

PEOPLE'S NATIONAL CONGRESS PARTY  
**KEY POLICIES**  
2022





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## Hon. Peter O'Neill, CMG, MP, Leader of the People's National Congress Party Closing Address on the 6th National Convention and Congress | 14th April 2022

As we close this very successful National Convention and the Members Congress Meeting, the Peoples National Congress Party celebrates 26 years as a significant political organization in our country.

Our party was founded in the struggle for equitable development and the betterment of the welfare of our people. Today, we remain strong and determined in our belief that our Party has the right set of policies to advance this moral obligation. At the face of this great challenge before us, we are of the view that we are fighting for things we believe that are in the best interest of our people and our country.

As we seek Government this year, we are proud of the work that our Party has done in our past governments. The achievements include the historic Bougainville Peace Agreement championed by our founder, Hon. Bill Skate; advancing free education for our children, especially young girls; accessible health care; real infrastructure developments of roads and bridges, airports, and wharves; created District Development Authorities to improve services; and delivered a strong growing economy creating opportunity for jobs and SMEs.

Our development progress was interrupted in 2019 by way of a change in government by a few greedy Leaders in our party, driven by personal interest. Since then, our nation has been destroyed by an incompetent and inexperienced leadership. Businesses have closed with low investment confidence towards PNG, thousands of jobs lost, cost of living rising daily on fuel, food, and services, TFF cancelled and our children not attending schools, hospitals run down and without medicine and equipment, our community not safe due to poor commitment to law and order, and economy in decline with government expenditure out of control, and corruption now at pandemic levels.

Our opponents in government to drastically increase government borrowings to unprecedented levels to fund corrupt bogus projects; sneak dangerous, last-minute legislation into Parliament, threatening to undermine our democracy; and mismanaging our economy, which is hurting you and your family.

We understand there are many who are calling for PNC to return to lead Government. We hear this constantly in our visits around the nation. We have the right people with an experienced and intelligent team of Members and Candidates. More importantly, we have the right mindset to remain humble and work hard. We have used the last three years to reflect and prepare the policy agenda that will rescue our economy and our country.

We need to build an economy that creates opportunity for our people in jobs and business/SME. We are a great resources country with world class assets, but we need to restore confidence in this industry again. PNC will stop overspending on non-priority expenditure and restore a balanced budget by 2027. We will stop uneconomical borrowings and reduce debt to GDP from 60% back to 35% of GDP. We will set zero personal income tax for Income up to K30,000 per year and reduce corporate tax from 30% to 25% for non-mining and petroleum companies to boost investment and jobs.

Our top priority is to create at least 500,000 jobs over next 5 years. We want our people to have a reliable job that will give them enough income to look after their families; we want them to have fair pay for fair work with better training and working conditions. We will fight for every job for our people.

PNC will deliver a genuine economic benefit to our people especially around our rural and remote communities. We want a fair share of the nation's prosperity to our people through the creation of a SME & Farmers Bank with annual funding of K500m. The bank will offer retail services and must be operational by 1st January 2023 with branches in every district within 5 years. This Bank must provide business skills training and management support to SMEs. PNC sees education as a basic human right. It is a ticket out of poverty and lifetime of struggle. It gives endless opportunities to our young people. We will provide free school fees for each student directly to the school; we will build more classrooms and teachers houses; we will fight for skill-based training with more vocational and TVET centers; we will stop student loans that are dragging our young to a loan trap and introduce National Scholarship again; we will ensure all education facilities have access to the internet; we will build more Universities including a medical University and we will legislate Free Education in the constitution so no government can ever change it again.





We know that our peoples' health care continues to present the biggest challenge. Our people deserve better, and we need to reduce the gaps that remain. PNC will continue to invest in health infrastructure in aid posts, health centers and hospitals; fight for the training and the welfare of all health workers. We will review the medical supply system and set up regional supply warehouses at referral hospitals to improve the availability of medicines and equipment. Our remote and rural communities equally deserve better health care and to assist, we will set up a Flying Doctor Service aligned to a eMedical service to be located at Five regional centers linked to referral hospitals.

We see the revival of the absolute independence of the third arm of government, Judiciary and the law enforcement agencies as a way forward in securing PNG as a nation of law-abiding citizens. We will make our communities safe again where our children grow up and our people live peacefully. PNC will rebuild trust between our people and law enforcement agencies by appointing heads of this agencies in most transparent and independent process; we will improve the welfare including insurance and pension and discipline of the personnel. We will separate the courts as Supreme, Appeals, National, District and Village Courts, and the appointments in the Judiciary will be transparent and public. PNC has created ICAC and we will ensure it is operational with strict transparency and independence of all governments and fully funded.

PNC will double its efforts to link our country through high quality infrastructure which started in 2011. We will upgrade and maintain roads and bridges, airports and airstrips, wharves and jetties, schools, colleges and universities and hospital facilities. PNC will work to ensure every district and province benefits from this massive infrastructure program which will improve service delivery and grow the economy. Our country will have access to cheaper, reliable and affordable power, water, sanitation and telecommunication through upgrade and building of infrastructure required by the people. As we approach 50 years of our independence, PNC will restructure the public service and political structures that will work to deliver to the expectation of our people. We will ensure transparent and effective structures learning from the many experiences of the past 50 years. We are committed to an autonomous provincial government system together with a functioning and fully funded local level governments and council wards.

We still need to achieve genuine equality for our women population in the country. PNC will commit to legislative changes to ensure full participation of women at all levels of our society including politics. As a country, we can not move forward without acknowledging the past. We have come a long way as a Nation and we will work with our people to build a Nation that provides a better life for everyone.

Our people and our Country are calling for PNC to stand up and fight for them.

This Convention has brought together Leaders from all walks of life to develop a policy platform that will deliver to the cry of our people. Together we will provide a mature, experienced and competent leadership our country so truly deserves. Together we will fight for our people and our country.

God Bless you and God bless our great country Papua New Guinea.





# PEOPLE'S NATIONAL CONGRESS PARTY

## KEY POLICIES 2022



Peoples National Congr





# 1.0 Introduction

In April 2022, delegates to the People's National Congress Convention gathered to debate, contribute to and adopt the PNC Policy Platform. PNC Leadership are convinced PNG wants a different approach to politics and Government and a serious policy platform from PNC, a Party who has proven they can deliver. Over two days delegates from across our country joined in the formation of PNC policies. We worked hard to prepare a set of policies that will propel us forward as a nation.

This Booklet has a summary of each of the key policies so that when you cast your vote, you can do so fully informed of what your vote will help to deliver for you, your community, and your country. PNC believe that the true wealth of any nation is in the strength of its people. Maximising the overall, health, education, and quality of life of our people is central to building a fair and progressive nation.



## 2.0 People's National Congress Party Pledge

Papua New Guinea is richly endowed with natural resources more than ample to provide for our ten million citizens. Our geographic sweet spot makes us ideally positioned to be the gateway to Asia, Australia and the Pacific. Around 25% of our 10 million population are young people, bursting with enthusiasm to take on skills and join the workforce. Our Plan for PNG aims to build on these competitive strengths to drive future growth and employment.

The economy of PNG needs to undertake a substantial adjustment to leverage our country's advantages to grow and diversify our economic base. A significant repair is also needed to rectify the damage done from 2019 – 2021 which has overly indebted PNG and created budget deficits that will take serious changes to overcome.

Over the last three years the PNG economy has been on the decline and now lags many countries in the Asia Pacific region. Prices of our key exports such as Gold, Copper, Gas have been at record highs, but we have failed to capitalise and thus our GDP growth has stalled. In addition, the Marape Government has overly burdened the finances of our country by increasing expenditure, leading to the need to finance widening deficit levels. To make matters worse, expenditure has largely focused on politically motivated, non-priority projects – a clear abuse through corruption.

Our economy is exposed to unsustainable high levels of debt reaching and expected to peak at 60% Debt to GDP this year. Drastic and painful decisions will need to be made to correct the fast-declining economic conditions in our country.

PNC proposes to:

- Make our Nation's prosperity a priority and lessen individual wealth creation
- Create 500,000 jobs over five years
- Reduce Government debt back to 35% of GDP by 2030 by maintaining a strict annual reduction of 3.50% per annum and growing the economy
- Set limits in the constitution so that no Government in future can burden our people with unsustainable debt levels
- Drastically reduce expenditure on non-priority areas and bring the Budget back to manageable spending levels with the aim of reaching a balanced budget by 2027.
- Raise around K3 Billion in additional revenue by streamlining all revenue earnings agencies back to Consolidated Revenue to cut back wastage and have these supervised by normal Budget processes
- Reduce both personal and corporate taxes and incentives:
  - No tax for workers earning K30,000 or less per annum
  - Reduce Corporate Tax rate to 25%
- Provide tax incentive to Agriculture, Tourism, SME and Manufacturing to boost employment and industrialisation
- Introduce new tax incentives to boost investments in regional and rural areas
- Fast track mega resource and industrial projects to create jobs and kick-start the economy
- Relocate key departments and agencies such as Agriculture and Livestock; Commerce, Trade and Industry National Fisheries Authority to Regional Head Quarters to better serve the public

## 3.0 Job Creation

PNC at its very core, believes that the way forward for our country is to create opportunities for every family to be financially self-reliant. Papua New Guineans are proud people and while the cargo cult type mentality and handouts have become far too common, PNC firmly believe that creating jobs is the single biggest driver we should pursue to unlock our potential.

500,000 jobs in five years is an ambitious undertaking considering there are only less than 300,000 jobs today but, 500,000 must also only be our starting point as to be financially self-sufficient we must develop around two million jobs. Jobs not only provide financial freedom for our people they unlock the economic potential of our whole country by spreading the payment of taxes across a much wider group of people.

Our Party intends to take a multi-tooled approach to building jobs:

### 3.1 Stimulate investor confidence to encourage employers to create jobs

- This would include returning Porgera Mine to operations, getting Wafi-Golpu moving along with Papua LNG and other major resource projects
- Restart exploration in the resources sector by stabilising the rules associated with the resources sector. We all want a better deal and PNC's policy is to achieve 51% revenue flows to the people of PNG on every project, but we must not change our minds all the time and stop and start mines. This simply kills off investment and jobs in the resources sector.
- Creating Economic Hubs to encourage new private sector investment in tourism (Kokopo Tourism Zone); Madang Fisheries Zone; Highlands Agriculture and two Industrial Zones in Lae and Port Moresby. These zones will have attractive incentives for new businesses to invest in PNG and existing businesses to expand
- Reduce the corporate tax rate from 30% to 25%. This stimulus in other countries has resulted in massive employment growth and while we expect a modest increase here, it will still result in upwards of 50,000 jobs being created in the first year and each year thereafter

### 3.2 Undertake large-scale public-sector investment in infrastructure and construction.

- PNC has committed to spending K1billion per annum on the Health and Education Infrastructure alone. This is expected to yield around 50,000 jobs each year over the next five years.
- The PNC Housing for All initiative will be providing up to K1 billion per annum to building 5,000 home each year. This will create around 50,000 construction and related jobs per year
- The K5.6 billion PNG Electrification Partnership signed at APEC in 2018 will be re-ignited to connect 70% of our people to power, water, and sanitation. Electricity construction projects in water and power are expected to generate around 30,000 jobs per annum.
- K600m public investment to create five large investment hubs around the country will require around 5,000 workers per annum to support the public sector investment

### 3.3 Preserving jobs for Papua New Guineans

- While there is still help required by expatriates, a lot of jobs currently held need to be urgently transferred to locals. Departments of Labour and Immigration need to undertake a large-scale audit of major employers and return those that are filling jobs that Papua New Guineans can do. This is expected to be return around 20,000 jobs in year one the local labour force.
- There are large scale employment opportunities in Australia and New Zealand that will take up to 10,000 Papua New Guineans per annum to earn good incomes and learn new skills and ways of working in these highly developed nations.



### 3.4 National Youth Service Program for Young People

- Around 50% of our ten million population, are under the age of 25 years
- A Two-Year National Youth Service Program will employ up to 100,000 young people per annum by 2030 to undertake community service, infrastructure maintenance, gain skills and lead active lives.

### 3.5 Increasing the skill level of employment aged members of society

- Increasing the standards of all education levels will have the greatest long-term impact on the ability of our people to secure a job
- Enshrining into law the rights of all children to access free, quality primary and higher school education is fundamental to creating school leavers that can obtain jobs
- Improving the quality of education and educational outcomes will have a profound impact on our people being able to secure employment
- Upgrading the skill levels of people in jobs through apprenticeship and training incentive programs will also have a material impact on the wages available to our people.



# 4.0 Economy

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The economy of PNG needs to undertake a substantial adjustment to leverage our country's advantages to grow and diversify our economic base. A significant repair is also needed to rectify the damage done from 2019 to 2021 which has overly indebted PNG and created budget deficits that will take serious changes to overcome.

Over the last three years the PNG economy has been on the decline and now lags many countries in the Asia Pacific region. Prices of our key exports such as Gold, Copper, Gas have been at record highs, but we have failed to capitalise and thus our GDP growth has stalled. In addition, the Marape Government has overly burdened the finances of our country by increasing expenditure leading to the need to finance widening deficit levels. To make matters worse, expenditure has largely focused on politically motivated, non-priority projects - a clear abuse through corruption. Our economy is exposed to unsustainable high levels of debt reaching and expected to peak at 60% Debt to GDP this year. Drastic and painful decisions will need to be made to correct the fast-declining economic conditions in our country.

PNC proposes to:

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- Create 500,000 jobs over five years to increase personal and national incomes
- Reduce Government debt to 35% of GDP by 2030 by maintaining a strict annual reduction of 3.50% per annum
- Set limits in the constitution so that no Government in future can burden our people with unsustainable debt levels
- Drastically reduce expenditure on non-priority areas and bring the Budget back to manageable deficit levels with the aim of reaching a balanced budget by 2027.
- Raise around K3 Billion in additional revenue by streamlining all revenue earnings agencies back to Consolidated Revenue to cut back wastage and have these supervised by normal Budget processes
- Reduce both corporate taxes from 30% to 25% and provide incentives for business to invest and employ Papua New Guineans
- No tax for workers earning K30,000 or less per annum
- Reduce Corporate Tax rate to 25% to stimulate jobs growth and investment
- Provide tax incentives to Agriculture, Tourism, SME and Manufacturing to boost employment and industrialisation
- Introduce new tax incentives to boost investments in regional and rural areas
- Fast track the following projects to create jobs and kick-start the economy
- Morobe Industrial enclave with cheaper rates of power & other taxes for manufacturers
- Kokopo Tourism Hub Masterplan inclusive of International Airport; tax free zone and other incentives for high quality resorts and hospitality offerings
- Mt Hagen Agriculture Hub as a centre for Highland's agriculture
- Madang & Wewak Fisheries Hubs to drive concentrated investments in onshore processing of fish and seafoods
- Oil, Gas and Power Hub to attract downstream industrial investment to soak up the oversupply of power generation in Port Moresby including the acceleration of Edevu Hydropower. Renegotiate Power Purchase Agreements with Dirio and NiuPower Power Stations.
- Buy-back all rundown plantations and appoint experienced corporations to manage all aspects of the farms in partnership with Government and Provinces
- Block Holder Agricultural Estates
- Restart Porgera and put around K800 million back into the economy each year along with 2,500 direct jobs and millions more in revenue to SMEs
- Accelerate Wafi-Golpu; Papua and P'Ynang LNG Projects
- Introduce a temporary special measure to subsidise the higher costs of fuel to alleviate pressures on families and corporations



## 4.1 Our Land and Resources

PNC believes that a prosperous PNG must include, the resources sector being managed in an equitable and consistent way, so that Landowners; Impacted Communities; the Country and Resource Developers cooperate for mutual benefit. At our core PNC believes in benefit sharing; a recognition of the natural rights of affected communities over resources in their traditional homelands where communities have a right to benefit first – culturally, economically, and politically. These rights can be seen from the prism of both immediate as well as long term benefits. Sharing of benefits accruing from the exploitation of the resource wealth of a region with the affected communities, not only improves their social and economic status, but also helps in the development of local infrastructure, mobility, health facilities etc around resource development areas and reduces long-term conflicts.

Benefit sharing is particularly relevant to the mining, oil and gas sectors as these resources are depleted over time and may not be available to future generations. PNC advocates for development of our finite resources in a strategic way and therefore, partnering with world-class, responsible, and proven developers is the only path to ensure successful, mutually beneficial projects become reality. PNC believes in the economic and social impact well planned and executed resource projects can have but highlights the need to put communities; the environment and general financial and social returns to PNG are at the very heart of all project decisions. PNC acknowledges the desire for financial equity in projects and recognises the is to be balanced with achieving low-risk, consistent financial returns over the life of the project to all stakeholders.

In principle, PNC proposes a minimum financial benefit of 50% of all cash flows from projects in production. PNC strongly supports the quest to reduce Green House Gas emissions and to stop global warming and therefore, any development must comply with global best practice standards. PNC encourages the resources sector in developing projects that catalyse increased access to low cost, reliable and renewable and clean power for all Papua New Guineans.

## 4.2 The Environment

PNG is not a major emitter of greenhouse gases owing to our low rate of access to power and minimal industrial activity. However, as we accelerate development, we take our responsibility to remain a low emitter seriously and our special role in the Pacific neighbourhood. PNC encourages a move to clean and green transport and power sectors as soon as practical. Generating power from our abundant renewable geothermal, wind, solar and water should be accelerated with a view to lowering costs of electricity and increasing reliability. PNC does not support the development of coal fired power projects and believes renewables and clean energy sources provide cheaper solutions.

PNC aims to introduce electric vehicle charging stations and encourage less fossil fuel use through import duty relief on electric vehicles. The transition from fossil fuels to renewables for the transport sector will take time but we believe in starting on this journey for the sake of our economic self-reliance and our children. Wherever possible, PNG should take advantage of the expertise and capital made available through multilateral institutions to overcome environmental challenges and transition faster.





## 5.0 The Private Sector; MSME's; Farmers; Forestry & Fishing

PNC believes a strong, resilient, and progressive Business and Agriculture sector is critical to the overall well-being of Papua New Guinea. Diversification of our economy, leveraging the natural advantages of location; productive soils and plentiful oceans need greater and sustained investment to realise their potential. It has been frustrating to be a nation of farmers and fishers and yet we have failed to capitalise on these God-given assets.

PNC acknowledges the complexities our small land holders and barriers such as a lack of infrastructure, capital and access to markets is having. There is no simple solution, but we believe that unleashing the desire of our people will yield substantial results. Languishing agricultural plantations will be made productive with open tenders conducted to facilitate private sector companies taking over the management and running of all state-owned plantations. Ten million funding each year for agriculture to be directed to each District to increase production and food security. This can be utilised to stamp out diseases, improve seed selection, achieve organic certification or other trade related enhancements; training; marketing support etc.

PNC also recognises the need to support both large, new investors who can create large numbers of jobs and export earning opportunities. PNC at our core believe that the right business enabling environment, supportive infrastructure and safe communities is conducive to businesses, large and small, doing well in PNG. PNC will restructure the National Development Bank into a retail State Bank focused on SMEs, Farmers, Fisheries and Forestry to provide capital and other products to support small businesses.

The corporate tax rate will be cut to encourage business investment and compliance. PNC will work with business to implement measurable increases in public and private sector procurement from local businesses and strengthen transparency of procurement systems in the public sector to create a level playing field. Ramp up the “Made in PNG” campaign and facilitate clearer labelling and promotion of local products. PNC will outlaw and Police and convict to ensure the local making of traditional handicrafts and alike to ensure all such goods are made by Papua New Guineans to preserve our heritage and customs.

PNC will encourage localisation of jobs and supply chains to improve the nation's self-reliance by reviewing funding for industrial developments, tax incentives, licensing, tariffs and other support measures so that the conditionalities for localisation is present. Leverage our membership in APEC to increase trade opportunities for local businesses. Our Party believes in a future where we make and produce more goods right here in PNG reversing the trend to be import dependant. We believe that catalytic resource projects can provide strong opportunities for our SME's to participate in the supply chain.



## 6.0 Quality, Free Education

Education and skills training are what they most parents want for their children and with over 50% of our population under the age of 25, we have 5 million young people who need education, training, and jobs. Providing opportunities to youth will lead to jobs and drive our country's social and economic development. PNC are determined to bring quality education to the doorstep of all children because it is the right and smart thing to do. Every child deserves a fair chance to do well in life.

The PNC Government is the only Government since Independence to provide free education from 2012 to 2019, educating over 2 million children. Prior to Tuition Fee Free Education, only 800,000 children attended school. Many of those who previously missed out were girl children. The Marape Government cancelled free education in late 2019. PNC will enshrine in our constitution the right of every child to access quality, free education so that no future Government can take this right away. Around a third of our school aged children do not attend school. And those that do, are not receiving an education of a high enough standard to equip our young people for the modern, competitive world. We need to lift both access and quality.

Our vision is that all children attend school and receive a quality education that gives them the knowledge and skills to lead healthy, productive lives and to actively contribute to our nation's development. We need to remove barriers to access to education and to improve the quality of education so that recognised and measurable learning outcomes are achieved. This will take substantial resources but we believe this increased investment in education will ensure we have the infrastructure and teaching workforce we need to give all young people. The challenge to increase access and quality are significant as there are around 3 million young people under the age of 25 in our country. Partnerships with development partners, including Churches, will be critical to achieving our goal of universal, free access to high quality education.

### Key initiatives

#### *Increase Access to Education*

- All children attending Elementary to Grade 12 will be free of school fees
- Every Ward will have an Elementary School; every LLG will have a High School; every District will have a Secondary School; every Province to have one School of Excellence for Grades 11 and 12 for students with consistently high performance and children with exceptional talents
- Every Province to have a Teachers' College with high standards of entry and consistently high qualification for graduates
- Build more classrooms and teacher housing to cater for increased student and teacher numbers with an aim of achieving a student to teacher ratio of 30:1 by 2030

#### *Create Pathways to Employment*

- Build two new universities – Lutheran University and Western Pacific University
- New Wabag Hospital to be converted to Medical University Teaching Hospital
- Two Year compulsory National Youth Service Program to cater for all students who complete Year 12 and are unable to secure employment or placement in Vocational or Higher Education Institutions
- Every Province to have a Technical Training College
- Every Province to have a dedicated Employment Service & Careers Counsellors with outreach programs to Universities and Schools to support job hunters
- Recurrent education is for people who are above normal school age and did not have the opportunities for education at the right age. A National Free `Adult Literacy courses in every Province will assist those who are over the age of 20 to attain basic numeracy and literacy.



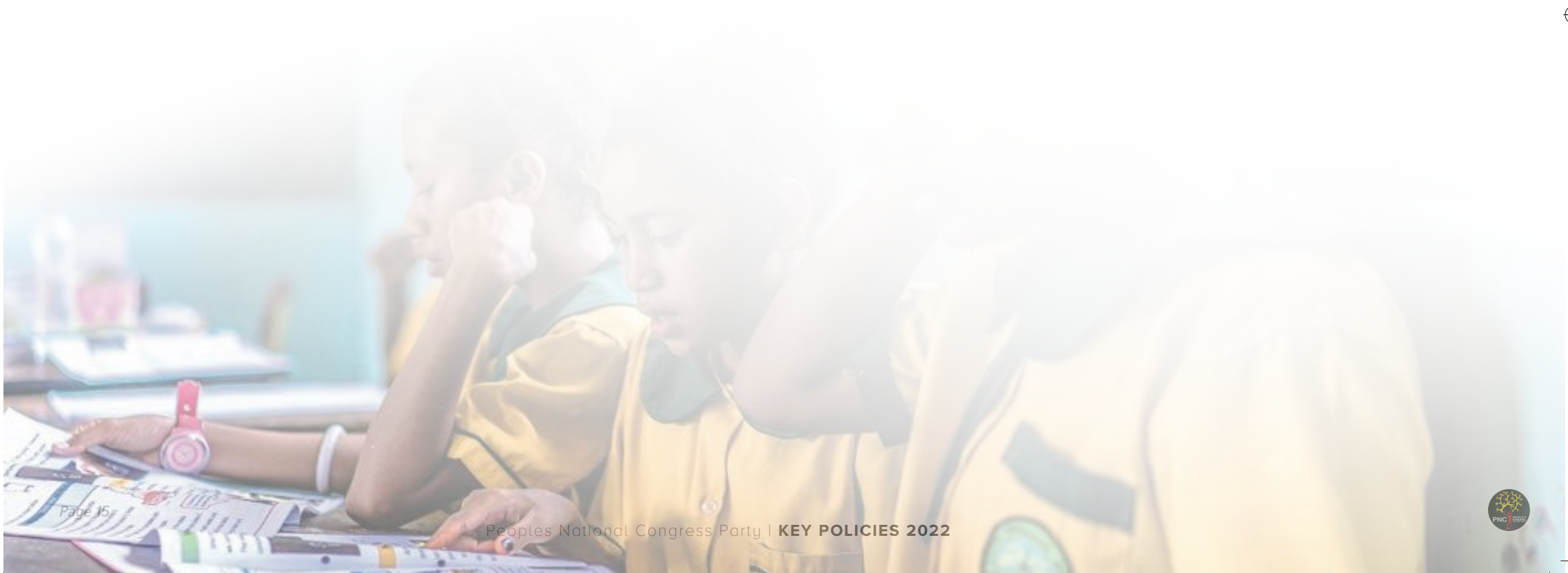


### *Improve Quality of Education*

- All schools will have funding to provide appropriate infrastructure to cater for increased numbers of students with an aim of 6% of GDP by 2030 (global benchmark)
- Ensure immediate and comprehensive introduction of the new curriculum Standard Based Education
- Compulsory teacher in-service training for every educationalist after two years of teaching
- Introduction of a Volunteer teaching program with British, Australian, New Zealand and American to be reintroduced to mentor teachers
- Where practical, utilise modern, online teaching resources to bridge the gap of what is available in country
- Every Province to have an Education Bulk Store for school supplies and give Regional School Supply Warehouses
- Provide electricity, running water, flushing toilets and internet connectivity for all education facilities
- Build more classrooms and teacher housing to cater for increased student and teacher numbers
- Bi-Annual National School Survey to gather accurate data on school attendance, learning outcomes, infrastructure standards to allow timely decision making.

### *PNG Education Fund*

To emphasise the importance of human resource development in our country, PNC will establish a multi-year Human Capital Development Fund to address health and education challenges with a multi-year funding approach. The Fund will ensure a coordinated, whole of Government, Donors and Church approach to education.





## 7.0 Quality, Free Health Care

PNC believes that the key to moving forward is shared prosperity where all Papua New Guineans have a fair chance. PNC reject that health outcomes and life expectancy should be determined by what money you have. We will lift the standard of health care make sure that basic, high quality health care is free.

Quality health care for all citizens is still lacking. The PNC led Government from 2011 to 2019, introduced free, basic health care but much more needs to be done to improve quality of care. Shortages of medical supplies and equipment; poorly maintained health facilities; new health centres and hospitals are all required. We have a large team of caring individuals in the health system, but we need more trained health professionals and more training for existing health care workers. Like our teachers, we also need to provide better working conditions for our nurses, doctors, and allied health professionals.

The construction of hospitals at Districts and Referral Hospitals in Lae, Wewak, Enga, Pomio, Ambunti, Kopiago, Maprik and other centres plus K5m per annum in health infrastructure funding for each District will be continued under PNC. The new hospitals built under our last term of Government and major refurbishments are serving communities well. But we need to do much more. Everyone in Papua New Guinea should have the peace of mind and confidence that come from good quality health care. PNC will deliver genuine uplift in access to and quality of health care with an investment in infrastructure, health staff, equipment, and certainty of medicines. We will make sure that the National Department of Health is there for us and there for us on the basis of need not our ability to pay.





## Key Commitments:

Between 2023 and 2027, we will raise the funding and disbursements to Health Care by 30% removing the financial constraints experienced in the past.

Convert the new Wabag Hospital to a Medical University Hospital to cater for increasing demand for health professionals. The facility will be run in coordination with the Medical Faculty of Taurama to increase the number and quality of graduates to at least 500 doctors and specialists per annum

Every Ward will have an equipped, Aid Post with a Nurse in attendance

Every LLG will have an equipped Health Centre staffed with at least one Doctor and Nurse

Every District will have a Hospital with Doctors and Nurses

Every Province will have a Provincial level Hospital with 10 Doctors and nurses

Referral Hospitals in POM; Lae; GKA; HGN; Madang; Kokopo; Wewak & Mendi with Doctors, Nurses, and Specialists

Progressively provide dedicated Women's and Children's Hospitals where Referral Hospitals are located to better serve the critical needs of pregnancy and childhood where medical care is frequently needed.

Eight Nursing Colleges across the Regions

Five Regional Medical Supply Stores where Referral Hospitals are so they can cater to all Health facilities quickly

Review the working conditions of all health workers including Health Insurance to provide cover like that of nurses

Upgrade and equip all Health Centres and Hospitals

Progressively put in place maintenance contracts with minimum service levels attached to payment to ensure all health facilities are kept to a good operating standard and do not fall into disrepair

Implement a comprehensive Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) package into primary healthcare to prevent and treat the rising killers of heart disease, diabetes, cancer, and chronic respiratory diseases. The aim to decrease the number of people dying prematurely from NCDs and to rehabilitate those suffering from NCD related amputations and strokes

Establish, in partnership with St. Johns Ambulance, a global standard, not-for-profit, a national ambulance service fully integrated with NDoH facilities. Build on the fledgling aerial ambulance service to create a Flying Doctor service to support chronic and acute health issues in rural communities. PNC will pass the Disability Act and ensure it is enacted We will develop "home away from homes" close to major referral hospitals for families of very sick children to reduce the burden on families

Digitise all Hospitals to allow for efficient patient information management and telehealth facilities to provide specialised consultations from international and in-country Doctors to patients in regional and rural areas.

Legislate food labelling laws and other restrictions to limit unhealthy consumption of high sugar and high fat products to reduce obesity and obesity related disorders. Promote healthy lifestyles, exercise, and diet to prevent rising health issues unnecessarily burdening the health system.





## 8.0 Safer Communities and a Secure Papua New Guinea

How we live, work, pray and play together as a Nation is impacted far too often by violent crime. Our image internationally, the cost of doing business, the cost to everyday lives of moving about in unsafe places – is holding our country back in an insidious way. It is not our way as a people to live like this with the constant background noise of violence and unsafe communities. Our children are growing up with no other reference to how to live life and perpetuate crimes and a way of life that is not what we aspire to.

PNC acknowledge the difficulty of reversing this current situation as no one solution will magically remove the elements of violent crime and unsafe situations that hamper our day to day lives. Whether it is paper crimes such as corruption; theft and robbery; violent crimes such as rape, assault, and murder; gender-based violence; sanguma related crimes or abuse of any person or property – PNC condemns this and commits to a multi-faceted approach to creating a safer community for all.

### **PNC will, rebuild the trust of our people and communities by:**

- Establishing an independent appointment process for Heads of all Disciplinary Forces, including a public hearing on appointment before a bi-partisan Committee
- Increase in-depth training of all Disciplinary Forces personnel with the highest level of accountability
- Zero tolerance of Undisciplined behaviour
- Establish an incentivised pension scheme for retired personnel linked to disciplined behaviour
- Improve working conditions including employment and remuneration terms and conditions
- Increase access to working, modern, effective tools and equipment for all disciplined forces

### **Ensure the independence of the Judiciary is absolute by:**

- Separate the Courts (Supreme, Appeals, National, District, Village)
- Appointment of National, Appeals and Supreme Court Judges to be done via independent process inclusive of Public Hearings
- All Magistrates including Village Court Magistrates must undergo in-depth refresher training to ensure complete understanding of changes to the Law
- Zero tolerance of corrupt practices

### **Revitalise ICAC by ensuring its operations are always fully funded and without delay and obstruction:**

- Provide on Day One of the new Government K50 million in funding
- Appoint independent Commissioner immediately through a public hearing process
- Set very strict ethical conduct guidelines for staff and investigators





# 9.0 Infrastructure

The infrastructure required to support a population of ten million in a growing economy with a challenging terrain and weather environment, requires a doubling down of effort from PNC – the Party who know how to get the job done. The infrastructure building program started by PNC from 2011 to 2019 must be recommenced with vigour. The impact of the program has and continues to be experienced far and wide with quality schools, sporting facilities, hospitals, roads, air, and seaports now serving communities well.

PNC will continue to expand on these programs and address the value for money issues that is of high interest to our public. All construction work must strictly conform to best practice international standards. All infrastructure built must go through an exhaustive, competitive procurement process which currently lacks under the National Procurement Commission. In fact, abuse of the tender process is now at its worst and decisive actions is needed to rid the procurement of national projects from corruption which is too often leading to poor quality outcomes for our people.

## 9.1 Sea Ports, Airports, Roads and Bridges

A PNC Government will continue road connectivity in the country and priority will be to carry out a comprehensive and ongoing maintenance program on all existing roads in every District, towns, and cities.

The upgrade of major highways will continue, namely:

MOMASE REGION	SOUTHERN REGION	NGI REGION	HIGHLANDS REGION
9 Mile to Nadzab	Hiritano Highway	Lorengau to Western	Kiburu to Ambua Highway
9 Mile to Bulolo	Magi Highway	Kandrian to Kimbe	Koroba to Kopiago
Lae-Finschhafen Tewaii	Port Moresby to Alotau	Kokopo to Rabaul	Kagua to Erave
Bulolo to Menyama	Popondetta to Kokoka	New Britain Highway	
Ramu to Madang	Kerema to Kaintiba	Kokopau to Arawa	
Madang to Bogia	Kikori Township Road	Kieta to Arawa	
Rai Coast to Madang	Daru Township Road		
Ramu to Madang			
Sepik Highway			





PNC will upgrade all highways to international standards, transfer maintenance funds for District Roads and Provincial Roads to Provinces. In terms of Port development, every coastal community will have a Port to cater for large cargo and passenger vessels through the ADB program and the Australian Infrastructure Finance Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) and other bi-lateral and multilateral facilities.

Rebuild as soon as practical two international level ports at Wewak and Rabaul. In terms of coastal shipping, a government vessel buying scheme will be established and managed by the private sector with a view of reduced costs and reliable services. The vessels must be multifunctional to carry both passengers and cargo. The Airport Redevelopment Program under ADB loan CADIP will be continued for all major towns and extended to rural airstrips around our country. PNC will fast track Kokopo International Airport for tourism and transfer Link PNG Air to Kokopo and link Kimbe, Buka, Arawa, Manus, Kavieng with Madang, Lae and Port Moresby.

An upgrade of Kup airport to be undertaken to facilitate the movement of agricultural products like Wellcamp Airport near Toowoomba, Queensland. Wapendamanda and other similar airports would benefit from the same opportunity to focus on the fast movement of high value agricultural commodities.

## 9.2 Electricity, Water and Sanitation

Poor access to electricity coupled with unreliable provision of power and high prices is crippling PNG. Reliability, affordability, and access to electricity will be improved under a PNC led Government. PNC will:

- Power up PNG by fast tracking the rollout of the APEC initiated PNG Electrification Partnership to achieve 70% connectivity by 2030
- Connect the Ramu and POM Grids to improve power quality
- Fix PNG Power with Privatised Management but retain majority Government ownership
- Convert high-cost fossil fuel generation to low cost renewable and clean energy
- Tap into the High Voltage underseas cables connecting Australia to Asia so that PNG may be an exporter of clean energy
- Match high job creating industries to low cost, reliable power
- Leverage the mining and oil and gas industry developments to catalyse low cost, reliable power for all





# 10.0 Political and Public Service Structural Reform

## 10.1 Political Reform

As we approach the 50th year of our Independence as a Nation, there is an urgent need for a comprehensive review of our political structure and public service delivery process. Papua New Guinea has had very mixed results on its development agenda given the weaknesses in the current system of Government, where there has been political instability, making Governments weaker because of a myriad of political compromises to form Government and continue to govern.

There is solid evidence of frequent changes in Government decreasing accountability to the people to now unsustainable levels with corruption rampant in both political and public service. Peoples' mandate given at elections is frequently ignored and persons, political groups without policy or vision for the country can gain Government corruptly. The role of elected leader is now misconstrued as being a wealth making opportunity and service provider rather than legislator and representative.

Our country is crying out for a change to the methodology of Government to create a more effective system. PNC will frame questions to the Nation through a Referendum to determine whether the current system is preferred or a Presidential or a hybrid style of Government is their wish. In the meantime, PNC will introduce legislation that in the event there is a successful motion of no confidence against a sitting Prime Minister, then the Party with the biggest number of elected officials should be invited to form Government as per the mandate given at the National General elections.

Once a member is elected as a member of a Party, should they elect to resign from the Party, they will remain an Independent MP for the duration of their remaining term of office. An Independent MP joining a Party after National General election, will remain member of that Party for the duration of his/her term. All Independent MPs who remain Independent after formation of Government, will remain Independent for the duration of the remainder of the term.

## 10.2 Public Service Reform

All key positions will be appointed through a public hearing process – these will include Judges, CEO's, Department Heads etc

Every Government employee must sign a three-year contract with a maximum termination clause of only three months' pay in lieu of Notice. Every promoted person must meet minimum qualification and training requirements, validated by independent process with the same process addressing complaints. PNC believes in disaggregating major specialist departments such as Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry to relocate to regional centres to ease the burden on Port Moresby and create valuable career paths in regional areas.







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