

2012-13-14

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NATIONAL PARLIAMENT

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No. 92

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Wednesday, 22 October 2014

- 1 The Parliament met at ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Mr Theo Zurenuoc) took the Chair.
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*Absence of Quorum:* The Speaker reported to Parliament that a quorum of Members was not present, and announced that he would resume the Chair at the ringing of the Bells.

*Suspension of sitting:* At five minutes past ten o'clock a.m., the Speaker left the Chair.

*Resumption of sitting:* At twenty five minutes past ten o'clock a.m., the Speaker resumed the Chair, and a quorum of Members being present, and in accordance with Standing Order 34, invited Mr Kelly Naru (Governor for Morobe Province) to say Prayers.

- 2 **CONDOLENCE MOTION – DEATH OF THE FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA, SIR GOUGH WHITLAM:** The Prime Minister moved a condolence motion informing the Parliament of its deep regret of the death on 21 October 2014 of Sir Gough Whitlam, the 21<sup>st</sup> Prime Minister of Australia from 1972 to 1975.

Late Sir Gough Whitlam was first elected to Parliament in 1952 representing Werriwa in the House of Representatives. He became Deputy Leader of the Labour Party in 1960 and in 1967 after the retirement of Mr Arthur Calwell, he was elected Leader and became the Leader of Opposition. After narrowly losing the 1969 election, Sir Whitlam led Labor Party to victory at the 1972 election after 23 years of continuous Liberal-Country Coalition Government.

Late Sir Gough Whitlam stepped down after losing again at the 1977 election retiring from Parliament in 1978. Upon the election of the Hawke Government in 1983, he was appointed as the Australian Ambassador to UNESCO and remained active in public life well into his nineties. Although his last years were spent in a Sydney retirement home, he still attended his office up to four days a week until his death on 21 October 2014 and places on record its appreciation of his long and meritorious public service and tenders its profound sympathy to his family in their bereavement.

Sir Michael Somare seconded the motion.

Debate ensued.

Question – put and passed.

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

- 3 **PRESENCE OF STUDENTS - STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER:**

Mr Speaker informed the Parliament of the presence of school students and their teachers in the public gallery.

The four schools present were Grade 5 students from Twinky Winky International School, Grade 7 students from Paradise High School and Grade 8 Students from Daumagini and Launakalana Primary Schools in the Rigo Electorate.

On behalf of the Parliament, Mr Speaker extended to the visitors a warm welcome.

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

5 **DEPARTMENT OF PRIME MINISTER AND NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL – ANNUAL REPORTS, 2012 AND 2013 – PAPERS AND STATEMENT – MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Peter O’Neill (Prime Minister) presented the following papers, pursuant to statute:

*Department of Prime Minister and National Executive Council -  
Annual Reports 2012 and 2013.*

and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the reports.

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

6 **PROGRESSIVE REPORT ON THE OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT - MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT – PAPER NOTED:** Mr John Pundari (Minister for Environment and Conservation) made a ministerial statement and informed the Parliament of the Government’s support in providing the political will to address climate change through the Office of Climate Change and Development.

Mr Charles Abel moved – That the Parliament take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

Question – put and passed.

7 **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 past three o’clock p.m. adjourned until tomorrow at ten o’clock a.m..

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at sometime during the sitting) except Mr Aide Ganasi, Mr Ano Pala, Mr Boka Kondra, Mr Byron Chan, Mr Charlie Benjamin, Mr Daniel Mona, Mr David Arore, Mr Davis Steven, Mr Don Polye, Mr Douglas Tomuriesa, Mr Ereman Tobaining Jnr., Mr Ezekiel Anisi, Mr Francis Awesa, Mr Francis Potape, Mr Gisuwat Siniwin, Mr Havila Kavo, Mr James Gau, Mr Joe Koim Komun, Mr John Hickey, Mr John Simon, Mr Johnson Tuke, Mr Joseph Yopyyopy, Ms Julie Soso Akeke, Sir Julius Chan, Mr Ken Fairweather, Mr Leo Dion, Ms Loujaya Toni, Mr Mark Maipakai, Mr Mehrra Minnie Kipefa, Mr Michael Malabag, Mr Nixon Mangape, Mr Peter Isoaimo, Mr Phillip Undialu, Mr Robert Atiyafa, Mr Ron Ganarafo, Mr Ross Seymour, Mr Wera Mori and Mr Westley Nukundj.

**PODI KOHU**

Acting Clerk of the National Parliament