

2012

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NATIONAL PARLIAMENT

No. 5

Tuesday, 23 October 2012

- 1 The Parliament met at two o'clock p.m. according to the terms of the resolution of Parliament on Wednesday, 5 September 2012. The Speaker (Mr Theo Zurenuoc) took the Chair.

Absence of quorum: The Speaker reported to the Parliament that a quorum of Members was not present, and announced that he would again take the Chair, at the ringing of the Bells.

Suspension of sitting: At two o'clock p.m., the Speaker left the Chair.

Resumption of sitting: At twenty-five minutes to three o'clock p.m., the Speaker resumed the Chair, and a quorum of Members being present and in accordance with Standing Order 34, invited Sir Puka Temu (Minister for Public Service) to say Prayers.

- 2 **DEPLORABLE STATE OF THE NATIONAL PARLIAMENT - STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER:** Mr Speaker made a statement relating to the deplorable state of the National Parliament, and amongst the many resultant factors, corruption seemed to be the single biggest element responsible for the state of

46

No. 5 – 23 October 2012

affairs as captured by the newspapers today. The Speaker, under his administration had embarked on a three-phase program that would be characterised by restoration, reformation and

modernization. The Speaker informed the Parliament that a vacancy exists in the office of the Clerk as the former Clerk's term expired on the 13 September 2012, therefore the Deputy Clerk is now the Acting Clerk by the operation of standing orders. The Speaker further informed the Parliament that the Chair would not entertain any questions, discussions or debate regarding the administration of the Parliamentary Services.

3 **BROADCASTING OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS – STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER:** The Speaker informed the Parliament that the Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings met this morning and resolved that:

- (a) the National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) and the National Television Service, “Kundu 2”, would be allowed to respectively broadcast live questions without notice; and
- (b) EMTV would be allowed to film questions without notice for news purposes only, for the duration of this meeting.

4 **DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (MR DAVID BASUA) – STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER:** The Speaker informed the Parliament of the death on 16 September, 2012 of Mr David Basua. He was a former Member for the Kagua Erave Open Electorate in the Sixth and Seventh National Parliament from 1997 to 1998 and 1998 to 2002 and from 2002 to 2007. He was appointed Member of various Parliamentary Committees and appointed Minister for Culture and Tourism, and Minister for Education, Research and Technology.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, all Members stood in silence.

5 **CERTIFICATION OF AN ACT:** The Speaker informed the Parliament that he had in accordance with section 110 of the *Constitution*, certified the *Lutheran University of Papua New Guinea Act, 2012*, made by the National Parliament.

6 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

7 **AUDITOR GENERAL OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA – REPORT ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS, 2008 PART I, 2009 PART II, AND 2011 PART IV – PAPERS – MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF THE PAPERS – REFERENCE TO PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE:** The Speaker, pursuant to statute, presented the following papers–

Constitution –

Auditor General of Papua New Guinea – Reports, 2008:

Part I - Auditor General of Papua New Guinea – Report on Public Accounts of Papua New Guinea, Part I, 2008.

Part II - Auditor General of Papua New Guinea – Report on Public Accounts of Papua New Guinea, Part II, 2009, and

Part IV - Auditor General of Papua New Guinea – Report on Public Accounts of Papua New Guinea, Part IV, 2011.

Mr Benjamin Poponawa (Deputy Chairman – Public Accounts Committee) moved – That Parliament take note of the papers, and that the papers be referred to the Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts.

Question – put and passed.

- 8 **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL – NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE – REPORT, 2010 – PAPER – MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Kerenga Kua (Minister for Justice and Attorney General), pursuant to statute, presented the following paper:

Juvenile Courts Act-

Department of Justice and Attorney General – National Juvenile Justice Committee – Report, 2010.

and moved – That the Parliament take note of the paper, and was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed at a subsequent sitting.

- 9 **STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION – MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Belden Namah (Leader of the Opposition) made a statement informing the Parliament of the Opposition’s alternate policies and issues relating to the political impasse between Judiciary and Legislature prior to the 2012 General Elections and urged all parties involved to seek true forgiveness and reconciliation.

Mr Peter O’Neill (Prime Minister) moved – That the Parliament take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned (Mr James Marabe – Leader of the Government Business) and the resumption of debate made an order of the day for a subsequent sitting.

- 10 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr James Marape (Leader of Government Business) moved – That the Parliament do now adjourn.

Question – put and passed.

And then the Parliament at five minutes to five o’clock p.m, adjourned until tomorrow at ten o’clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Amkai Mat, Dr Allan Marat, Mr Benjamin Philip, Mr Boka Kondra, Mr Ezekiel Anisi, Mr John Hickey, Ken Fairweather, Mr Ludwig Shulze, Mr Mark Maipakai, Mr Pias Wingti, Mr Patrick Pruaitch, Mr William Duma and Mr William Powi.