

## Annex 2: May 2023 Committee public hearings schedule

### Parliamentary Committee on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (GEWE)

24 - 26 May 2023

State Function Room, Parliament House, Port Moresby

#### Schedule of Hearings

The Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (GEWE) has been mandated by the 11<sup>th</sup> Parliament to review current approaches to addressing GEWE, gender-based violence (GBV) and sorcery accusation related violence (SARV) across the country and to produce recommendations for improvement, for the consideration of Parliament, Ministers and the National Executive Council.

To implement its mandate, the Committee will be holding public hearings in May 2023, which aim to:

- (1) Review the institutional and policy approaches that the Government currently has in place to address GEWE, GBV and SARV – including examining the current deficiencies with the Office for the Development of Women and the need to update the expired National GEWE Policy;
- (2) Build on the work of the Special Parliamentary Committee on GBV which operated during the 10<sup>th</sup> Parliament to assess the current state of effectiveness of national and sub-national responses to addressing GBV and SARV, with a particular focus on prevention, crisis response and recovery services, and access to justice for survivors.

The hearings will be livestreamed and interested members of the public may attend in person, upon notification of the Secretariat at [ParliamentGBVCommittee@gmail.com](mailto:ParliamentGBVCommittee@gmail.com).

Day 1: Wednesday 24 May 2023		
Time	Participants	Issues
Setting the scene – perspectives on the challenges facing PNG in addressing GEWE, GBV & SARV		
10.30am	Official opening of Committee hearing by Chairman, Hon. Powes Parkop	
10.45am	Issues relating to the policies, frameworks and institutions needed in PNG to address GEWE - Ms Fiona Hukula, Gender Advisor, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Zoom)	What does the data and research say about key PNG national priorities? What can PNG learn from the region?
11.15am	Perspectives on issues relating to GBV - Lily Be Soer, Voice for Change - Denga Illave, Femili PNG - Ruth Kissam, Tribal Foundation - Father Gibbs, Divine Word University	GBV and SARV – challenges and priority needs
12.30pm	Perspectives from private sector on addressing GBV - Representative, Bel Isi - Representative, Men of Honour, Digicel Foundation	Private sector programmes to address GBV – successes and lessons learned

1.00pm	<p>Perspectives on women's leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Julie Bukikun, Team Leader Women in Politics, Secretariat for the Pacific Community (Zoom)</li> <li>- Dr Orovu Sepoe, former IPPCC Board Member</li> </ul>	Challenges of being elected to National Parliament
<b>1.45pm – 230pm LUNCH BREAK</b>		
<b>Reviewing key national GEWE institutions and policies</b>		
2.30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hon Jason Peter, Minister for Community Development and Religion</li> <li>- Mr. Jerry Ubase, Acting Secretary, Ministry of Community Development and Religion</li> </ul>	Status of Office for Development of Women; CEDAW reporting; status of National GEWE Policy; Coordination issues; Resource issues; Issues with the National Council for Women;
4.00pm	Closing statements from Committee members	

<b>Day 2: Thursday, 25 May 2023</b>		
9am	<b>Arrival, registration and morning tea</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Participant</b>	<b>Issues</b>
<b>Reviewing national agencies with a mandate to address gender-based violence and sorcery accusation related violence</b>		
10.00am	Opening Statements by Chairman & Committee members	
10:15am	Hon Ian Ling Stuckey, Treasurer	Government's commitment to GEWE and GBV; funding to address GEWE and GBV; need for high level Ministerial commitment
11.15am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Jerry Ubase, Secretary, Ministry of Community Development and Religion</li> <li>- Ms Maryline Kajoi, Interim Director, National GBV Secretariat</li> </ul>	Status of implementation of National GBV Strategy; establishing National GBV Secretariat; use of 2022 and 2023 GBV budgets; status of crisis response services – safe houses, counselling, etc; small grants to support NGOs
<b>1.00pm – 2.00pm LUNCH BREAK</b>		
2.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Edward Wiramin, Director, NDOH Family Health Services</li> <li>- Ms Cathleen Alua, Gender Equality Advisor</li> </ul>	Health service for GBV survivors: role of Family Support Centres; role of other health services, training for health workers
3.00pm	<p>Access to justice panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Josephine Pitmur, Deputy Secretary, Department for Justice and the Attorney-General</li> <li>- Mr Steven Francis, Chief of Staff, Police Commissioner, RPNGC</li> </ul>	Investigation of GBV cases, Coordination with other sectors (incl DJAG, health, CSOs) Training for police officers

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Superintendent Delilah Sandeka, Director, Family and Sexual Violence</li> <li>- Mr Pondros Kalawin, Director, Office of Public Prosecutions (OPP)</li> <li>- Ms Mercy Tamate, Head, Family and Sexual Offences Unit, OPP</li> </ul>	<p>SARV National Action Plan; law reform re GBV and SARV</p> <p>Capacity development to ensure VCs properly process Interim Protection Orders</p> <p>Prosecution of GBV cases</p>
4.00pm	Closing statements from Committee members	

<b>Day 3: Friday 26 May 2023</b>		
<b>Reviewing national agencies with a mandate to address gender-based violence and sorcery accusation related violence</b>		
10.00am	Opening Statements by Chairman & Committee members	
10.15am	Ms. Josephine Kilage, Deputy Chief Magistrate Judicial & Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- GBV cases in district court and family court</li> <li>- Family Protection Orders</li> <li>- Expediting GBV cases in the Committal Courts</li> </ul>
11.00am	Chief Secretary Ambassador Pomaleu	Wrap up and summary - Govt commitment to reforms
12.00pm	Mr Baka Bina, Deputy Registrar of the National and Supreme Courts	GBV cases in National Court (potential use of the Human Rights track to expedite GBV cases)
<b>Reviewing provincial responses to gender-based violence and sorcery accusation related violence</b>		
<b>12.30pm – 1.30pm LUNCH BREAK</b>		
1.30pm	Provincial Administrative Representatives from provinces with identified “good practice” to share <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NCD: Mr Frank Ravu, City Manager, Ms Ruth Beriso, FSVAC / GBV Manager, NCD (GBV strategy, crisis response services, referral pathway)</li> <li>- East Sepik: Mr. Godfried Raushem, Deputy Administrator + Ms Augusta Likia, East Sepik (Provincial govt budget &amp; GBV Action Committee)</li> <li>- Morobe: Mr. Robin Bazzinu, Deputy Provincial Administrator Ms Thelma Hungito, FSVAC / GBV Coordinator, Morobe (GBV multi-sectoral response)</li> </ul>	Representatives from NCD, East Sepik, Morobe
2.30pm	Vice Minister Kinako Feo, Assistant to the PM	MTDP-4
3.15pm	Representatives of women’s groups (added upon direct request to the Chairman)	Ad hoc issues
4.00pm	Closing statement by Chairman Parkop	