



SPECIAL  
EDITION



**MSG Secretariat**  
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Melanesian Spearhead Group | Le Groupe Per de



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Issue 1  
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## MINISTER'S OVERVIEW

**In the reintroduction of the famous "Culture Tok", I think it is important as the Minister for Tourism Arts & Culture to briefly introduce to you what the National Cultural Commission is and its mandated function.**

The National Cultural Commission is one of the leading cultural agencies under the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture. The National Cultural Commission (NCC) is actually one of the Government's Statutory Organizations established by an Act of Parliament in 1994. Its roles, functions and responsibilities were certified on the 27th of October, 1994. It is one of the three agencies including the Tourism Promotion Authority (TPA) and the National Museum and Arts Gallery under the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture.

Its main purpose is to preserve, protect, safeguard, develop and promote our arts and cultural heritage. Therefore, I am of the view that the idea of reviving the "Culture Tok" newsletter is a worthy cause in which NCC can fulfil its core function and in a dynamic way educate the nation and lovers of arts and culture.

Papua New Guinea is proudly a nation of over 830 cultures distinctively clustered in their own ways, yet in wisdom tailored together as a nation unwaveringly in unity and diversity, and this bonding spirit is unmatched anywhere else around the world as long as we thrive to protect ourselves from influence of the fast-paced modernization.

I see the rebirth of this newsletter as so timely in conjunction with the Marape/Steven Government's grand agenda to "Take Back PNG". The notion of taking back simply would only work if we could change our mindsets as a nation in securing values and norms of good practices which have derailed.

What has PNG lost, then? Obviously, PNG has lost its grip on the socio-economic front in many ways. We have lost sound grip on embracing strong family values, the economy, our law and order, quality education, healthcare, the environment and the list goes on.

Among these, the integrity of our invaluable cultural diversity is one way or the other being threatened by borrowed technology and customs. Consequently, our tradition could fast become vulnerable to extinction if we are not vigilant now.



**HON. EMIL TAMMUR MP MINISTER  
FOR TOURISM, ARTS & CULTURE**

Do not forget to appreciate that culture was the only part of our ancestors' lives that they were in total control of and there was no external advice required from foreign experts. Activities were tailored around well-structured cultural establishments which provided total order of the day in different settings.

The Ministry of Tourism Arts & Culture on the other hand, proudly stands to uphold its constitutional duties to oversee and reinforce the purpose of protecting and preserving our culture through policies, conventions and rolling out of cultural activities through the National Cultural Commission.

As Minister responsible, I salute the management of NCC to revisit the "Culture Tok" initiative with much innovation in coinciding with the government's take back PNG drive. This initiative is one of the powerful mediums of communicating PNG's arts and cultural knowledge to people of all walk of life which is a must read.

As they say, 'Knowledge Is Power', the means of empowering young people, institutions, groups and persons of interest is now made available through this newsletter to culturally empower you to succeed in the preservation, protection and promotion of our cultural heritage to make PNG a smart, safe, wise and healthy nation.

Welcome on board and enjoy reading.

Thank you

**Hon. Emil Tammur, MP**  
Minister for Tourism Arts & Culture



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**CULTURAL GROUP HIRE FEES**

**1 x Cultural Group Hire  
(Domestic/National)**

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| Group Fee        | – K1, 000 |
| NCC Admin. Fee   | – K300    |
| Facilitation Fee | – K100    |
| Total            | – K1, 400 |

**1 x Cultural Group Hire  
(International/Diplomatic)**

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| Group Fee        | – K1, 500 |
| NCC Admin. Fee   | – K300    |
| Facilitation Fee | – K150    |
| Total            | – K1, 950 |

Contact National Cultural Commission  
for further information and or details.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S FOREWORD

**It is my great pleasure to reintroduce to you the National Cultural Commission's (NCC) quarterly newsletter called "Culture Tok".**

It is the medium in which NCC informs its readers about what it is doing in terms of embracing cultural aspects and promoting the government's agenda in the same respect.

This newsletter used to be dubbed as "Culture Link" in its pioneering years since the establishment of the National Cultural Commission as an Act of Parliament in 1994 and then renamed to Culture Tok, but ceased in its circulation in recent years due to compounding reasons.

Though dormant for some times, this special issue should inject in a new lease of life in reviving the norms and spirit of cultural update which used to be enjoyed by all.

It is my assurance to the readers that this publication will be up and running in continuity to inform, educate and entertain you as our planned programs and activities unfold.

Most importantly, this newsletter will be the driving force to help NCC&B disseminate information regarding the implementation of its programs and activities in order to preserve, protect, safeguard, develop and promote indigenous cultures and arts of Papua New Guinea.

Our noble traditions, customs, arts and cultures are what we advocate and as much as possible this publication should be the enabling platform in instilling and motivating us as proud Papua New Guineans

**"Our noble traditions, customs, arts and cultures are what we advocate and as much as possible"**

to preserve, safeguard and promote our cultures.

We value our readers, followers and contributors to the Culture Tok because without you this may not be published.

I would once again like to commend the contributors to this newsletter and assure you

of its continuous publication. I encourage you to enjoy and keep reading about your arts and culture while looking out for the next issue.

Thank you



**Steven Enomb Kilanda**  
Acting Executive Director



**STEVEN ENOMB KILANDA**  
Acting Executive Director





## MSG CULTURE MINISTERS' MEET SUCCESSFUL

| By Bola Noho

**PNG through the Ministry of Tourism Arts and Culture successfully hosted the Melanesian Spearhead Group Ministers for Culture and Arts Meeting in 2019.**

The meeting chaired by the PNG Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture, Hon Emil Tammur was held in Kokopo, East New Britain Province after the Solomon Islands hosted it in 2018 in Honiara.

The Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) Ministers for Culture and Arts Meeting (MCAM) and Council of Arts and Culture Meeting (CACM) are held annually and are important policy space to discuss issues aimed at preserving, protecting, safeguarding and promoting the Melanesian cultures, traditions, customs and values.

Over the years, MSG Ministers of Cultures and Arts have committed themselves to achieving some targets with each MSG member country's continued support and commitment.

While welcoming his counterparts from Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and New Caledonia at the meeting, Hon Emil Tammur conveyed his gratitude to their respective National Governments for supporting the 7th MCAM in Kokopo.

He began with a story of how a piece of traditional bamboo flute music from Kandingei Village in East Sepik Province



was placed in two of the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched Voyager spacecraft. "The two voyager space crafts are being used as greeting cards for aliens" Hon Tammur said.

He said culture was the only part of their lives that they were in total control of and there was no external advice required from foreign experts.

However, Hon Tammur said PNG was concerned about their MSG artefacts that were constantly being counterfeited, for instance the bilum (string bags) which are being manufactured in China and sold back to PNG.

He said there was a need to learn from each other's best practices, especially on the need to train own local people to take lead in preserving and promoting their cultural artefacts. Hon. Tammur said there was also a need to develop a platform to safeguard their arts and cultures from piracy.

**"PNG with its diverse cultures and languages posed a challenge in itself"**



PNG Minister for Tourism Arts & Culture, Hon. Emil Tammur presenting the PNG state gift to the High Commissioner of Solomon Islands to PNG, His Excellency Barnabas Anga after the 7th MCAM.

The Minister highlighted at the meeting the activities of three cultural institutions including IPNGS, NFI and NPAT working in collaboration with National Cultural Commission.

Hon. Tammur also highlighted tourism as part of the whole holistic approach for the development of arts and culture.

He said PNG with its diverse cultures and languages posed a challenge in itself in terms of documenting arts and cultures.

Minister Tammur said PNG was already making progressive efforts in promoting its home - grown arts and culture festivals like music festivals that are being organized in line with these meetings.

He said this was to bring their local musicians together from all over East New Britain Province.



## BID TO TEACH ENGAN HERITAGE

| By Bola Noho

**OUR intension to host Yakkan Mali is to teach Engan Heritage, history, culture and tradition while preserving, promoting and digitalize Enga Heritage.**

The Chairman of Yakkan Mali festival and Managing Director of Niugini Tribal Heritage, Dickson Newman said this while jointly launching the inaugural festival at Lenki Village towards the end of June, 2019.



Acting Executive Director of NCC making a speech during the official opening of Yakkan Mali at Lenki village



Cultural women dancers performing at Lenki village during the commencing of inaugural Yakkan Mali.

Mr Newman said the last original Mali was hosted in Lenki Village in the 1950s to expedite the great trade cycle described as the "Hariap Tee" or exchange of wealth.

"Come 31st July to 2nd August, 2020, the Yakkan Mali will be hosted in Kilyadisa, Lenki village", he said.

He said Kilyadisa fits its cultural significance because the last wealthiest Kamong or traditional Enga Chief Lambu Pendain had his traditional man house in Kilyadisa.

Mr Newman said the National Cultural Commission's (NCC) presence at Lenki Village was to formally recognize this inaugural Engan Cultural Festival, Yakkan Mali as one of the cultural activities of the province.

He said it was one of NCC's mandate to develop culture, cultural activities and events that preserve, promote and safeguard PNG's rich cultural heritage.

**"Cultures and arts are not archival, they are preserved, safeguarded, protected, developed and promoted in life form"**

"The Yakkan Mali is one of them and they would make it an annual celebration of the cultural heritage the people of Lenki have been enjoying for a very long time before and after the civilization", said Mr Newman.

The NCC was there to ensure the hosting and running of the show is according to the set programs and procedures.

The people were grateful of NCC's presence as their treasured heritage was about to be forgotten because of the fast engulfing modernization.

In fact, Yakkan Mali was prominent in that part of the province and have provided strength and wealth status to their chiefs over the years. However, the influence of modernization on the fabrics of their rural societies has challenged the cultural survival and losing its significance and value. The value which once gave power to the chiefs of that society has faced the challenges of dying.



Our traditional culture is in reality facing immense challenge of losing its value and it is only right that the custodians have to do something to save the dying culture.

Because the cultures and arts are not archival, they are preserved, safeguarded, protected, developed and promoted in life form. Therefore, one of the ways is to perform traditional dances with full attire and body decorations are the only life forms culture can be kept alive.





The Acting Executive Director of NCC, Mr Kilanda, the First Secretary to the Minister for Tourism Arts & Culture, Andrew Yamai and the executives of Niugini Tribal Heritage showing the registration certificate while the traditional dancing troupe in the background.

## TOUR OPERATOR REKINDLES CULTURE

| By Bola Noho

**ONE of the local tour operators, Niugini Tribal Heritage resuscitates traditional culture in Lenki Village outside Wabag town, Enga Province.**

It took several years for Niugini Tribal Heritage (NTH) whose director is from the Yakkan tribe, one of the major influential tribes in Wabag District to plan and strategize the resurrection of their traditional culture. Yakkan is one of the big-name tribes that exists within and around Wabag town. Other tribes are Yanairin, Dep, Awain, Irapun and Malipin.

In traditional Enga, Mali or singsing in Melanesian pidgin, and translated to English as dancing with chanting is referred to as a festive season normally hosted by the chief or Kamong of a major tribe in the village to celebrate cultural significance of their tradition.

The traditional exchange system or Yae and Tee, and Sangai or young men's initiation ceremony are some of the occasions where the celebrations take place.

The celebration would include sing sings, merriment, pigs slaughtering and food distribution for days. And so the inaugural festival was planned and hosted at the village to revive these dying cultures so that their cultures and traditions could live on.

The First Secretary to the Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture, Andrew Dui



Yamai and the Acting Executive Director of National Cultural Commission (NCC) Steven Enomb Kilanda did the honors in launching this festival towards the end of July, 2019.

The launch of this Engan traditional culture, Yakkan Mali or festival would signify the resurrection of their great festive seasons of prehistoric Enga.

The festival will be hosted annually from July 31st to 2nd August at Kilyadisa in Lenki Village by the Yakkan Tribe as a curtain raiser to the popular annual Enga Cultural Show.

**“Mali is refer to as festive season normally hosted by the chief or Kamong of a major tribe”**

The Acting Executive Director of NCC, Mr Kilanda presented the festival with the registration certificate to signify its recognition. He also handed a cheque of K10, 000 as NCC's assistance to host the festival.

Present at the launching of the inaugural Yakkan Mali were the officers from the Enga Provincial Administration, committee members of the famous Enga Cultural Show, National Film Institute in Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province and NCC among more than 1, 500 people from in and around Wabag and Wapenamanda Districts.

## AMBASSADOR ASSURES COMMISSION OF ASSISTANCE

| By Bola Noho



Acting Executive Director Steven Kilanda and NCC IT Officer Archie Baing with the Indian Ambassador to PNG after their meeting at the Indian Embassy.

**INDIAN Ambassador assures the National Cultural Commission (NCC) of assistance to improve Commission's information, technology and communication (ITC).**

The Acting Executive Director, Steven Enomb Kilanda fronted up at the Indian Embassy early this year in Port Moresby to

seek assistance after discovering the sorry state of the information, technology and communication facilities and equipment of the Commission. He contacted the embassy and made an arrangement to discuss the status of the equipment with the Ambassador and seek the Embassy's assistance.

Mr Kilanda said their visit to the Indian Embassy and the discussions they had with the Ambassador was to find out how best they could assist NCC in fixing and assisting in the computers, internet and IT equipment of NCC and its cultural institutions in the country. He said they have responded positively but have to wait for them to come back to NCC with the ways they could assist

It was the first time for the National Cultural Commission under the directorship of Mr Kilanda to approach such diplomatic offices seeking assistance.

Mr Kilanda said after going through reports of appalling status of government assets at the NCC's head office and its cultural institutions in Port Moresby and Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province, he was seeking assistance from donor agencies and development partners. "I discovered the deteriorating states of NCC and its cultural institutions' facilities and equipment during my site visits when I first came into the office after the government appointed me as the Acting Executive Director", he said.

Mr Kilanda said he also decided to approach the Counsellor of the Economic and Commercial at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Port Moresby in February seeking their assistance to do major refurbishments, rebuild the facilities and restore the facilities to their former glory.

He said all the NCC cultural institutions are in real trouble because of the deteriorating facilities at a faster rate due to wear and tear over the years. These has been the direct result of being exposed to the extreme unfavorable weather patterns", said Mr Kilanda.

He said the Chinese Embassy has responded positively and will advise NCC in due.

## NCC supports linguistics student

**NATIONAL Cultural Commission has gone further in subsidizing one of the Linguistics students' tuition fee at the University of Papua New Guinea.**

This follows the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between NCC and the Linguistic Society of Papua New Guinea (LSPNG) last year.

The fourth-year Linguistic student, Wanpis Kii from Yampu in Ambum-Kompam District in Enga Province was the proud recipient of the assistance.

He was accompanied by his lectures, Professor Sakarepe Kamane and Olga Temple to NCC Head Office to receive K1,000 tuition fee subsidy.

Prof. Kamane while receiving the money on behalf of Mr Kii expressed gratitude towards NCC's kind gesture towards the needy student.



The NCC Acting Executive Director, Steven Enomb Kilanda, Olga Temple and Prof. Sakarepe Kamane from Linguistics Society of PNG showing the signed MoU at NCC office.

*continue page 8...*





## NCC STAFF MASS MARRIAGE

| By Bola Noho



NCC and IPNGS officers with their spouses showing their marriage certificates after their marriage while posing for a group photos flanked by the marriage celebrant, Ps Mondo and NCC Acting Executive Director, Mr Kilanda.

**ABOUT 25 officers and their spouses from National Cultural Commission (NCC) and Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies were privileged to obtain marriage certificates.**

Providing marriage and birth certificates and National Identity (NID) cards for the release of leave entitlements for public servants in PNG is difficult now a days. Therefore NCC and its management made an arrangement with a marriage celebrant to conduct a mass marriage ceremony.

The Acting Executive Director of NCC, Steven Enomb Kilanda told the officers that for the public servants these days to have their leave entitlements released was getting tough therefore the Management of NCC decided to arrange a marriage celebrant so that officers and their spouses could sign and get their marriage certificates easily.

"It's getting hard these days so NCC arranged this that you and your spouses can get

marriage certificates while NCC take care of the costs incurred," he said.

Mr Kilanda said he was more than happy to see his officers and their spouses signing and getting their marriage certificates.

He said the same marriage celebrant and one of the Human Resources officers from NCC would travel to Goroka in Eastern Highlands Province to conduct marriage ceremony with the officers of the National Performing Arts Troupe (NPAT) and National Film Institute (NFI) in the next couple of days.

Pastor Joel Mondo, the marriage celebrant from Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) Church in Morata told the 25 couples who obtained their certificates that they needed their spouses as their assistants.

"God's purpose of creating man and woman is to assist each other. Your spouse is your helper," Ps Mondo said.

He said God created animals male and female but human being was only male and when He saw that the man needed a helper, He made man lie down and took one of his ribs and made into a female and gave her to the man as his helper.

Ps Mondo said therefore both officers and their spouses were each other's helper and the certificates they were about to sign signified that.

He said the certificates were legal documents that would show they were legally married.

It was a relief for the officers from both organizations because without provision of marriage certificates, the release of their leave entitlements were difficult.

This would also make the external auditors' jobs easier when it comes to auditing the books of NCC and its institutions.

... from page 7

"I am really happy to see underprivileged students like Mr Kii being assisted like this. We never know, in the future he might come back and help the organization", he said.

He said this would go a long way in helping Mr Kii completing his studies at the university.

Ms Temple also said Mr Kii was worried because the registration time was closing in but with NCC's assistance he could be able to register and complete his studies.

She said the funding assistance to Mr Kii was timely because he was in his fourth year of study and if he was late for the registration, his work on the 'Engan Language Proverb', which he was working on at the moment would be affected.

The Acting Executive Director Steven Enomb Kilanda while handing over the cheque said it was the understanding that NCC's and LSPNG's new relationship which paved the way for the preservation, safeguarding, protection and promotion of PNG's language and culture.

"We are currently under funded but we are still hopeful for improvement in which we will look at signing MoU with UPNG so as to look at developing students culturally," he said.

Mr Kilanda said this would help NCC and other cultural organizations in the country work towards preserving, safeguarding, protecting, promoting and develop PNG's arts and culture through developing young minds culturally.



## SHOW EXHIBITS VARIETIES OF CULTURES

| By Bola Noho

**ANNUAL Mount Hagen Show normally create avenue for varieties of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) from Western Highlands and neighboring provinces.**

It is the time all customs, traditions and cultures are on display. Even cultural groups from some coastal provinces attend the shows every year.

The important part of the show is the preservation, safeguarding and promotion of intangible cultural heritage of the indigenous people of Papua New Guinea.

And the show last year was a spectacular with colorful regalia, body paintings and decorations, the sounds of kundu or hand drums and the chant of traditional songs from the dancers.

A bumper crowd was in the show ground and the security was tight but the show goes outside the fence were rowdy just to get a glimpse of the traditional cultures and arts on display inside.

The show started with the new school cultural program involving students from in and around the vicinity of Mount Hagen and Western Highlands Province as a whole. More than 10 schools started the program in their schools a day before the main Mount Hagen Show began. The Governor General of Papua New Guinea, Sir Bob Dadae officially closed the school program at the Queen's Park in Mount Hagen town.



1 – 4. Cultural dancers performing at the 60<sup>th</sup> annual Mt Hagen Cultural Show last year



He officially opened the 60th Mount Hagen Show on a high note with skydivers flying in the Western Highlands and Papua New Guinea flag parachutes.

It was a fanfare and more than 150 tourists from around the world attended the show, taking photos and videos. The National Cultural Commission (NCC) officers from Port Moresby and Goroka were at the show doing documentation.

NCC supported the show with K10, 000 funding as its assistance. This was to encourage the Western Highlanders to continue to host the show in the name of preservation, safeguarding and promotion of their cultures and traditional.

On the other hand, the continuity of the show would mean that PNG continues to implement the five domains of the United Nations Education Science and Cultural Organizations' (UNESCO) Convention for the Safe Guarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage 2003 which it ratified in 2008.





## ARTS, CULTURE BINDS MELANESIANS

| By Bola Noho



8<sup>th</sup> MSG Council of Arts and Culture Meeting members posing for photo session before meeting starts.



because it would set new agendas and programs that they could explore further in the advancement of arts and culture development in their sub-region. He said their deliberations would produce exciting outcomes as they discuss important issues and undertakings while providing update on other important matters requiring their shared understanding and commitments in their respective countries and within their sub-region.

“Among the issues for discussions, let me highlight one important deliberation and that is the Melanesian Festival of Arts and Culture”, he said.

Mr Kilanda said MACFEST has always been a successful event since its inception on July 6, 1998 in Honiara, Solomon Islands and subsequently hosted in Vanuatu in 2002, Fiji in 2006, New Caledonia in 2010, PNG in 2014 and Solomon Islands in 2018.

He said while the festival had over the years brought together thousands of artists and performers from PNG, Fiji, Vanuatu, New Caledonia and Solomon Islands, it also in 2014 for the first time welcomed diaspora



Melanesian communities in the Papuan Province of Indonesia, Timor Leste, the Torres Strait Islanders of Australia and the indigenous people of Taiwan.

However, the Chairman said there was a need to do more rather than waiting in between every four years interval to host another MACFEST. “Within these four years, I see no reason why we cannot organize ongoing arts and culture programs together as a group,” he said.

Mr Kilanda told the council that he was mindful of developing their own national commitments around the arts and culture and would probably in their respective national development strategies.

He said during their meeting that they would agree on key initiatives for their sub-region as well as encourage their active participation so that when they depart Kokopo after the meeting, they would have put in place action plans that would further leverage Melanesian arts and culture into new heights.

**ARTS and culture is a glue that binds Melanesians together and the bedrock for sustainable development. The Chairman of the 8th Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) Council of Arts and Culture Meeting (CACM) and Acting Executive Director of National Cultural Commission (NCC), Steven Enomb Kilanda said this during official opening of the meeting in October in Kokopo, East New Britain Province.**

While commending the Director General of MSG Secretariat, Ambassador Amena Yauvoli for his leadership Mr Kilanda said Amb. Yauvoli's presence at the meeting demonstrated a strong commitment and determination to work together as Melanesians to protect, promote and develop their Melanesian arts, cultural practices and beliefs.

**“2014 for the first time welcomed diaspora Melanesian communities in the Papuan Province of Indonesia”**

“I commend you for building arts and culture as stand-alone program in the MSG Secretariat following the successful reforms you undertook since your appointment in 2016,” he said.

Mr Kilanda also commended the Secretariat for appointing first Cultural Officer, Simone Tui-ma-le-ga as fulfilment of the 7th CACM and 6th MCAM during the 6th Melanesian Festival of Arts and Culture (MACFEST) in Honiara, Solomon Islands in 2018.

He said this was an example of indication that arts and culture was a glue that bound Melanesians together and the bedrock for sustainable development.

Mr Kilanda told the council that their meeting would be important



## MINISTER LAUNCHES CORPORATE PLAN 2019-2023

| By Bola Noho



Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture, Hon. Emil Tammur, Acting Executive Director of NCC, Steven Enomb Kilanda and Assistant Secretary Policy and Budget Division of National Planning and Monitoring, Mr Langa Kopio flanked by students dressed in their traditional attire representing their regions showing newly launched Five Year Corporate Plan.

### MINISTER for Tourism Arts and Culture, Hon Emil Tammur has launched the National Cultural Commission's (NCC) Five – Year Corporate Plan.

The corporate plan will now give NCC a strategic direction to accomplish its goal, vision, mission statement and its primary objectives after 25 years of establishment.

The plan has always been in draft form most or if not all the time under various executive directors and nobody dared to finalize it.

All programs and activities implemented were on adhoc basis all these years until a new Acting Executive Director, Mr Steven Enomb Kilanda was appointed last year.

He discovered that there was no plan for NCC and the implementation of programs and activities were not following proper processes and protocols.

Mr Kilanda started the work on putting together what was needed to form the corporate plan with the help of the NCC's Policy and planning and research division and the officers from the National Museum and Arts Gallery. He also engaged a

consultant towards the end of February, 2019 who had the expertise in developing corporate plans and policies.

His target was to have the plan launched before or at the end of June this year (2019). He worked hard with NCC officers within four months before the document was ready to be launched.

### “Programs are showing directions now where NCC is heading”

Mr Kilanda's target was to finalize the work on the five-year corporate plan and a cultural policy which is also in draft form. This is also another major outstanding work which still needs to be finalized.

The NCC's cultural policy requires a lot of work and nationwide consultations therefore he decided to concentrate on the 5-year corporate plan as a priority.

Finally, the Corporate Plan 2019-2023 was done and the Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture, Hon Emil Tammur, officially launched it at the end of June.

He also launched NCC's newly developed Website at the same time to open up the opportunity for NCC to market and improve its image online.

The NCC and its cultural institutions' directors and officers were delighted to see their five – year corporate plan launched. It was a relief for them. The plan spells out and shows the directions where NCC should be going in the next five years instead of working on adhoc basis.







Cultural dancers performing despite heavy rain during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sel Kambang Festival in Kiunga last year.



## RAIN HARDLY SCARE FESTIVAL LOVERS

| By Bola Noho

**THE torrential downpour in Kiunga, Western Province in June this year did not scare off festival lovers and traditional cultural practitioners.**

The driving rain nor the mud deterred them from catching a glimpse of the performers and the excitement in the air.

Most of the dancers were from the North Fly District, but there were also dancers from the Middle Fly and South Fly districts, and from the West Papuan Province of Indonesia just across the border.

The featuring culture there is the 'Sel Kambang', a traditional penis gourd worn by men and boys during special occasions and ceremonies in their traditional societies.

The Sel Kambang is made of a family of cucurbit plants normally eaten, may be

cooked in an earth oven, boiled or fried when it is tender.

The plant is commonly planted and harvested in the gardens of Western Province and the neighboring province of West Sepik, and in the West Papua Province of Indonesia.

**"The featuring culture there is the 'Sel Kambang', a traditional penis gourd worn by men and boys during special occasion"**

Its Tok Pisin name is "Sel Kambang", hence, the Sel Kambang Festival was launched in September 2018, and an inaugural three-day event was hosted. This year was the second time the festival was held.

The dancers, sponsors and supporters of the festival were all full of excitement over the fanfare. Among the sponsors was the National Cultural Commission (NCC) who assisted the show with K5,000.00.

The NCC officers from the head office and its cultural institution, the Institute of PNG Studies, were on the ground in Kiunga to ensure the event was hosted as expected.

The traditional dancers and spectators did not let the wet weather disrupt their plans and the opportunity to showcase and witness the colourful cultures and traditions

The festival ran smoothly and all the dancers, spectators, sponsors and organizers of the event were satisfied that it was a success.

The third Sel Kambang Festival will be staged in Kiunga again in 2020, but the dates will now be changed from June to September to coincide with the country's Independence and the Western Provincial Day.





Minister for Tourism Arts & Culture, Hon. Emil Tammur, Acting Executive Director of NCC Steven Kilanda and other development partners and diplomatic officers showing the 2019 Achievements report after it was presented to the Minister.

## COMMISSION SHOWS SIGNS OF EXCELLENCE

| By Bola Noho

**NATIONAL Cultural Commission (NCC) on track into the future. This was demonstrated by the 2019 annual achievement report presented to the Minister for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Hon. Emil Tammur in December.**

The Acting Executive Director of NCC Steven Kilanda while presenting the report to the Minister said despite low funding allocation that came to NCC and sometimes not received, NCC was satisfied with the outcomes of most of its planned activities and programs this year.

“Our operating plan for 2019 was developed with the ambition to revive and restore years of administrative struggles and negligence that has crippled the Commission’s visibility,” said Mr Kilanda.

He said they have successfully developed and launched the five-year corporate plan after more than 20 years of NCC’s establishment.

Mr Kilanda said now that the corporate plan was put in place, they would use it as a guideline and direction for the organizational planning.

He said the NCC’s corporate plan was aspired to show them a clear strategic direction to help them perform their mandated role and functions in line with the Government’s Vision 2050 and Medium-Term Development Plan III, align to the cultural development agendas with a focus to create wealth while generating revenue within the cultural sector.

“Amongst many other priorities we had on our agenda, NCC’s rehabilitation program was given more attention because of the deteriorating state of our facilities,” he said. Mr Kilanda said the deteriorating states of the facilities and equipment have prevented them from performing required activities.

**“Declining state of their facilities and equipment have prevented them from performing their daily activities”**

He gave credit to the department of National Planning and Monitoring for their assistance as the projects were funded under the Public Investment Program (PIP) funding.

Mr Kilanda said because of such assistance, they successfully reopened the newly renovated Raun Ranu Theatre in Goroka after it was condemned more than 10 years ago.

Moreover, he told a full crowd at Laguna Hotel that in order for the implementation of the Corporate Plan, they needed human resources.

The acting executive director said NCC had also successfully compiled and submitted its organizational restructure to the Department of Personnel Management which was approved recently for implementation and recruitment in 2020.

“Another major achievement recently was the successful hosting of the 7th MSG Ministers of Culture and Arts Meeting and the 8th Council of Arts and Culture Meeting in Kokopo, East New Britain Province,” he said.





# NCC SUPPORTS CULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

| By Bola Noho

**NATIONAL Cultural Commission (NCC) has revived its school cultural education program to involve students in cultural activities throughout the country.**

The program was initiated by the then executive director, Dr Jacob Simet some time back in the 2000s and was operational but discontinued due to various reasons.

However, the Acting Executive Director, Steven Enomb Kilanda revived the program to involve the students in their culture and arts so that they learn and value these traditions.

The National Cultural Commission started rolling out the program in the schools in National Capital District (NCD). The first school it started off with was the Ted Diro Primary School (TDPS) then Kila Kila Secondary School.

They both received K7, 000 and K5, 000 respectively to host their school cultural shows. Other schools in NCD that received funding from NCC to stage similar programs in their schools include Ward Strip Primary, Kopkop College and Life PNG Care.

The provinces that are taking part in this program include NCD, Eastern Highlands,

Western Highlands, Enga and Northern.

In the Eastern Highlands, the Goroka Show and National Performing Arts Troupe started the program three years ago while in Mount Hagen, the Governor General of Papua New Guinea Sir Bob Dadae launched the program coinciding with the annual Mount Hagen Show this year for the first time for the schools in Western Highlands.

The Enga Provincial Government began participating in the program two years ago with lots of planning to coincide with its cultural programs for the students to learn their culture and arts.

**“Funding assistance to start up their school cultural education program”**

The school hosted its cultural show as a lead up cultural events to celebrate the country's 44th Independence celebration.

The Acting executive Director, Mr Kilanda was given the honour to deliver his keynote speech and officially launch the celebration at the school.

The schools especially in NCD that NCC visited were able to receive at least funding assistance to start up their school cultural education program.

The NCC is now focused on delivering more cultural education program throughout the country this year.



*TDPS teachers, Board Members, NCC Acting Executive Director, Steven Kilanda, students and their parents pose for a group photo with the dummy cheque of K5,000 presented to the school for their cultural program. An additional K2,000 was given during the school's cultural show.*



## ILLEGAL TENANTS KICKED OUT

| By Bola Noho

**ILLEGAL tenants of Marea House, the National Cultural Commission's property at Pelican Street in North Waigani in the nation's capital are kicked out.**

The occupants have been living there for more than 20 years at the expense of the National Cultural Commission (NCC) with no regards to the state property.

The place used to be a transit accommodation for the artists and officers of the then National Theatre Company (NTC)

now transformed to National Performing Arts Troupe (NPAT) more than 30 years ago. The Marea House was designed and built in late 1970s and was used by NTC until NCC took over when its establishment was formalized in 1994 and NTC given its current name NPAT in the ensuing years.

Former officers of NTC and their families who settled at Marea House continued to live on although they were retrenched. Among them were spouses and children of deceased who caused disharmony and social disorder for serving officers and the management of NCC.

This place became a hot spot for illegal activities including prostitution, criminals'

**"It was at times difficult to deal with illegal occupants"**

hideout, drug smuggling, night clubbing, and home brewing just to name a few. Many lawful attempts by successive NCC managements to take control of the

property failed often until the appointment of the new acting executive director in February, 2019.

After issuance of a 14 – days eviction notice, police came in and forcefully removed those who remained and eventually renovations work started.

However, due to limited funding the work slowed down. Only few serving NCC officers and their families were allowed to move into to the compound as the maintenance work continues.



*The First Secretary to the Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture, Andrew Diu Yamai explaining something to the Acting Executive Director of NCC, Steven Kilanda during the eviction of the illegal tenants at Mare House last year.*





## COMMISSION TO BUILD OFFICERS' CAPACITY

| By Bola Noho

**NATIONAL Cultural Commission (NCC) is keen on building young officers' capacity while developing them for challenges ahead.**

Capacity building and upskilling for officers was part of NCC's human resources development program but has never been implemented till now.

Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia Pacific Region (CRIHAP) under the auspices of UNESCO and the Department of Heritage and Arts Fiji under the Ministry of Education.

A week regional workshop was basically on ICH Safeguarding and International Assistance Requests from conducted from

ICH and 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Cultural Expressions at the workshop.

He was also instrumental in putting together the ideas for the 'Way Forward' for the Pacific Island Countries and territories in their bid to implement their activities and programs to safeguard ICH.

The PICs that attended the training were Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, PNG, Solomon Islands, Niue, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.



The ICH Workshop participants with their attainment certificates in Fiji after the workshop in May last year.

If there was any, it may have been years ago but none recently. That has prompted the newly appointed Acting Executive Director, Steven Enomb Kilanda to look in this direction. He saw this as one of the vital components of NCC's human resources development.

He quickly identified officers for short courses trainings and one of them was on intangible cultural heritage (ICH).

Mr Kilanda nominated NCC's Senior Cultural Extension and Public Relations Officer, Bola Noho to attend the ICH workshop while representing PNG in Fiji.

The training was on capacity building organized by the International Training

May 13 - 17, 2019 in Nadi, Fiji which saw cultural officers from the Pacific Island Countries (PICs) participate.

The workshop enhanced member states' knowledge on ICH and practicalities of the UNESCO 2003 ICH Convention.

The workshop also provided Small Island Developing Nations with opportunities to formulate activities at the national level and collaboration that could be undertaken at the regional level.

Mr Noho was asked to present the country's progressive report on the implementation of UNESCO 2003 Convention on Safeguarding

The Pacific representatives during the workshop identified activities that can be carried out collaboratively at the regional level.

**"National level and collaboration that could be undertaken at the regional level."**

The activities identified and recommended to UNESCO include joint application form for international assistance with other PICs to implement "Slow Food

Festival" concept, multinational nomination of Pacific ICH in future, multinational application for international assistance under the ICH Funds in future and include as part of the Regional Ministers of Culture Meeting agenda in Hawaii in 2020 the facilitation of increased staffing exchange among PICs and more capacity building.





Minister for Tourism, Arts & Culture Hon. Emil Tammur making a point before presenting a cheque of K100, 000 to the Director of IPNGS, Prof. Don Niles last year.



Contractors working on the renovations at IPNGS after the funds were presented to the institution by the Minister.

## INSTITUTE UNDERGOING RENOVATIONS

| By Bola Noho

**RENOVATIONS work to parts of the deteriorating facilities at the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies are being carried out in order to give life back.**

The institute of PNG Studies (IPNGS) has been left to deteriorate over the years at the hands of tear and wear as a result of exposure to the weather.

But thanks to the National Cultural Commission (NCC) and the Ministry of Tourism Arts and Culture for making much-needed funding available to give life back to the already deteriorating facilities. The funding was from the Department of Planning and Monitoring to NCC as part of Public Investment Program (PIP) funding.

All other NCC's cultural institutions including National Film Institute (NFI) and National Performing Arts Troupe (NPAT) are also undergoing similar exercise at the expense

of PIP funds through NCC. IPNGS and NFI's renovations are at the tune of about K200, 000 in two separate cheques but NPAT was at the cost of more than K300, 000.

Prior to the renovations at IPNGS and other sister institutions, there were couple of site visits by the concerned authorities including the Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture and his First Secretary, the officers from the Department of Planning and Monitoring, NCC Acting Executive Director and his senior officers from the head office.

The contractors have since moved into the IPNGS facilities and have started the work on the renovations.

The institute's full refurbishments to bring it back to its glory days will need more funding and assistance from responsible government, donor agencies, development partners and corporate bodies.

**“Important cultural institutions in the country under NCC that collects and archives the recordings of PNG's traditional and contemporary music and dance”**



It is one of the important cultural institutions in the country under NCC that collects and archives the recordings of PNG's traditional and contemporary music and dance dating back to the 1950s and 60s.

It also does publications on music, dance and literature while allowing students and scholars who wish to study PNG's traditional music and culture.





## ENGA PROVINCE TO CELEBRATE SILVER JUBILEE

| By Bola Noho



The Acting Executive Director of NCC, Steven Enomb Kilanda, First Secretary to the Minister to Tourism Arts & Culture, Andrew Diu Yamai, Chairperson of Enga Cultural Show Committee and her executives at Take Anda Museum and Culture Centre after the cheque presentation.

**ENGA Province is gearing up to celebrate the 25th Silver Jubilee of the famous Enga Cultural Show in Wabag in August, 2019.**

The Chairlady of the show committee, Margaret Potane said this while receiving a cheque worth K20, 000 from Acting Executive Director of National Cultural Commission (NCC), Steven Kilanda and the First Secretary to the Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture, Andrew Diu Yamai at Take Anda Cultural Center and Museum in Wabag.

Mr Kilanda and Mr Yamai with NCC officers from Goroka and Port Moresby were in the province in July, 2019 not only to do the cheque presentations but presenting the NCC's registration certificates while launching and officially open inaugural Yakkan Mali and Lagaip Sangai Festivals.

Yakkan Mali Festival is in Lenki Village less than ten minutes drive out of Wabag town while Lagaip Sangai is in Wanebap Village of Laigam District more than an hours' drive out of Wabag.

Ms Potane said her committee was happy with Mr Kilanda, Mr Yamai and NCC officers for coming to the province. "We are happy for your coming because we want to make this show the best this year therefore we want more money," she said.

She said whether much or less they were happy to accept it and would make it happen because they understood the tough



times the country was going through in terms of funding. Ms Potane commended their Governor, Sir Peter Ipatas and his Provincial Executive Council for their continued support every year.

She said what the show was doing was the realization of NCC and the Tourism Promotion Authority's dreams therefore Mr Kilanda and Mr Yamai with NCC officers' coming to Enga and presenting the cheque was refreshing to them.

"I understand the work you are doing here. At the moment NCC is struggling to get

**"All these time nobody knew that NCC was existing"**

much needed funding this year but by next year we should be good," said Mr Kilanda.

He said all these time nobody knew that NCC was existing

but as he entered the organization people started to realize its existence.

The acting executive director assured the show committee that they would do better and give first priority to Enga Show next year.

Mr Kilanda commended Ms Potane for hosting the show for the last 25 years while reiterating NCC's support in the years to come.



## KARIMUI SHOW GAINING MOMENTUM

| By Bola Noho

**THE KARIMUI Cultural Show on the outskirts of Simbu Province is gaining popularity after hosting its inaugural event only a year ago.**

Before the first show, years of planning and strategizing took place, considering the advantages and disadvantages of the event and whether or not it would benefit the local people.

The attention to detail in the preparation, and the success of the initial festival has been noticed by many stakeholder organizations, corporate entities, government departments and agencies, and individuals in Simbu and throughout the country.

The show is hosted by Partners with Melanesia Inc's (PWM), a non-government organization (NGO) which operates in Karimui and runs a program on preservation and conservation of natural environments and rain-forests.



The Director of PWM, Kenn Mondiai and his officers organized the show to advocate for the preservation, safeguarding and promotion of their arts and cultures. Traditional arts and cultures are attached to the natural environments around us, and when we conserve them, we are also preserving the source of those arts and cultures.

Also, when we preserve, safeguard and promote our traditional arts and cultures in festivals like the Karimui Cultural Show, we are sending a message to the custodians of the cultures to conserve their natural environments.

The show was held for the second time this year, and many of the participants from last year, and new corporate, government and

individuals-supported this special Simbu spectacle. Among the organizations was PNG Ports Corporation, National Cultural Commission (NCC), Digicel PNG and the Tourism Promotion Authority.

More than 1000 people attended the festival. They included representatives from the Simbu Province and Karimui District authorities, stakeholder organizations, international and local tourists, performers, artists, and arts and crafts persons from in and around Karimui and neighboring districts and provinces.

Although the way in and out of Karimui is a challenge, PWM, and the Karimui District and Simbu Province administrations with the help of stakeholder organizations, made the show possible and a resounding success.

PWM officially launched the show in partnership with NCC in Port Moresby in June after which the show was held.

The event organizers are now in early preparations for this arts and culture annual fixture on Simbu and PNG's calendars, and are looking forward to a bigger and better festival in 2020.

## NCC PARTITIONS OFFICE

| By Bola Noho

**NATIONAL Cultural Commission (NCC) has undergone office partitioning to give its officers privacy because of the confidential issues they are dealing with. They will no longer be exposed unlike past years where they sat in the open space.**

When the Acting Executive Director first entered NCC Head Office, it was not look like the government office. The space was open with workstations all over the place and the confidential documents of all divisions were exposed to the public. "I hardly distinguish the divisions and their officers," he said.

Mr Kilanda said he promptly brought in the idea of partitioning the offices so that each division should have their sections with their directors and secretaries in cubicles.

He said the idea was mooted and he quickly engaged the MS House management to do preparations work for the partitioning. Mr Kilanda said he directed the executive officer and the NCC's handyman to do a floor plan so that the materials could be arranged.

The floor plan was drawn and the materials ordered. The work on the partitioning started during the Easter Weekend. "Not long the office partitioning was completed and the officers moved into their sections," he said.

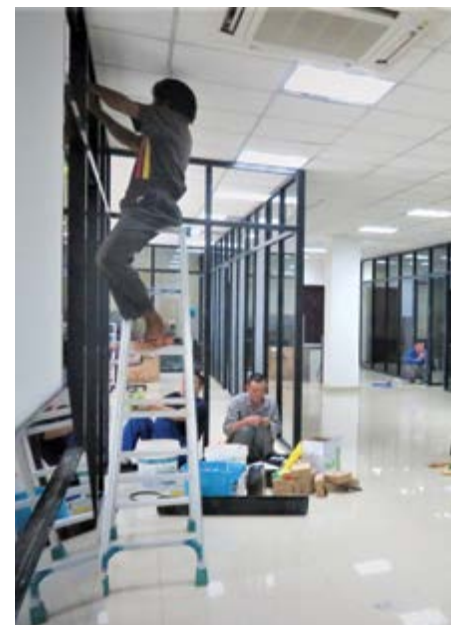
Mr Kilanda said the divisions and their directors would be operating from their partitioned offices and separate workstations.

He said he wanted to give NCC head office a new look so that the office could experience a bit of change while providing a conducive working environment for the officers.

The NCC office looks different now than two years ago when NCC first moved out from Tabari House in Boroko and settled at MS House in Down Town.

This place was previously occupied by the then Office of Tourism Arts and Culture and (OTAC) now abolished. Apart from one of the floriculturists in Port Moresby was arranged to place flower pots and do flower arrangements to beautify the office.

Now NCC head office looks neat, tidy, beautiful with flowers and quiet welcoming not only to the officers but public as a whole.







## REOPENING OF NATIONAL FILM INSTITUTE



First and Secondary to the Minister for Tourism, Arts and Culture Andrew Diu Yamai and Percy Runawery join hands with the Acting Executive Director for NCC Steven Enomb Kilanda cutting ribbon at the opening of the NFI renovations.

**The deteriorating conditions of the National Film Institute (NFI) which has forced its management to look elsewhere in Goroka town for office space to maintain its operation has been finally given a facelift and reopened.**

But thanks for the timely intervention by the new acting Executive Director, Mr. Steven Kilanda to get the offices renovated through PIP funding from the Department of National Planning and Monitoring, while taking office he saw the urgent need to restore and revive such institutions which play important roles in filming and archiving Papua New Guinea's Arts, Culture and divers social settings.

On hand to officiate at the reopening of the National Film Institute (NFI) renovation was the Mr Kilanda, the First Secretary and Second Secretary to the Minister for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Andrew Diu Yamai and Percy Runawery representing the Minister.

The small but yet significant ceremony was witnessed by NFI and staff and students that participated in the Graduate Film Making Training and Members of the public.

Before the NFI carries out any training program, I suggest we upgrade the facilities

**“Restore and revive such institutions which play important roles in filming and archiving”**



first and provide new equipment such as camera, computers, stationaries to enable NFI staff to carry out training programs he, said.

He went on to say that they did renovation to the Raun Raun Theatre as well as providing new equipment and proceeded to NFI to do similar work as witnessed.

He said the two renovated buildings as well as the newly furnished green screen room and the digital archives room have been completed. It is obvious the fresh look of things and the change was just enough to bring new lease of life into the NFI environment and boosting the staff morale as well.

Mr. Kilanda made a special mention on appreciating the Minister for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Hon. Emil Tammur for his wisdom in ensuring this important institution revived.

“And as the head of NCC, I had to deliver the Minister's wish by ensuring institutions such as NFI that comes under NCC, is looked at to see its functions well.

Mr. Kilanda said that the industry is a multi-billion kina industry in other parts of the world and its high time this industry in PNG is revived and its capacity improved to generate revenue for the nation.

He reiterated that the NFI was the only government institution that could deliver

that and he called on the relevant government institutions such as the National Planning Department and the Department of Finance to fund and support this institution which was striving to train Papua New Guineans to participate in this million kina industry.

Mr. Kilanda said he was impressed with the renovation work and the use of the new equipment provided to NFI, and assured that more tangible development will take place in the future when relevant policies are in place.



# PNG CELEBRATES 'WORLD DAY FOR CULTURE'

| By Bola Noho



The Roundtable discussion panelists during the World Day for Cultural Diversity celebrated on May 21 last year.



**PAPUA New Guinea (PNG) being one of the culturally rich countries in the world celebrated the World Day for Cultural Diversity this year.**

The day is normally celebrated on May 21 every year with each country coming up with its own theme to give prominence to their cultural heritages.

The World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development celebrates not only the richness of the world's cultures, but also the essential role of intercultural dialogue in achieving peace and sustainable development.

The United Nations General Assembly first declared this World Day in 2002 following the United Nations Education Science and Cultural Organizations' (UNESCO) adoption of the 2001 Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, recognizing the need to enhance the potential of culture as a means of achieving prosperity, sustainable development and global peaceful coexistence.

The aim of the World Day for Cultural Diversity celebration is to promote culture and highlight the significance of its diversity as an agent of inclusion and positive change.

The day provides an opportunity to advance the four goals of UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005).

**“Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, recognizing the need to enhance the potential of culture as a means of achieving prosperity”**

The four goals of the 2005 Conventions include supporting sustainable systems of governance for culture, achieving a balanced flow of cultural goods and services and increase mobility of artists and cultural professionals, integrating culture in sustainable development frameworks and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In celebrating and marking the day, the National Cultural Commission in partnership with the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States in Apia, Samoa, the PNG National Museum Arts and Gallery, the Linguistic Society of PNG, the Institute of PNG Studies, the University of PNG and the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority hosted a

Roundtable discussion in Port Moresby. The Roundtable discussions were focused on UNESCO's key culture conventions that PNG has not yet ratified including Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflicts (1954) and its two Protocols (1954 and 1999) and the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) which PNG ratified in 2008.

The preparations are underway and are in the advance stage. The stakeholder organizations are working very closely with NCC to host the celebration successfully.

The discussion during the one day conference will focus on UNESCO's key culture conventions beneficial to PNG that have not yet been ratified by PNG such as the UNESCO Convention on the protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflicts (1954) and its protocols (or Hague Convention) and 2005 convention and the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) which PNG ratified in 2008).

The Roundtable provided an opportunity for valuable exchange of knowledge and experiences and further enabled participants to develop a roadmap of the processes involved in the ratification and implementation of relevant Conventions applicable and beneficial in the PNG context, consistent with PNG's sustainable development plans.





## ICONIC CULTURE HOUSE IN BAD SHAPE

| By Bola Noho



The Director of NPAT, John Doa explaining the bad state of Raun Raun Theatre and the accommodation of NPAT staff to Mr Kilanda, Mr Yamai and Ms Hargreaves during their visit to Raun Raun Theatre in April last year.

**AN iconic building, Raun Raun Theatre that puts Papua New Guinea on the world map since 1975 is in dilapidated state.**

The Artistic Director of the National Performing Arts Troupe (NPAT), Robert Yeweh told the Acting Executive Director of National Cultural Commission (NCC), Steven Kilanda and the First Secretary to the Minister for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Andrew Diu Yamai on their first visit to the facility that the Raun Raun Theatre was no longer in good shape.

"The building that bears the name of PNG and engraved on the world map for the last 43 years has gone down with much deterioration," Mr Yeweh lamented.

The Raun Raun Theatre building is one of the public amenities that is serving the cultural purposes of PNG located in Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province.

Mr Kilanda and Mr Yamai travelled to Goroka in April this year purposely to inspect the

theater, the project on the new film studio of the National Film Institute and to meet the staff of both institutions.

They were shocked to see the appalling states of the Raun Raun Theatre and the newly constructed but incomplete film studio of NFI.

Mr Yamai told the officers of NPAT and NFI that the Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture and the Ministry committed to see the improvements of the current status of the cultural institutions.

**"We should be seeing some good things happening to us especially the cultural institutions very soon,"**

"We should be expecting some good things to happen, especially the cultural institutions very soon," he said.

He said they would do a brief report to the Minister of the visit and negotiate for the assistance at the Ministerial level to try to fix the deteriorating facilities.

Mr Kilanda urged the officers to be patient and work with him to see the restoration of



the appalling status of the institutions and the facilities.

He told them that it may not be an overnight thing but would take time, effort and resources to fix things.

Both visited the staff residential areas and found similar stories as the Raun Raun Theatre. They also visited the project site of NFI and admitted that all their facilities were in sorry state, needing the government's urgent assistance in fixing up the dilapidated state of the state facilities.



## COMMISSION CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CULTURAL EDUCATION

| By Bola Noho

**NATIONAL Cultural Commission continues to roll out cultural education programs for the schools in in National Capital District (NCD) and throughout PNG.**

The schools in NCD that National Cultural Commission (NCC) implemented the program in 2019 include Kila Kila Secondary School, Ted Diro Primary School, Bomana Primary School, Kopkop College, Ward Strip Demonstration Primary School, Port Moresby National High School and Life Care PNG Care.

Other schools that did not make it to this program are showing their interest to be part of the program in 2020 so that they educate and develop their students culturally too. Also, the provinces that rolled out the

cultural education program this year have caught the eyes of the schools in other provinces igniting their interest. Most of the schools have started off with their school cultural days coinciding with the country's Independence celebration as leading cultural activities.

Other activities like school cultural debates or quizzes were being planned to be implemented this year along with school cultural days.

Colleges like Kokopo Business College in East New Britain Province have expressed interest to be part of the program but their interest came in very late as the 2019 year drew close to the end of the year.

But NCC is looking at implementing the program in the provinces that are showing interests and wanted to be part of the program so that their students learn their own traditional cultures and develop themselves.

The fact that lots of interests and proposals were coming in, NCC lookS forward to work in partnership with provincial and district administrations of the provinces to



The Senior Cultural Extension & Public Relations Officer, Bola Noho presenting the cheque of K5,000 to the Principal of Bomana Demonstration Primary School during their Cultural Day last year.

implement the program and at the same time look at ways to make it sustainable. The young people are more prone to modernization these days and can easily turn blind eyes to their traditional cultures therefore inducting them and having them acquainted in their traditional cultures at their tender ages will help develop them culturally.

## COMMISSION OPENS ACCOUNTS FOR CASUALS

| By Bola Noho

**MANUAL payments of the casuals' salaries for the National Cultural Commission (NCC) will now be a thing of the past.**

The NCC has this year opened bank accounts of all its casual employees so that their pays go straight into their accounts instead of cuing at the accounts for their payments.

The Acting Executive Director of NCC, Steven Enomb Kilanda while issuing the Bank South Pacific's (BSP) Kundu Cards to the casual employees said this would ease the workload for his officers at the accounts and the Management Services Division.

"This is the first time I have arranged with BSP paramount banking to open up the casuals' bank accounts", he said.

Mr Kilanda said this was also another part of tightening up the accounting system at NCC as a result of the External Audit Report of 2014-2017.



NCC casual employees accompanied by Acting Executive Director, Mr Kilanda showing their Kundu cards after their accounts with BSP are opened and cards delivered to them.

He said this was to avoid dealing with cash. Their salaries would be deposited into their bank accounts so that they get paid while the workload is minimized when dealing with cash.

The external audit by the Auditor General's Office into the NCC's account books for previous years discovered anomalies when dealing with cash payments therefore, the current management is trying to minimize those issues.

The opening of the casuals' bank account with BSP is one of the measures the NCC management embarked on.

An officer from BSP's Paramount Banking in Down Town was assigned to work on NCC's casual officers' accounts for about a week before they were opened. The officer personally brought all their kundu cards to NCC and delivered to Mr Kilanda who then presented them to the officers.



FEATURE  
STORY

Acting Executive Director of NCC, Steven Kilanda, First Secretary to the Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture, Andrew Diu Yama, the Chairman of Lagalp Sangai Tony Sulupin and his executives surrounded by cultural dancers showing NCC registration certificate after the official launching of the festival.

## TRADITIONAL INITIATION FOR YOUNG ENGANS

| By Tony Sulupin



they are prepared to be man of their own. This would be the prime idea encoded in this cultural practice in male population.

This process normally takes place away from the people in secret place said to be a sacred land. Any other ordinary people and animals are normally kept away from that place. The place would highly be restricted and laws are put in place to protect the boundary.

To start the ritual process, young men who reach their puberty were initiated in a secret place in the bushes away from home. The first week of preparation would normally be done with gathering of food rations, construction of secret dwelling, channeling water and so forth. Then led by their chief or secret keeper whom they look upon as their leader.

It usually took about 10 days to initiate them before being exposed in the open for public to judge, comment and or predict each man's future livelihoods. On their first day the chief would take them on tour around the entire set up which also include special terms used to denote common names like food, water, sit, stand, go, etc.

The conduct of each man would come under the scrutiny of their leader who after the induction would be tough and harsh on every mistake.

The duties performed would be under the watchful eyes of their leader who would ensure they perform every bit of task skillfully and adhered to all rules.

The eye washing is normally complicated and painful test. Every man is made to stand

**Sangai is a name given to a traditional initiation practiced throughout Enga Province only apart from their traditional way of dressing and singing.**

The name Sangai in Enga language means purity and blameless. This practice is only for male youths reaching adulthood in preparation for marriage and manhood.

Sangai initiation ceremony for young men sounds synonymous with skin cutting ritual of Sepik Culture however, Sangai differs in number of aspects.

This descriptive piece would take you through to those distinctive features and how the most important culture is forgotten in the Engan cultural context.

The Sangai was practiced to signify the passage of rite in growth and development of men to culminate adulthood. All young men at the age of adolescence would be subjected to the purification process against any suspected blemishes stemming from maternal contamination at birth, etc. as

**"The Sangai was practiced to signify the passage of rite in growth and development of men to culminate adulthood.**

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## FEATURE STORY



before their leader who would command each of them to pass this test. There would normally be a narrow water siphoning through a pipe from a remarkable height. Each young man is told to expose his eyeballs so that the force of the water hits hard on them. The commander is prepared to hit anyone who fail or expressing any sign of incompetency or unwillingness with a huge stick. The underlying meaning of this ritual is to cleanse him from any blemish and stains believed to be sustained during birth and his mother's menstruation period.

The final day would always be a rehearsal to fine-tune and windup in readiness for the launching on the next day. Their leader would teach them some informative traditional songs and also the pattern of display in which the young men would follow in the main arena.

Lastly, in the night a huge fire is made in the middle and young men are sat in two parallel lines facing each other and sing and dance in coherent with the leader.

Back in the village, preliminary show is held to lure and gather people from far and wide. It is usually a crazy night. The girlfriends of

every initiating young men would come with their peers and rampaged every homes and villages.

They would go to the extreme of burning houses, destroying food gardens, chasing away men from the host village but it is all part of the occasion and not a crime. Very early in the morning an appointed man for each initiated boys would bring extra attires to decorate them.

If any girlfriend wanted to offer some costumes especially necklaces and armlets, they are allowed do so through their helpers.

After they are fully dressed, the men are led down by another group made up of mainly those who went to decorate and others partially decorated joined in. The boys are arrayed according to seemingly age group or alternatively height. Their boss carries with him a bilum filled with presumably magical stuff as he puts a lid on the long procession.

They would proceed to the stage before spreading out and sing to the tune of their leader. Some songs are touching hence stirring emotions of their girlfriends who

would snatch a special leaf installed on their armpits. This leaf is unique by its crystal clear and white surface that can still be found rarely today. The women usually come in small singing groups and seize every decorated man according to prearrangement before ending the show in style and fever.

After the boys are initiated into young men, they are regarded as capable of starting a new chapter in life little away from parental bond. A young man is culturally accepted and allowed to marry at this stage. He is also allowed to participate in any meetings or public speeches.

Sangai is one of the unique initiations practiced to certify young males in Enga Province to prepare for marriage and participate in manhood activities in the community. Today, this important culture is gradually eroding away and is replacing by modernization.

Tribal fighting in communities of Enga have sabotaged most of the traditional costumes, customs and traditions so it's very hard to replace them. This is one of the reasons why Sangai is hardly resuscitated. Also, the population boom in the province has triggered destruction of forests reserved as secret and monument sites.

The people who keep secrets are very rare and, in my village, we have two still living but at their old ages of around 60s and if they were to go, I'm afraid it would be very hard on our part to inherit the sacred knowledge and wisdom.

Nevertheless, if Tourism Promotion Authority (TPA) can support us to protect and preserve by funding will be great. We can organize as an annual event starting this year towards the end maybe December when everyone is on holiday and Christmas breaks.

But thanks to the Acting Executive Director of National Cultural Commission (NCC), Steven Enomb Kilanda, First Secretary to the Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture, Andrew Diu Yamai, the officers of NCC from Port Moresby and Goroka for recognizing us and assisting us to revive our dying cultures. They were on hand in Wanepap Village to officially launch this festival. Mr Kilanda and Mr Yamai also presented us with a registration certificate while pledging K10, 000 NCC's assistance to host the festival in 2020. This initiation ceremony and festival will become an annual event.

**NOTE:**

The author is the Chairman of Lagaip Sangai Festival from Wanepap Village, Laiagam in Enga Province.





## MINISTER LAUNCHES COMMISSION'S WEBSITE

| By Bola Noho



**MINISTER for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Honorable Emil Tammur has launched the National Commission's (NCC) official website.**

He launched the website after officially launching NCC's five year corporate plan at Laguna Hotel's conference room in Port Moresby last year at the same time.

National Cultural Commission has never had a website over the years since its establishment in 1994.

The website is very important for such Cultural organization but it was missing for a long time due to legacy issues and management problems.

Among many other things NCC was lacking, the newly appointed Acting Executive

Director, Steven Enomb Kilanda identified website installation as one of the reliable tools to market, launch awareness and promote NCC and its programs.

In the past years NCC tried its best to market, create awareness on culture, promote its activities and programs through other means but did not go well.

**"The website is very important for such Cultural organization but it was missing for a long time due to legacy issues"**

However, with the launching of the website, NCC now is open to public scrutiny and also it would be an entertaining because lot of interesting stuff will be posted for education, entertainment and information on PNG's cultures and arts.

The developing and launching of the website is one of the many activities and programs NCC is implementing in 2019 and 2020 towards modernizing its operations.

The launching has given NCC much publicity on the world scene through its activities.

Minister Tammur was flanked by Mr Kilanda, the representatives from other stakeholder departments, agencies and diplomatic officers who attended the launching when he officially launched the site.

The implementations of all the programs and activities of NCC are being posted on the website for public entertainment and information.

The website's address is [www.ncc.gov.pg](http://www.ncc.gov.pg)



## COMMISSION DELIVERS CULTURAL SERVICES TO VILLAGERS

| By Bola Noho

**NATIONAL Cultural Commission (NCC) is the only government's national agency that really goes down to the village level to deliver cultural services.**

This was evident when the Acting Executive Director of NCC, Steven Enomb Kilanda and the First Secretary to the Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture, Andrew Diu



Mr Kilanda and Mr Yamai chatting with the chairman of Isukana Development Association after they jointly cut the ribbon and unveiled the association's sign board. Mr Kilanda and Mr Yamai officially launched the association's resource center and launched the 'Stret Pasin Bilas' Festival.



Isukana children dressed in their traditional finery to welcome Mr Kilanda and Mr Yamai including other invited guests.

Yamai flew into Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province in May this year and drove all the way to Isukana Village in the mountains of Unggai in Unggai Bena District.

They launched the community resource center and their 'Stret Pasin Bilas' cultural festival in the village before they returned to Goroka. The villagers received with open arms Mr Kilanda and Yamai including the officers from NCC in Port Moresby and Goroka who accompanied them on the trip to Isukana.

The villagers said they had never seen such government organizations from the national level humbling themselves by going down to where the majority of the people are.

**"It took Isukana villagers more than two years to plan and strategize to actually establish their community association"**

Although, the road to the village was a bit dangerous and rough, Mr Kilanda, Mr Yamai and the officers were determined to deliver the service to the people.

Almost 1,000 people attended the launching including the villagers from surrounding communities, the officers from the office

of the governor for Eastern Highlands Province, Unggai/ Bena District, Provincial Education Board, National Film Institute (NFI) and the representatives from other government agencies and private sectors.

It took Isukana villagers more than two years to plan and strategize to actually establish their community association called 'Isukana Development Association', to build their community resource center as well as launching Stret Pasin Bilas Festival in the village.

While launching the resource center and the festival Mr Kilanda and Mr Yamai pledged K10, 000 on behalf of NCC and the Ministry of Tourism Arts and Culture to assistance the hosting of the festival.

Mr Kilanda told the association executives and the villagers to work closely with the National Performing Arts Troupe and NFI in Goroka to further develop more cultural activities. One of the rising prominent leaders from the village who was instrumental in establishing their association, building of resource center and the developing their cultural festival was Samuel Uge.

He is determined to open up avenues for his people to benefit from what they have on the ground in the village and the community as a whole.





Mr Kaiku & Mr Nou flanked by Acting Executive Director, Steven Kilanda, a representative from DPM, officers of NCC and IPNGS and the families of the retirees for photo session during the farewell.

## NCC RETIRES SENIOR OFFICERS

| By Bola Noho

**NATIONAL Cultural Commission (NCC) has retired its senior officers on medical grounds towards the end of last year so that they continue to recover at home.**

The officers were Ombone Kaiku who was the director of policy, planning and research division while Nou Nou was an unattached officer. They both served the government through NCC in various capacities for more than 20 years before settling where they were before they decide to retire.

While fare welling both retirees the Acting Executive Director of NCC, Steven Enomb Kilanda said Mr Kaiku has been an inspiration to them with tireless support as the director of policy, planning and research division since joining NCC in 1997.

"Your greatest achievements have shown us the light at the end of the tunnel through initiations of NCC's Corporate Plan and Organizational Restructure in 2016 and of course provided a sense of direction", said Mr Kilanda.

Mr Kilanda said he was the architect of coining cultural policies which would go down in the history books and that would be a great benefit to NCC for many generations to come.

**"Mr Kaiku was a master at drafting cultural policies which will go down in the history books"**

He told Mr Kaiku that they would miss his smiling face but assured him that he would enjoy his days peacefully with his family.

Mr Kilanda said Kaiku has earned never ending love and respect from his comrades and the general community as 'trupla Kumul blong Morobe'.  
"If you find time, please keep in touch and visit us once in a while. PNG still needs you because culture is Mr Ombone Kaiku", he said.

Mr Kilanda also said Mr Nou was in the prime of his career as an artist since joining NCC in 1996. He immensely contributed in the role he has been found fitting for the last 23 years.

He said NCC would miss his presence but hoped he would be enjoying his days peacefully.

The acting executive director said they were optimistic to keep in touch with Mr Nou as a local and NCC would always remain his family.

"With the experiences and the artistic ability you possess we hope you will be able to be engaged meaningfully in your dream to take back Hiri Moale Culture in any possible ways" he said.





## ICONIC THEATRE REFURBISHED

| By Bola Noho

NATIONAL Cultural Commission's iconic Raun Raun Theater that houses the National Performing Arts Troupe (NPAT) in Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province, has been given a face-lift.



The Acting Executive Director of NCC, Steven Enomb Kilanda giving a speech in the newly renovated Raun Raun amphitheater.

The renovations and recommissioning came after more than 40 years of negligence of the building which was left idly and condemned by the past successive governments.

All credit must be given to the Marape-Steven Government for realizing the plight of the deteriorating Raun Raun Theatre and providing the much-needed funding through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, which National Cultural Commission (NCC) delivered through the government's Public Investment Program (PIP).

The idea of refurbishing all of NCC's cultural institutions including Raun Raun Theater has been considered by previous executive directors of NCC, however never materialized until Steven Kilanda's term.

Mr Kilanda and the First Secretary to the Minister for Tourism, Arts and Culture Andrew Diu Yamai, visited the Raun Raun

Theater at the direction of the Minister Emil Tammur in April, 2019.

The second visit they made after a month was with the funds to actually start the renovations to the appalling state of the theatre.

The completion of the renovations, at least about 80 percent of the entire building, was at the tune of more than K300, 000.00.

While jointly recommissioning the new look Raun Raun Theatre, Mr Kilanda and Mr Yamai praised Minister Tammur for his tireless efforts in looking for much-needed funding for the renovations to the cultural institutions.

Mr Kilanda said that while other government departments and agencies were going

through tough times finding the finance for their projects, NCC was fortunate enough to secure funding for the refurbishment exercise.

He said the country as a whole was in a difficult economic situation, and NCC was lucky to find enough funding through the Ministry to at least give life back to the cultural institutions that are on the verge of falling apart.

**“NCC was lucky to find enough funding through the Ministry to at least give life back to the cultural institutions”**

Those who attended the recommissioning included the officers from the Eastern Highlands Provincial administration, Goroka and Daulo districts, the friends and stakeholders of Raun Raun

Theater, NPAT officers and their families, and NCC in Port Moresby.





## MINISTRY AND ITS STATE AGENCIES

The Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture is responsible for running the three agencies. These agencies are namely the Tourism, Promotion Authority (TPA), the National Cultural Commission and the National Museum and Art Gallery. These agencies report directly to the Minister through the agency heads.

The Tourism Promotion Authority is headed by its Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mr. Jerry Agus, the National Cultural Commission is led by the new Acting Executive Director, Mr. Steven Kilanda and the Director for the National Museum and Art Gallery is Dr. Andrew Moutu.

The Papua New Guinea Tourism Promotion Authority (PNGTPA) is a statutory body wholly funded by the Government of Papua New Guinea and established under the Tourism Act 1993. The ultimate goal of the PNGTPA is to market and promote Papua New Guinea to the world as a desirable destination.

The National Cultural Commission (NCC) is one of the leading cultural institutions under the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture. The National Cultural Commission is actually one of the Government's Statutory Organizations established by an Act of Parliament in 1994. Its roles, functions and responsibilities were certified on the 27th



From left to right - Mr. Jerry Angus CEO Tourism Promotion Authority, Dr Andrew Moutu Director National Museum and Arts Gallery, Hon. Email Tammur Minister for Tourism, Arts and Culture and Mr. Steven Enomb Kilanda Acting Executive Director National Cultural Commission

of October, 1994. The Commission through its mandated functions aims to preserve, promote and safeguard Papua New Guinea's diverse tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

Under the NCC, there are three established institutions. They are namely the National Film Institute (NFI) and the National Performing Arts Troupe (NPAT) which are located in Goroka and the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies (IPNGS) which operates from Boroko in the National Capital District. They have distinguished roles and responsibilities to perform under the administration of the Commission.

The third agency, the National Museum and Art Gallery was built in 19756 and opened to the public in 1977. It houses artifacts from the 22 provinces of Papua New Guinea. The earliest collection dates back to the 1800 by early administrator of Papua, Sir William McGregor and coincidentally we have one of the Papua New Guinea Royal Constabulary Police barracks in the National Capital District named after him.

Altogether, the different agencies take pride in operating harmoniously in their respective functions in upholding Papua New Guinea's unique history, arts and cultural diversity as a nation.

## PLANNING OFFICERS VISIT IPNGS

| By Bola Noho

**OFFICERS from the Department of National Planning and Monitoring were disturbed by the dilapidated status of the facilities at the Institute of PNG Studies when they visited last year.**

Their visit helped very much in fast tracking the process and protocols of the release of the Public Investment Program (PIP) funding to the National Cultural Commission (NCC) for the refurbishment of its cultural institutions.

The condition the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies (IPNGS) is at the moment is similar to the stories at the National Film Institute (NFI) and National Performing Arts Troupe (NPAT) up in Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province.

They also visited the Raun Raun Theater up in Goroka sometimes last year to see for themselves the status of the facilities. Most of the officers who went there were very interested to know what IPNGS has been doing in terms of collecting, achieving and publishing the recordings dating back to the 1950s.

Many of them have never been to that place and have only heard of IPNGS or otherwise. They were amazed by what IPNGS is doing but the status of the facilities the officers operating from and the conditions of the archiving and libraries told them a different story.

The facilities at IPNGS and its sister institutions including NFI and NPAT have never gone through major renovations since the institutions experienced wear and tear over past years.

The DNPM officers' visit was for them to see the status of the facilities at the institution



Senior officers from the Department of National Planning and Monitoring led by Rose Moyama, Acting PIP Sector Division in discussion with IPNGS staff during their visit.

so that they were aware of the conditions while working on the PIP funding to refurbish them.

The next facility which is in dire need of renovation is the big studio room. We anticipate the Department of National Planning and Monitoring will assist us again through our 2020 PIP submission.



## GIFT SHOP OFFERS ARTIFACTS VARIETIES

| By Bola Noho

**The Gift Shop of the National Cultural Commission (NCC) has in stock many varieties of artifacts of all sizes on offer.**

It has in stock the artifacts ranging from spirit figures, face masks, food and cult hooks, mini garamuts, wooden stools, canoe models, bilums of all kind, grass-skirts, penis gourds of all sizes, bows and arrows and many more.

They are displayed at the shop to give the flavor of Papua New Guinean's traditional arts and cultures. One would find that the shop has varieties of artifacts found only in every village and community throughout the country.

They give different flavors of all cultures in the country and are the stalks of attraction in the country as far as tourism is concerned.

The gift shop has the collection of artifacts that lure tourists from all over the world who are looking for small souvenir pieces for visitors but also serious-minded collectors, gallery owners and interior designers from other parts of the world who may come to Port Moresby.

**“The gift shop has the collection of artifacts that lure tourists from all over the world”**

It has beautiful collections of artifacts from all over the country and has range of items of all sizes beautifully crafted including handcrafted ebony or kwila crane birds, dolphins from West New Britain

Province to colorful bilums and baskets from East Sepik Province.

There are lots of items like spirit masks, dance masks, ancestral masks, spirit figures and colorfully painted shields and spears on sale for giveaway prices for serious buyers.

The artifacts are shelved at the gift shop for serious buyers and those keen on the items to browse through for the best. The woven ritual costumes, piles of carved storyboards, other carvings, ancestral boards, shape of spirit birds in flight, carved cult hooks, bows and arrows, replicas of ceremonial axes and adzes, drums, dishes, wooden mortars, clay pots, bowls and pipes all carved and painted with animals, spirit figures and abstract designs are all going on for “wantok” prices ranging from K50 to K1, 500



Lady Ni, browsing through the arts, crafts, artifacts displayed at NCC's Gift shop in Down Town, Port Moresby. Lady Ni is one of a regular customer at NCC's gift shop. She owns a private art gallery at 6 Mile in Port Moresby.



The gift shop is located on the ground floor of MS House in Down Town Port Moresby, right opposite the Town Police Station. For more information please contact the **Gift Shop supervisor**, Ms Nellie Kawo or Mr Michael Kia on **+675 323 5111 / 323 5222**



# 2020

## PAPUA NEW GUINEA'S MAJOR CULTURAL EVENTS



MINISTRY OF TOURISM,  
ARTS AND CULTURE

**NATIONAL  
WARWAGIRA & MASK  
Festival**

**08-12  
July**

Kokopo,  
East New  
Britain  
Province

**ENGA CULTURAL  
Show**

**07-08  
Aug**

Wabag,  
Enga  
Province

**NATIONAL  
GARAMUT & MAMBU  
Festival**

**11-13  
Sept**

Wewak,  
East Sepik  
Province

**MOUNT HAGEN  
Show**

**15-17  
Aug**

Mt Hagen,  
Western  
Highlands  
Province

**NATIONAL  
BILASIM SKIN  
Festival**

**19-20  
Sept**

Goroka,  
Eastern  
Highlands  
Province

**GOROKA  
Show**

**18-20  
Sept**

Goroka,  
Eastern  
Highlands  
Province

**KUTUBU KUNDU & DIGASO  
Festival**

**24-26  
Sept**

Kutubu,  
Southern  
Highlands  
Province

**MOROBE  
Show**

**15-16  
Oct**

Lae,  
Morobe  
Province

**NATIONAL  
KANU AND KUNDU  
Festival**

**04-06  
Nov**

Alotau,  
Milne Bay  
Province

Check our website for all the up-dated information on  
Cultural Festivals and Shows happening around PNG.

For more information call us on +675 323 5111 or email  
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