and the law and justice sector offices. Most of the phone lines were not working and it took a while to get replies from my emails. This had caused inconvenience and resulted in delays in planning and delivering the workshops.

**What is your overall view on the outcome of the workshops?**

From the evaluation and results collected, the participants have learnt a lot through the trainings.

Most of them thanked the facilitators for the informative and interactive sessions conducted. They learnt so many new things that they were not aware of before.

We found out from their responses that before the workshops most of them did not have any idea about human trafficking and did not even know that it was happening within their very own

communities.

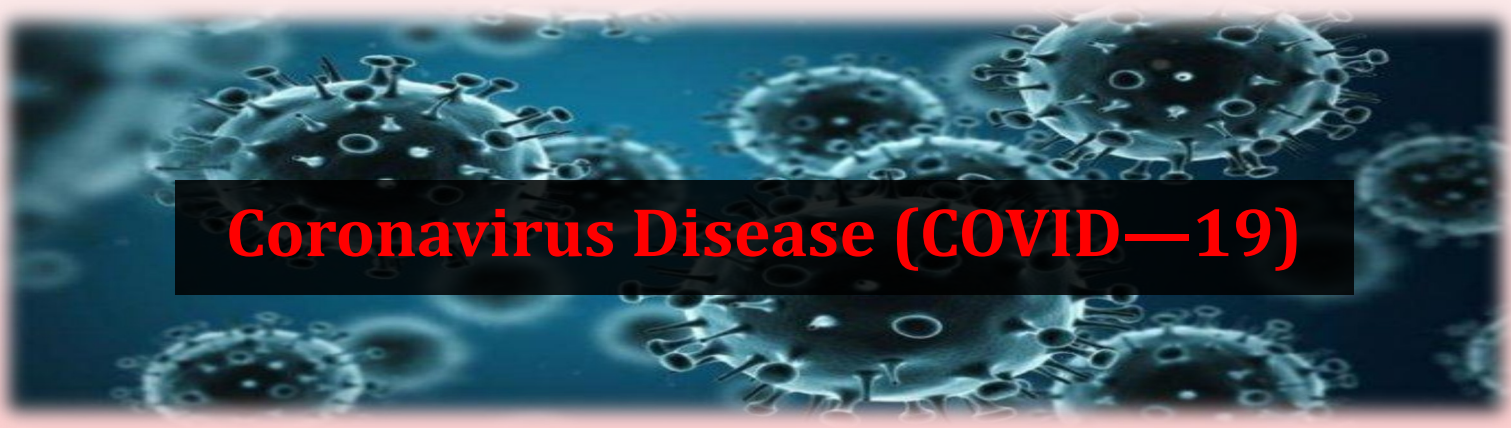
Their responses showed that all the seven provinces in PNG did have human trafficking cases turning up before the courts but were disguised as other offences because the relevant authorities could not clearly identify them.

I realized that human trafficking has been happening in most of our homes and communities without us realizing it. For instance, in PNG it is part of our culture to look after our relatives. Sometimes we tend to take advantage of the ones we accommodate and create a position of subjugation where they are subjected to forced labour, sexual exploitation and others.





## LATEST



## Coronavirus Disease (COVID—19)

### Programs postponed!

#### PngCJE focuses on being proactive to the COVID-19 pandemic

PROGRAMS and training activities under Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence's (PngCJE) calendar have been postponed towards the end of May 2020, according to Mr Carey during the last staff meeting on March 16.

Two workshops scheduled for April and May have been rescheduled as per directives from the Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika.

The Judicial Wellness Workshop listed for April 1-2 has been moved to Sept 3-4 and the Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence Workshop listed for May 4-6 to August 31-Sept 2.

However, the Judicial Protocol Workshop for the Chief Justice and Deputy Chief Justice's staff has proceeded on March 20.

Apart from rescheduling events, the PNGCJE staff is undergoing self-isolation as part of its preparation if or when the pandemic disease hits Papua New Guinea.

With two confirmed cases in PNG and the global death toll exceeding 80,000 as of April 08 and climbing exponentially, the PNG Government had announced a 14-day nationwide "lockdown" and 30-day "state of emergency" (SOE) to curb the rampant disease. The Government further extended the SOE to two months after the second confirmed case.

PngCJE executive director Mr John Carey told staff during the last staff meeting on March 16 that the virus was

a serious threat to PNG, a developing country with a health system that would not be able to tackle a huge outbreak.

"I'm not trying to scare you or to say that it (COVID-19) would affect you, but what I'm saying is that we need to be prepared and be able to manage it if or when it hits us," said Mr Carey.

"I see that most people in PNG are not bothered about the disease, but I want us in PngCJE to be pro-active and not reactive to situations such as this."

Mr Carey urged his staff to be careful with their hygiene and to take little things such as washing of hands very seriously.

Arranging a schedule with executive officer Mrs Caribbean Parkop, half of the staff of 20 are undergoing two weeks in self-isolation in their homes and upon their return the other 10 will do so. Anyone with flu-like symptoms during the isolation period was advised to seek medical attention as soon as possible and restrain from work.

After a NJSS meeting on April 08, directions were given for staff to be divided into "very essential" and "essential" staff, whereby, only the very essential staff would receive work passes and attend work and the essential staff would remain at home and only assist whenever needed.

Despite that, work has been progressing and the centre is looking for-

ward to continue carrying out its function in coordinating and facilitating judicial education for the courts in PNG and the Pacific.

#### Key Facts about COVID-19

##### Signs

- Sore throat
- Cough
- Fever
- Difficulty in breathing (severe cases)
- Runny nose (certain cases)

##### How to Prevent

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze and dispose the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands after being in a public place, or after coughing, sneezing, blowing and blowing your nose.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people.
- Stay home if you're sick.
- Wear a facemask if you are sick.

## LATEST

# Coronavirus Disease (COVID—19)

## Mr Lago to head emergency committee for NJSS

PngCJE's Finance Manager Mr Gitu Lago (pictured) has been appointed as the Chairman of the COVID-19 Emergency Committee for the National Judicial Staff Service (NJSS).



National and Supreme Court Registrar Mr Ian Augerea made the announcement during a managers' meeting on March 23, when the committee was formed.

The committee's responsibilities include:

- compiling an emergency response plan for the Judiciary staff;
- collecting information and updates of COVID-19 in the country and inform the management in the Judiciary;
- disseminating COVID-19 related information from management to staff;
- monitoring attendance and shift schedules to make sure persons who show signs of COVID-19 are quickly isolated and provided medical care;
- liaising with stakeholders such as the National Department of Health (NDOH), Saint John's Ambulance, Police, Fire Service, and others regarding the judicial staff welfare from COVID-19;

- arranging and supplying safety materials and equipment such as gloves and facemasks for the NJSS and judicial officers; and
- disseminating Covid-19 information within the NJSS.
- liaising with ambulance services and/or other emergency and medical help for staff.

Mr Lago's team consists of NJSS Accountant Mr Hengebe Anguali, Assistant Registrar—Equity Mr Nickson James and Buildings Manager Mr Eddie Levi.

PngCJE Executive Officer Mrs Caribbean Parkop and Research and Editorial Assistant Mr Gideon Kindiwa were also included to provide extra support to the team.

The committee has slotted important tasks needed to be achieved to safeguard the lives of staff members and was working towards achieving them.

A work plan was carved out to guide NJSS employees with measures to prevent the pandemic from spreading and maintain efficiency when dealing with the issue.

The committee has been working to plan emergency response protocols to effectively respond to cases that may turn up within the workplace.

### Emergency Contacts

#### COVID-19 Emergency Committee - PNG Judiciary

- Mr Gitu Lago: +675 7640 0706 / +675 7192 7070
- Mr Hengebe Anguali: +675 7132 5350
- Mr Eddie Levi: +675 7640 1773
- Mr Nickson James: +675 7279 2611
- Mrs Caribbean Parkop: +675 7171 7676 / +675 7657 2457
- Mr Gideon Kindiwa: +675 7972 9087

#### National Department of Health (NDOH)

##### COVID-19 Hotline:

- +675 1800 200 (Landline)
- +675 719 608 13 (Digicel)
- +675 019 (B-Mobile)

#### St John's Ambulance

Dr Ware Vagoli

Email: wvagoli@gmail.com

Mobile: +675 7181 8084





# PNGCJE Updates - *Quarterly Newsletter*

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PAPUA NEW GUINEA CENTRE FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE

## About Us

The PngCJE was established in 2010 under a Memorandum of Understanding entered into between the Chief Justice of the Supreme and National Courts, the Chief Magistrate and the Secretary for the Department of Justice and Attorney General. The Centre is primarily responsible for the delivery of professional continuing judicial trainings and development activities for Judges, Magistrates, Court Staff and other officers of the Law and Justice Sector Agencies (LJSA).

## Key Objectives for the Establishment of PngCJE

- Promote Judicial Excellence;
- Promote professional development and training; and
- Foster an awareness of judicial administration, developments in the law and social and community issues.

## Our Core Values

The core values that underpin the professional development activities of PngCJE are:

- Excellence in the professional integrity and competence of Judicial Officers and Court Staff;
- Excellence in dispensation of justice by the courts according to international best practices;
- High level of competency, skills and experiences of Judicial Officers and Court Staff;
- Maintenance of democracy, good governance and the Rule of Law by the judiciary.

## Contact us on:

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