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PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TIPNG reaches Lae with legal aid clinic

Lack of transparency in public administration continues to be a problem

Thursday 29 August 2019, Port Moresby - The Advocacy & Legal Advice Center (ALAC) is a program of Transparency International PNG (TIPNG) that offers free legal services for victims and witnesses of corruption.

Recently TIPNG was in Lae Morobe Province to run a legal aid outreach to provide the opportunity for people in the province to report instances of corruption that they may have encountered.

“TIPNG collected a substantial number of complaints from the general public in Morobe Province and a lot of these complaints were related to lack of transparency in public administration at the provincial level,” said Mr Samson Kandata, ALAC Coordinator.

TIPNG receives complaints and creates advocacy on the types of corruption complaints received or sectors that are reportedly practicing corruption. TIPNG also works with state agencies and other organizations to strengthen their anti-corruption mechanisms.

Current statistics from ALAC show that a lot of people approached TIPNG to report corruption within general public administration and services, police, the education sector, land/property and natural resources. Further to this, the corrupt practice that most complainants reported to ALAC were lack of transparency and mismanagement of public funds.

“From the complaints we receive at ALAC, we have made a strong call for the Government to enact an Access to Information Law. We also urge state agencies to ensure they have a corporate anti-corruption plan in line with the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2010-2030,” said Mr Kandata.

In Lae, TIPNG also held stakeholders meetings with the Ombudsman Commission Momase Regional Office, the Lae Police, Morobe Provincial Lands Department, Internal Revenue Commission Lae Office and Lae Chamber of Commerce & Industries.

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Picture Caption:

FB_IMG 1567049633994: (Left- Right) Advocacy & Legal Advice Program Coordinator, Mr Samson Kandata, Morobe Provincial Police Commander, Metropolitan Superintendent Anthony Wagambie Jnr and TIPNG Executive Director, Ms Arianne Kassman after meeting on how both organizations can work together to address corruption.

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What is TIPNG?

TIPNG is a member of Transparency International a global anti corruption movement committed to fighting corruption. TIPNG is an independent organization in PNG known as a Chapter of the international movement. The PNG chapter advocates against corruption and promotes transparency, good governance, honesty and accountability both in private and public sector dealings. TIPNG tries to assist strengthen the integrity systems of our country such as the police, the parliament, the public services and the judiciary.