

**FIRST DAY**

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**3 August 2012**

**DRAFT HANSARD**

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**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**  
**CORRECTIONS TO DAILY DRAFT HANSARD**

The *Draft Hansard* is uncorrected. It is also privileged. Members have one week from the date of this issue of Draft Hansard in which to make corrections to their speeches. Until the expiration of this one week period, Draft Hansard must not be quoted as a final and accurate report of the debates of the National Parliament.

Corrections may be marked on a photocopy of the Daily Draft Hansard and lodged at the Office of the Principal Parliamentary Reporter, A1-23 (next to the Security Control Room).

Corrections should be authorised by signature and contain the name, office and telephone number of the person transmitting/making the corrections.

Amendments cannot be accepted over the phone.

Corrections should relate only to inaccuracies. New matter may not be introduced.



**Sarufa M. Haro**  
Principal Parliamentary Reporter

## FIRST DAY

Friday 3 August, 2012

The National Parliament met at 10.00 a.m., pursuant to the Notice of His Excellency the Governor-General, **Sir Michael Ogio**, which was published in the *National Gazette*.

The Clerk read the Notice.

## PRAYERS

**Rev Qogi Zonggereng**, Papua District President of the Evangelical Lutheran of Papua New Guinea representing the Council of Churches to say Prayers:

'This is the day that the Lord has made, a reading from Psalm 1.

Man ino save bihainim tok bilong ol man nogut na ino save wokabaut long rot bilong ol man bilong mekim sin, na ino save sindaun wantaim ol man bilong tok bilas long God bai dispela man em ken hamamas tru.

Dispela man em save laikim tumas lo bilong God na em save tingting long dispela lo long san na long nait. Dispela man em olsem diwai o man ol planim klostu long wara, na em save karim kaikai long taim bilong em stret na lip bilong em ino save drai. Olgeta samting em save mekim em save kamap gutpela.

Let us pray:

Gracious God, heavenly Father, endless your mercies and eternal your reign. We give you honour and glory, for you are our God and we are your children. This is the day that you have appointed and this is your day and this is your hour and this is your moment. We declare that this country is your country and that this House is your house.

We thank you, oh Mighty Father that heaven is your throne and earth is your footstool. We pray that you will increase more and more in our lives and

especially in this House, and as we begin this term of Parliament, we praise you that you will continue with us throughout this journey.

We thank you for your unfailing love for this nation for in love you continue to give us leaders and provide leadership for your people. We dedicate this Ninth Parliament into your hands, lead, guide and bless us for this journey.

This, we pray in Jesus most precious name. Amen.'

02/01

### **COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER DECLARATIONS – CHIEF JUSTICE**

The Honourable Chief Justice, Sir Salamo Injia, Chief Justice of PNG having been ushered into the Chamber and conducted to the Chair, handed to the Clerk at the Table, a Commission from His Excellency the Governor-General, appointing him to administer the Declarations of Office and Declarations of Loyalty to the Members of Parliament.

The Clerk read the Commission.

### **RETURNS OF WRITS**

The Clerk laid on the Table, the Return of 106 Writs for the General Elections held from 18 May to 6 July 2012. The said Returns showed that for the electorates the following were elected:

<b>Electorates</b>	<b>Members</b>
Bougainville Provincial	Joe Lera
Central Bougainville	Jimmy Miringoro
North Bougainville	Lauta Atoi (Absent)

South Bougainville

Steven Kamma

03/01

Central Provincial

Abau

Goilala

Kairuku-Hiri

Rigo

Kila Haoda

Puka Temu

Daniel Mona (not present)

Paru Aihi

Ano Pala

Chimbu Provincial

Chuave

Gumine

Karimui-Nomane

Kerowagi

Kundiawa-Gembogl

Sinasina-Yonggamugl

Fr. John Garia

Wera Mori

Lucas Dekena (not present)

Mogerema Soiwei

Camilus Dangma

Tobias Kulang (not present)

Kerenga Kua

East New Britain Provincial

Gazelle

Kokopo

Pomio

Rabaul

Leo Dion

Malakai Tabar (Absent)

Ereman ToBaining Jr

Paul Tiensten

Dr Allan Marat (Absent)

East Sepik Provincial

Ambunti-Dreikikir

Sir Michael Somare

Ezekiel Anisi

04/01

Maprik

Wewak

John Simon

Jim Simatab

Wosera

Joseph Yopiyopi

Daulo

Ron Ganarafo

Henganofi

Robert Apiapa

Kainantu

Johnson Tuke

Lufa

Jeffery Guawe

Okapa

Isaac Wai

Unggai-Bena

Benny Allan

Kandep

Don Polye

Kompam-Ambum

John Pundari

Laigap-Porgera

Nixon Mangape

Wabag

Robert Ganim

Wapenamanda

Rimbink Pato

Gulf Provincial

Havila Kavo

Kerema

Richard Mendani

Kikori

Mark Maipakai

**05/01**

Hela Provincial

Anderson Aigiru

Tari

James Marape

Koroba-Lake KUPIAGO

Philip Undialu

Komo-Margarima

Francis Potape

Jiwaka Provincial

Dr William Tongamp

Jimi

Mai Dop

North Waghi

Dr Fabian Pok

Anglimp-South Waghi

Komun Joe Koim

Madang Provincial

Bogia

Madang

Middle Ramu

Rai Coast

Sumkar

Usino-Bundi

Jim Kas (Absent)

John Hickey

Nixon Duban

Assik Tommy Tomscoll

James Gau

Ken Fairweather

Anton Yagama

**06/01**

Manus Provincial

Manus

Charlie Benjamin

Ronny Knight

Milne Bay Provincial

Alotau

Esa'ala

Kiriwina-Goodenough

Samarai-Murua

Titus Philemon

Charles Abel

Davis Steven

Douglas Tomuriesa

Gordon Wesley

Morobe Provincial

Bulolo

Finschhafen

Huon Gulf

Kabwum

Lae

Markham

Menyamya

Nawae

Tewai-Siassi

Kelly Naru

Sam Basil

Theo Zurenuoc

Ross Seymour

Bob Dadae

Loujaya Toni

Paul Ezekiel

Benjamin Philip

Gisiwat Siniwin

Mao Zeming

Moresby Northeast

Labi Amaiu

Moresby Northwest  
Moresby South

Michael Malabag  
Justin Tkatchenkon

Northern Provincial  
Ijivitari  
Sohe

Garry Juffa  
David Arore  
Delilah Gore

**08/01**

Southern Highlands Provincial  
Ialibu-Pangia  
Imbonggu  
Kagua-Erave  
Mendi  
Nipa-Kutubu

William Powi  
Peter O'Neill  
Francis Awesa  
James Lagea  
De Kewanu  
Pesap Jeffery Komal

West New Britain Provincial  
Kandrian-Gloucester  
Talasea

Sasindran Muthuvel  
Joseph Lelang  
Francis Marus

West Sepik Provincial  
Aitape-Lumi  
Nuku  
Telefomin  
Vanimo-Green

Amkat Mai  
Patrick Pruaitch  
Joe Sungi  
Solan Misirim  
Belden Namah

Western Provincial  
Middle Fly  
North Fly  
South Fly

Ati Wobiro  
Roy Biyama  
Boka Kondra  
Aide Ganasi

**09/01**

Mul Baiyer	Koi Trape
Dei	Wesley Nukundi
Mt Hagen	William Duma
Tambul Nebilyer	Benjamin Poponawa
North Bougainville	Lauta Atoi
Goilala	Daniel Mona
Gumine	Lukas Dekena
Kundiawa Gembogl	Tobias Kulan
Gazelle	Malakai Tabar
Rabaul	Dr Alan Marat
Angoram	Ludwig Shultz
Goroka	Bire Kimisopa (Absent)
Obura Wonenara	Jerry Kuave
Komo-Magarima	Francis Potape
Madang	Jim Kas

### **DECLARATION OF OFFICE AND OF LOYALTY**

The Members whose names are above set forth made and subscribed to the Declaration of Office and of Loyalty before his Honour, the Chief Justice, except the Western Highlands Provincial, NCD Provincial, Enga Provincial, Chimbu Provincial, Eastern Highlands Provincial and Goroka Open Electorates.

**10/01**

### **ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER**

**Mr CLERK** – Honourable Members, the next item of business is the Election of the Speaker by Exhaustive Secret Ballot.

In accordance with *Standing Orders*, I now call for nominations.

**Mr DON POLYE** (Kandep) – I propose to Parliament for its Speaker, Mr Theo Zurenuoc, and move –

That he take the Chair of Parliament as Speaker.

**Mr WILLIAM DUMA** (Hagen) – I second the motion.

**Mr THEO ZURENUOC** (Finschhafen) – I accept the nomination.

**Mr FRANCIS POTAPE** (Komo-Magarima) – I propose to Parliament for its Speaker, Mr Francis Marus, and move –

That he take the Chair of Parliament as Speaker.

**Mr JIM KAS** (Madang Provincial) – I second the motion.

**Mr FRANCIS MARUS** (Talasea) – I accept the nomination.

**Mr CLERK** – The time for proposals has expired. In accordance with the practice of Parliament, the bells will be rung and a ballot taken. Ballot papers will be distributed and Members are asked to write on the paper the name of the candidate for whom they wish to vote. We will now distribute the ballot papers.

11/01

**Mr DON POLYE** – If we spell the names incorrectly you will not accept so can you give the correct spelling of the names.

**Mr CLERK** – The Member for Finschhafen's name is spelt T.H.E.O. Z.U.R.E.N.O.U.C. and the member for Talasea's name is spelt F.R.A.N.C.I.S. M.A.R.U.S.

The ballot have been collected and counted.

**12/01**

**Mr Clerk** – Honourable members, the result of the ballot is –

**Mr Theo Zurenuoc - 88**

**Mr Francis Marus - 17**

Mr Theo Zurenuoc declared elected.

**13/01**

**Mr SPEAKER** – Honourable Members, I wish to express my grateful thanks for the high office that the Parliament has been pleased to convey upon me.

Honourable Members, it has been ascertained that it will be His Excellency's pleasure to receive me at the Government House forthwith.

The Parliament is suspended until the ringing of the bells.

**14/01**

**DECLARATION OF OFFICE AND  
OF LOYALTY – COMMISSION**

**Mr SPEAKER** – Honourable Members, I have to report that I, this day, presented myself to His Excellency the Governor-General as the choice of the Parliament, and His Excellency was kind enough to congratulate me on my election as the Speaker whereupon I made my declaration of Office as Speaker.

His Excellency also presented me a Commission authorizing me to administer to new Members the Declaration of Loyalty and the Declaration of Office.

The Commission reads as follows:

*The Constitution*

*To: The Speaker of the National Parliament*

*Greetings!*

*Whereas the Constitution of Papua New Guinea, by Section 249, provides for, amongst other things, that every Member of the National Parliament shall, before entering upon the duties or exercising any powers of his Office make the Declaration of Loyalty before a person appointed for the purposes by the Head of State in the forms set out in Schedule 3 and Section 6 respectively of the Constitution.*

*Now therefore, I Michael Ogio, Grand Chief of Logohu, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight of the Order of Saint John, Governor-General, hereby appoint you to administer, from time to time, the Declarations to those Members who have not already made their Declarations since their election to the National Parliament.*

Dated at Port Moresby this third day of August 2012.

(Signed) MICHEAL OGIO  
Governor-General

I now lay the Commission on the Table.

15/01

### **ELECTION OF THE PRIME MINISTER**

**Mr SPEAKER** – Honourable Members, the next item of business is the election of the Prime Minister. And honourable Members, under *Section 63* of the *Organic Law on the Integrity*

*of Political Parties and Candidates*, His Excellency the Governor General is required to invite the registered political party or parties with the highest number of Members elected in a general election to form the government.

In accordance with that requirement, the Governor-General has informed me that he has invited the People's National Congress Party to form the Government. His Excellency's invitation which was gazetted on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2012 reads, and I quote, 'I Michael Ogio, Grand Chief of Logohu, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Knight of the Order of St. John, Governor-General, by virtue of the powers conferred by *Section 76 of the Organic Law on the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates* and all other powers me enabling, acting with and in accordance with the advice of the Electoral Commission hereby invite the People's National Congress Party, being a registered political party which has endorsed the greatest number of candidates declared elected in the 2012 National Elections to form the Government.

Dated this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 2012.

Signed: Michael Ogio, Governor-General.

In accordance with this advice and the requirements of the *Organic Law on the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates* and the provisions of the *Standing Orders*, I now call upon the People's National Congress Party to nominate a candidate for election as Prime Minister.

**Mr JAMES MARAPE** – I, James Marape, Member for Tari-Pori and a Member of the People's National Congress Party nominate Mr Peter O'Neill nominate as the Parliament's choice of Prime Minister.

**Mr MAO ZEMMING** – I Mao Zeming, Member for Tewai – Siassi second the motion.

**Mr SPEAKER** – Mr Peter O'Neill, do you accept the nomination?

**Mr PETER O'NIELL** – Mr Speaker, with great honour and humility I accept the nomination.

**Mr CHARLES ABLE** – Mr Speaker, I move that nominations be now closed.

**Mr SPEAKER** – Honourable Members, the Parliament will now vote. Those Members who support Mr Peter O'Neill to be Prime Minister, move to the right and those who do not support this, move to the left of the Chair.

Honourable Members, may I re-emphasise those in support of Mr Peter O'Neill as Prime Minister move to the right of the Chair and those who do not support move to the left. Physically move.

**16/01**

The Parliament voted, (the Speaker **Mr Theo Zurenuoc**) in the Chair.

**17/01**

**Mr SPEAKER** – Honourable Members, the result for the open ballot is as follows:

**AYES – 94**

**NOeS – 12**

Mr Peter O'Neill is declared Prime Minister-elect of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea.

**PRESENTATION OF PRIME MINISTER-ELECT TO  
THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL**

**Mr SPEAKER** – Honourable Members I have to ascertain that it will be His Excellency's pleasure to receive the Prime Minister-elect at the Government House forthwith.

The Parliament is suspended until the ringing of the bells.

**19/01**

**Mr PETER O'NEILL** (Ialibu-Pangia – Prime Minister) – Mr Speaker, I have to report that, I, this day proceeded to the Government House and presented myself to His Excellency the Governor-General as the choice of this Parliament. And that His Excellency was kind enough to congratulate me on my election as the Prime Minister, whereupon I made my Declaration of Office.

Mr Speaker, before I adjourn this session of Parliament, let me be the first to congratulate yourself, to you and your family and the people of Finschhafen for your elevation to the position of Speaker of this honourable Parliament.

Mr Speaker in recent times our Parliament has gone through very trying times. I know that with the highest degree of integrity that you personally have, this position represents a symbolic hope and aspirations of all the people of this country as reflected in the elected Members of this Parliament. And that is why the trust that we place in you is to restore the respect and integrity of this House.

So, on behalf of this Government, and the Members of this Government and the coalition partners, I congratulate you. I know that you will do your people of Finschhafen and your family very proud. I also know that you will do your country very proud and this Parliament very proud. We look forward to working with you during your reign as Speaker of the House.

On the same token, on the occasion of the formation of this Government, let me state here that we are at an important point in our nation's history. I have said this before. It is truly at the cross roads. Our country is a country of huge potential both in our people and in our resources.

I stand before you today, privileged to be elected as Prime Minister of this country. It is both a great honour and great responsibility. I will not shy from that duty.

Mr Speaker, I will commit myself fully again to working for the welfare of this country and all our citizens.

Firstly however, I must thank the people of Papua New Guinea for the support that they have shown me and the People's National Congress Party in returning us with the numbers to lead this Government.

You have done your part for our democracy by voting for us. It is now my duty, my party's duty and duties of all other parties and Members of this Parliament to do what you have put us in this Parliament to do. We have both to lead and serve our country and you, our people. Good leadership and service are completely intertwined. The original meaning of being a Minister is to minister and to serve. Our role as leaders is first and foremost a role of service and we leaders must never forget that.

My duty as Prime Minister and the duty of every minister and Member of this Parliament is to meet the needs of our people of our country. I think we all know that that has been forgotten by too many in the past or ignored or simply we have not delivered.

A new chance, a new Government means a chance to reset the direction of this country and do more and do better. However, it is also important to recognize and acknowledge the leadership and the achievements of past governments and very often in very difficult circumstances facing great challenges in our country. The job of our government is to build on that work in the coming years.

It is often said that progress is made by standing on the shoulders of giants and it is true that we need to build on the work of those before us. I certainly accept that. That will be true for this Government.

Today, I humbly acknowledge the support in the forming of this government by three great leaders of our country. The Founding Fathers of our nation, Grand Chief Sir Michael Somare, former Prime Minister Sir Julius Chan and former Prime Minister Pias Wingti, each of these men have led this country with commitment and distinction. And their names are forever woven in the history of our land.

I am grateful that I have their wise counsel and the support in this Government and that we will work together for the national good.

Mr Speaker, a sign of a great leader is the ability to put aside differences for the greater good. A sign of a robust democracy is the willingness of leaders to listen to the voice of the people. We have seen both of these realities at work in the formation of this government. It is a testament to the quality of these men and other leaders that we as one are working together.

I would also like to formally welcome all the coalition partners that have joined the People's National Congress Party to form this Government, in particular the Leader of T.H.E. Party, Honourable Don Polye and his party Members, the People's Progress Party, Sir Julius Chan and his party Members, Honourable Patrick Pruaitch and the National Alliance, Honourable Paias Wingti and the People's Democratic Party, Honourable Anderson Agiru and the People's United Assembly Party, Honourable Peter Ipatas and the People's Party, Honourable Powes Party and the Social Democratic Party, United Resources Party and Honourable William Duma. And also the leader of Our Development Party, Honourable Puka Temu and other leaders of the smaller parties and all the other independent leaders who have joined us to work collectively for this country in the years to come.

**20/01**

I also take this opportunity to acknowledge the victory of two fine female leaders at the recent elections. Let me warmly welcome them to the Government on behalf of the colleague Members of this Honourable Parliament.

Honourable Delilah Gori and Honourable Loujaya Toni have much to contribute and I look forward to working with them in this Term of Parliament. Their election success is clearly good for Papua New Guinean women throughout our country.

For Papua New Guinea to have the best possible future we must use the best of all talents both male and female to forge our place in this very competitive world. Two women is the start but not enough. In time I hope and express that many more capable women will also successfully stand for election.

Papua New Guineans are so tired of just words filled with empty promises. They have had enough over the years and they want more than just that. They want action, honesty and delivery of services.

Mr Speaker, I am also tired of empty words and broken promises of things promised but not delivered. There is one measure that I want our Government to be held responsible for and that is we must deliver. I want to be measured and judged on what we deliver. That makes life better for all Papua New Guineans. That is the job that lies before all our leaders.

I have spoken in the past about growing our future and that is many regard sums up what I am about and what this Government that I will lead will be about, growing the future of our country.

We need to cut through and take action and we need to deliver on the core issues that face our country in education, health, infrastructure and law and order. We need to stop the waste and we need to move from inaction to action. We need to develop lock in and implement policies that will deliver in those key areas.

I cannot emphasize enough that I want this Government to be a Government that delivers for the people of this country.

My vision for Papua New Guinea is of a better stronger safer nation with free education for our young. My vision for Papua New Guinea is of a country with a health and hospital system that can cater for anyone in their time of need. It will be a country where you know that when your child or your parents need medical care they can get it. My vision for Papua New Guinea is of country with infrastructure that supports both economic growth but also supports the ability of our people to live a good way of life. That means roads, seaports and airports. All these are achievable in our country.

Our Government has been working hard on integrating the coalition Members Party Policies to be in line with the adjacent government policies like the 2050 Vision the Strategic Development Plan and the Medium Term Development Plan. I can tell you that we will be delivering an environment that will help support big and small businesses which combined are the engine room for our economy.

We have an economy that has grown to about eight percent per year over the past 10 years and we expect that growth to continue over the Medium Term.

I have always said that we do not have a funding issue in this country. What we have is a management issue. We have not managed our resources to the full benefit of our people and my

Government will change that. We will plan, structure and deliver the outcomes. We will run a country of transparent accountability and stamp out corruption wherever it occurs.

Public monies will be used for public benefit. Not to enrich a few at the expense of many wasted on pet projects that do not make sense at all. When we run a corruption free progressive economy where people can get ahead build a life for their families then we are heading in the right direction. That is what I mean by future growth.

Mr Speaker, we stand ready to govern and I as Prime Minister stand ready to lead. That is why today I am announcing a 10 men caretaker Cabinet that will be sworn in today and they are Honourable Don Polye, Honourable Patrick Pruaitch, Honourable William Duma, Honourable Sir Puka Temu, Honourable James Marape, Honourable Charles Abel, Honourable Mao Zemming, Honourable Ben Micah and Honourable John Pundari. They represent many of the parties that are now in the coalition and a full Cabinet will be announced over the next few weeks.

With that Mr Speaker, thank you and God Bless Papua New Guinea.

**Mr BELDEN NAMAHA** (Vanimu Green – Leader of Opposition) – Mr Speaker, before I congratulate my brother and the Prime Minister elect for the Ninth Parliament of Papua New Guinea, I would like to congratulate you for an overwhelming confident from the Parliament in electing you in the most highest office in this Parliament being the Speaker of Papua New Guinea.

Please convey my congratulations to your family and the people of Finschhafen. On the same token I would like to pay tribute to Mr Jeffrey Nape who has been at the helm of the Speakers Chair for 10 years. He has made some unprecedented decisions that kept the country on its toes for the last 10 years.

Firstly, I want to congratulate the Members of Parliament who have been re-elected and those who have been newly elected to Parliament of this Ninth Parliament.

**21/01**

Those who have been elected recently, the challenge has just begun for you for service delivery to our people in the most rural parts of our districts in the country. Those who have been

re-elected, I hope that you will continue your good work that you have started and continue on with service delivery to our people who have been suffering for basic services for many years.

I would also like to acknowledge the two courageous women who have demonstrated to other women in the country that women can win seats in the predominantly male dominated Parliament.

*(Applause in the Chamber)*

**Mr BELDEN NAMAHAH** – I also stand here to thank the seventeen believers who are here with me. You believe and stood for what you stand for, you stood on your principles based on what you believed in. You are all men of principles and men of integrity and I would like to thank you all for standing together with me.

Without you there would be no democracy in this country. There is no such thing as all of us moving to that side. There must be some people on this side so that we can provide a check and balance in the daily running of our country.

*(Applause in the Chamber)*

**Mr BELDEN NAMAHAH** – I thank my team, and to my brother, the Prime Minister, Honourable Peter O'Neill, today, I stand here proud and I had said that some 360 days ago that yesterday you would remember the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August, 2011 when we made an unprecedented move invoking *Section 142* of the *Constitution* to elect you as the Prime Minister. This happened because we the young leaders of this country believe that we needed a change of leadership at the top level.

*(Applause in the Chamber)*

**Mr BELDEN NAMAHAH** – Together with my brother Don Polye, William Duma, Sir Puka Temu, Bart Philemon who is not here with us, my founder and mentor Sir Mekere Morauta, Sir Julius Chan and not forget my deputy party leader Sam Basil stood together when Papua New

Guinea wanted change. We then brought this change and installed you as the Prime Minister of this country.

I am absolutely proud to a part of making you as the Prime Minister of this country.

*(Applause in the Chamber)*

**Mr BELDEN NAMAHA** – Mr Prime Minister the last 10 months have been difficult from the 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2011 up to the Elections.

We have made some unprecedented decisions and the decisions that we have made have brought about some impasses, difficulties and questions where many of the Members who are sitting at your side now were leading protests against us. I have no regrets as I had done everything under the sun to protect you as the Prime Minister.

*(Applause in the Chamber)*

**Mr BELDEN NAMAHA** – When there was mutiny within the Defence Force I went out there to quell the mutiny and brought peace into the Defense Force. When you were at court at the Government House and faced opposition police personnel sponsored by Sir Michael Somare I went in the night to rescue you.

I stood through thick and thin for you because I believed in change. Today, I still believe in that change. I even went as far as going into the Chief Justice's Chambers because I wanted to protect you, myself and the Government that we formed by invoking *Section 142* of the *Constitution*.

Today, my Prime Minister and I clearly heard the Member for Sinasina-Yonggamugl saying 'criminal' but that was what we did. Mr Prime Minister, that only reflects that you must not trust those people who are with you right now in your camp.

*(Laughter and applause in the Chamber)*

**Mr SPEAKER** – Order! I would like to remind people in the public gallery that clapping is not allowed in the Chamber.

**Mr BELDEN NAMAHA** – I would like to say sorry to the people of this country. If I had done anything as the Deputy Prime Minister of the then O’Neill-Namah Government and on this Floor of Parliament I would like to apologise to the Chief Justice of this country.

It is very difficult for someone to apologise but as a leader of this country I stand tall for the principles that I believe in even though others say I am a criminal as they are in Parliament with us and I am afraid that they will charge me as a criminal as well.

Mr Speaker, I would like to conclude by concerning the Prime Minister but before I do, I would like to say here that I did not vote for you today. I did not vote because you did not need my vote because you had mastered enough numbers to become the Prime Minister of this country. Also, based on my moral and ethical principles I had to vote against you because that is the way that I chose and that is the way all leaders in this country should be and make bold decisions for our country and its people.

Mr Speaker, this is my second term in Parliament and I have learned one thing that I will never forget and that is, never trust any one of your colleague Members in Parliament only trust your heart. That is the biggest lesson that I have learned and I will always keep it in my heart.

**22/01**

**Mr BELDEN NAMAHA** – My brother and Prime Minister, my only advice is that please do not trust those who are with you right now. They have spoken publicly that during campaigns that they will put both of us in jail and throw the keys away in the Laloki River. They will forget about both of us.

Take this word today, do not regret when it will really happen to you in the next coming months. I hope and pray that your marriage of convenience will last for five years. As we both know it is very difficult to feed every mouth and to please every heart. I will provide a vibrant opposition with my team for this term. Let me assure the people of this country who will fight

against corruption in this country. We will fight it without fear and favour because we love our country Papua New Guinea. I wish you all the best and I look forward to a mutual working relationship with yourself as the Prime Minister of this country.

In the next couple of days we will elect the Opposition Leader. I believe we will form a very good governance for this country. But let me say this to everyone Papua New Guinea needs change and that has been demonstrated in the outcome of this election. Sixty nine percent are new Members of Parliament and only 31 per cent are re-elected Members of Parliament.

Let me also conclude here that when we went out for election and the outcome of the election is the worst election since Independence. I see that the Electoral Commissioner is the most disorganized administrator of elections in this country.

Apart from boasting about the logical support and so-called advice from our friends in Australia I believe most elections have failed and you will see in the outcome of the Court of Disputed Returns in this country.

But Prime Minister once again I want to congratulate you and I believe you will lead this country. Let me remind you again please do not trust those friends who are with you. They are coming there with butcher knives to butch you. Thank you.

**Sir JULIUS CHAN** – (New Ireland) Firstly, I would like to congratulate you in taking up one of the three arms. You carry history of a very noble family in government, business and religion.

Mr Speaker in wishing you and congratulating you on this position I want to also ask you to shake up this Parliament. It is time for this Parliament to be shaken up. I ask you to liaise very closely with the Prime Minister who I also congratulate and who is a very patient young man whom I am surprised is more patient than I.

I am sure working together with the three arms we can rebuild this nation. So I congratulate you. You have a tough job on hand but the most important thing is to be able to restore confidence and trust. That confidence and trust can only come about if you recognise both sides of the Parliament. It does not matter whether they are powerful or weak. You recognise them and restore the rights of an individual Member of this Parliament. By

recognising their individual rights you are recognising the rights of the people who put them here. You have a great task to restore confidence and task in this institution.

It is a very important arm of the Government. From here it transcends democracy and that the democratic system will work if the Parliament starts to function as a Parliament and as the People's House.

I congratulate the Prime Minister especially his statement and also the former Deputy Prime Minister's statement. I think it is important that your government which I support as I supported the previous government must have a vision on what the Government must do. It must show the people of this country that it cares about the people. You must begin to choose priority to enhance and work for the people.

Honourable Members and friends today, our country is at a cross road. Today, our country is at crisis and I want to say that it is time for all of us to grow up. The Leaders of Papua New Guinea have been playing games and they have been watching.

Mr Speaker, I think it is time to stop fighting against each other. Let us move forward together. Thank you.

**Mr DON POLYE** – (Kandep) – Mr Speaker I too would like to join my colleagues. On behalf of my family and Party and the people of electorate would like to congratulate you as the Speaker of Parliament.

**23/01**

Mr Speaker we have total confidence in you. I agree with the points raised by the Governor of New Ireland Province Sir Julius Chan saying that we place full confidence in you so that Parliament can be restored again. The air condition and other infrastructure in Parliament House need to be fixed. These are very important to this institution.

In the similar token we also would like to sincerely congratulate the Member for Ialibu-Pangia, Honourable Peter O'Neill for being re-elected as the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea in the 9<sup>th</sup> Parliament. I have worked with him in the last months and I am confident that

we will work with the solidarity that we always had and make sure that we deliver services to the people of Papua New Guinea.

In the last Parliament, I stood on the same row of chairs and before going into elections, at the time of the impasse between the two government institutions in the country, I advocated for reconciliations. The impasse was between Parliament against the Judiciary and Judiciary's stand off between the Executive Government.

I now stand on the same row of chairs to express my happiness because I have that there is reconciliation. There has been a healing during the election period. The other time I saw in the media that the Prime Minister was meeting and shaking hands with the Grand Chief Sir Michael Thomas Somare.

I agree with the points made that reconciliation must be put into action from the heart to what is done tangibly on the ground while delivering services to our people. I agree that there are out dated piles which we should be delivering.

But more importantly, Mr Speaker reconciliation should not be only limited to person to person or party to party. It should be made to some of the very important values which we may have lost along the way. I urge those Members who have retained their seats and the new Members that we have to restore the values that we have lost. We have to reconcile with those good values which must become principles of this government and the Parliament. The principle of honesty, good governance and quality leadership are very important values. It is very difficult to put them action but we can do our best when we have a strong desire to serve our people.

We should also reaffirm our commitment to equal participation, gender equality and those principles that our forefathers, the founders of the *Constitution* laid in the *Constitution* of Papua New Guinea. Our reconciliation should not be one limited to people to people, members of Parliament and leaders only but rather it should go down to the roots of establishing those values.

At this juncture, I would also like to mention that the formation of this Government, the election of the Speaker while it is an historical achievement it is one that reflects respect. It is the one that the people have spoken through the ballot boxes of who should represent them to this Parliament. And it is also the one that is compliance to the laws of Papua New Guinea where the law states that the Party with the biggest number be given the invitation to form Government.

I believe in the past we have deviated away from the compliance to laws. I think this is a very responsible thing to do that is to comply with the laws of the land. Like to party with the bigger number is given the first option to form the government and we have achieved that today.

Mr Speaker, the future uncertain and we have the nomination that may be hard to deliver to our people but with the principles of reconciliation that have started today. If we have wondered off from restoring credibility, tampering our people's confidence I see that the future will be even more uncertain. There might be no success.

So Mr Speaker, I stand to build this Parliament on the principles of honesty, good governance and quality leadership. I believe that the principle of working together as friends and leaders to serve our people will come into position.

**24/01**

Mr Speaker, once again, I would like to thank you and congratulate once gain for your election and the election of the Prime Minister. We will work together to achieve those objectives we establish as a Government.

Thank you.

**Mr WILLIAM DUMA (Hagen)** – Thank you Mr Speaker, firstly let me on be half of my people of Hagen and the Members and supporters of the United Resources Party congratulate you on your election as the Speaker of the Ninth Parliament.

Mr Speaker I simply wish to echo the statements that have been expressed by the Governor of New Ireland and that is to say that you come from a distinguished family and there is an unbroken line of dedication and service to politics, public service and religion so I have no doubt whatsoever that you will fulfill your obligation as a Speaker and restore decorum and integrity to the Parliament.

Let me also congratulate again on behalf of my people of Hagen and my Party the Rt. Honourable Peter O'Neill on his election as the Prime Minister of this country once again.

Mr Speaker, as you all know, we started this Government nine months ago when no one thought things would happen but it happened and I firmly remain of the opinion that it was done for a good course.

Mr Speaker, I must commend our Prime Minister again for achieving what many thought was not possible. Many of us in this House advised the Prime Minister that the timing was not right and it was not physical for the country to go for elections but the Prime Minister in his own wisdom was adamant that we go for elections and I was to place on record my admiration for the Prime Minister.

All I can say is that when he was the Prime Minister for the last nine months, it was not easy; we went from crisis to crisis. It was impossible for the Prime Minister to be able to sit down and plot the way for this country and govern it for the last nine months. Even though we faced crisis, the people of Papua New Guinea had confidence in you as the Prime Minister and the fact that they have returned your party with the highest number simply speaks volumes for yourself as a person. You were able to convince the people of Papua New Guinea to vote members of your party and I commend you once again.

Mr Speaker, I do not think it is necessary for us to revisit again the events that occurred in the last couple of months. All we need to do now is to bury the past and start fresh and plot a good road map for our country because our people deserve the best.

Mr Speaker, as you all know, our institutions have failed us and we failed. All of us here are servants of our people and we have failed them for the last 30 to 40 years, our infrastructures and institutions are falling and deteriorating, and all we need to do now is to start fresh.

Mr Speaker, our Prime Minister is in a position that is unprecedented. We have witnessed for the first time in our history that the open gathering of three former Prime Ministers of this country led by Grand Chief Rt. Honourable Sir Michael Somare, Rt. Honourable Sir Julius Chan and Rt. Honourable Paias Wingti. For these great Statesmen of our country to put aside whatever difference they may have had in the past and to come together to show commitment and support speaks volumes and it just confirms what we have always been saying, they are really great Statesmen. We owe it to them and they owe it to us and together, I have no doubt whatsoever that when we involve statesmen like them, how can we ever go wrong.

Mr Speaker, our Prime Minister now is in an unprecedented position of having three great men next to him and very young, vibrant and honest leaders who stand ready to help him govern this country, and all I can say is how can we ever go wrong when you have this kind of people with you.

Mr Speaker, despite what we may all say, running a country of seven million people most of whom are unemployed and have no access to majority of the services majority of the services we find in the cities. We also don't have benefits such as Social Security system or the DOLE system and this is very challenging and daunting. No Prime Minister can have a claim to ever to provide the solutions. It has been demonstrated in the past that no single Prime Minister has been able to fix our problems and not even our Prime Minister now has the solutions but we all need to work together including the opposition Members on that side of the Floor for the sake of this country so that we can take it forward.

I once again congratulate both the Speaker and the Prime Minister for your elections to these very great high offices namely; Speaker being head of the Legislature and the Prime Minister being the head of the Executive. On behalf of my party, I can say that I remain committed and ready to assist whatever way as a Minister and Member for my people of Hagen.

**Mr PETER O'NEILL** (Ialibu-Pangia – Prime Minister) – Mr Speaker, I also wish to inform Parliament that it would be His Excellency's pleasure to deliver and address on Tuesday 21 August 2012 at 10 a.m., to formally open the Ninth National Parliament.

### **SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT**

Motion (by **Mr Peter O'Neill**) agreed to –

That the Parliament at its rising adjourn until 21 August 2012 at 10 a.m..

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion (by **Mr Peter O'Neill**) agreed to –

That the Parliament do now adjourn.

The Parliament adjourned at 5 p.m..