**Submission to the Parliamentary Committee on Ending Gender Based Violence and Violations**

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This feedback form concentrates on my thoughts and views given my involvement in the Gender Equity and Social Inclusion space. This also includes the Gender Based Violence and Violations space since 2000.

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| **Do you support the general recommendations for changes in the establishment of the Gender Based Violence Prevention Strategy?** | **0 = no support1 = some support2 = good support3 = full support** |
| I think there’s a strong need for the establishment of the Gender Based Violence and Violations Secretariat. This Secretariat should house the Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Development Authority or GESIDA.The GBV Secretariat should also accommodate the National Council of Women (NCW) and the Office for the Development of Women in this Secretariat. NCM, GESIDA, and Office of the Development of Women are all separate agencies that report through the GBV Secretariat to the Chairman of the National Executive Council. | Yes, I do support for changes to be made to the policy to reflect the current demographics of Papua New Guinea. Yes, I support the establishment of the Gender Based Violence Permanent Secretariat to Government. |
| Shift to a rights based approach as laid out in the PNG Constitution and to inclusion | I agree that a shift to a rights based approach is important and necessary because this would mean we are in compliance to the UN Convention on Civil, Cultural, Social and Political Rights. This also harmonizes well to the UN Declaration of Human Rights. |
| Link to the Constitution, take a human rights perspective and emphasise the economic benefits | The Eight Point Plan, The National Goals and Directive Principles emphasis the importance of full implementation of the gender equity across all sectors of our economy. |
| Include a description of GESI principles and mainstream GBVSecretariat principles at all levels including workplaces and work plans | Disability Inclusion |
| Recognise the need for the GBV policy to be driven both nationally and locally, with more focus (and resourcing) at the provincial level | Greater focus should be on Decentralisation of the Policy to Provincial Administration and District Development Authorities |
| Highlight the current (unfair) situation by including graphics showing the under-representation of women and people with a disability in the NPS and at all levels of the Provincial Government.yes | I think the under-representation of women at district and Councillor level is a monumental task and requires consistent and constant support |
| Begin a shift towards equity (ie addressing barriers), rather than just equality (providing equal opportunity), including explaining why it is needed | I think addressing the barriers to Disability Inclusion is very important and urgent today is unlike in previous years. |
| Include both a top- down and bottom-up focus; build on communities of practice | I think a horizontal and vertical relationship with a well developed comprehensive Gender Equity and Social Inclusion policy with a Innovation Policy as a GESI Island Innovation Strategy that guides the innovation of GESI to suit the sub-national level context is vital. |
| **Are there additional barriers we should add?**  | **YES✓ / No** |
| This is what we have:* Lack of leadership at a sufficient level to be able to drive change YES
* Lack of funding. YES
* Lack of GBV/GESI trained human resources staff in YES
* Lack of accountability across agencies and individual accountability. YES
* Political interference YES
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| If yes, please provide details: |
| **Do you support the four focus areas in the policy** | **0 = no support1 = some support2 = good support3 = full support** |
| Driving the global, regional, national and local GESI agenda (issues of governance, and encouraging organic initiatives) | 3 |
| Promoting the uptake of GBV or GESI principles (issues of training/awareness raising, changing discourse/norms, moving to equity/inclusion) | 3 |
| Embedding GESI in agency operations (mainstreaming in agencies) | 3 |
| Embedding GESI in policies and programs (mainstreaming in policies and programs) | 3 |
| **Are there additional focus areas we should add?**  | **YES✓ / No** |
| If yes, please provide details:Gender Based Violence and Sorcery accusation related Violence including Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) should also cover Climate Change particularly as it intersects with Ocean Conservation, Marine Conservation and also Sustainable Micro-Hydro Energy Turbine Development in all 22 province’s and all 89 District’s throughout Papua New Guinea. |
| **Governance** |  |
| The aim is for everyone to take responsibility, with action occurring at each of these levels:* National (monitoring and coordination only) – creation of a new role of the NPS GBV / GESI Director-General to drive the policy, and with a gender and disability report and monitor to be tabled in parliament annually
* Agency operations (through agency implementation plans and an awards program
* Agency policies and plans (and budgets) – through including gender and disability impact statements in the NEC process and an awards program
* Provinces (through the PCMCs)
* Individual workplaces (through a program for Participatory Gender and Social Inclusion Audits)
* Individuals (through communities of practice)
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| **Do you have any comments on the proposed governance arrangements?** | **Yes / No** |
| If yes, please provide details below: Gender Equity and Social Inclusion should also capture Climate Change particularly as it intersects with Ocean Conservation Measures, Marine Conservation Initiatives, and also Sustainable Energy development throughout the 22 province’s and 89 District’s of Papua New Guinea. |
| **NPS Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Director General – Duties** |
| A new position to monitor, assess, support and drive the mainstreaming of Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) within the National Public Service operations, policies and programs (national, provincial and district).The position will have oversight of the policy implementation, and will have duties in respect to:* Monitoring progress
* Reporting
* Reviewing agency implementation plans and annual reports
* Supporting and promoting uptake
* Complaints that cannot be dealt with at the agency level
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| **Do you have any comments on the NPS GESI DG duties?** | **YES✓ / No** |
| If yes, please provide details below. Yes, I agree that the specific duties and responsibilities of the Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Director General should be very specific, clear, accurate and doesn’t overlap with the specific duties and responsibilities of the Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Officer and or the specific as well as duties or responsibilities of the Male Advocate within the Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Branch of any Government Agency at any level of the Government and society at large.Importantly, the Director General must also ensure that there’s equal support and concentration on Disability Inclusion inside and outside of the PNG National Public Service of the Independent State of the Papua New Guinea.The Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Director General should also be focused on outlining his or her Vision of where she or he would like to take the full and wholesome implementation of the Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Policy to the next level within the ambit of the PNG Vision 2050, PNG Development Strategic Plan 2010 – 2030. |
| **Do you support this being a statutory officer (within an agency)?** | **Yes / No** |
| **As it is a whole of government position, do you support it being in the Department of the Prime Minister NEC?** | **YES✓ / No** |
| Any other comments?Yes, I support this position being a Whole-of-Government Position in the Department of Prime Minister and National Executive Council reporting to the Chief Secretary to the Department of Prime Minister and National Executive Council on all matters relating to Gender Equity and Social Inclusion including Male Advocacy for Women’s as Human Rights as per the Eight Directive Principles and the Constitution of Papua New Guinea including on matters about Gender Based Violence and Sorcery accusation related Violence.This position is crucial towards the influencing of Government policy formulation, development, and deployment of the Gender Equity and Social Inclusion policy at the sub-national level of Government with adjustment to tailor the policy to suit a specific geographical context both social, cultural, spiritual and physical realm of all persons especially those in conflict with the Laws of Papua New Guinea. |
| **GESI Principles** |  |
| *Respect, dignity and fairness for all***1. Awareness** All decisions are informed by the continual assessment of the social, cultural, political, economic, and legal context in which we are working and adapting our approaches to maximize the meaningful and safe inclusion of women, men, people with a disability and marginalized people.**2. Fairness** All decisions are informed by a strong awareness of these principles to mitigate any potential negative or unintended consequences and ensure fair distribution of benefits across all women, men, people with a disability and marginalized people.**3. Respect**We employ a robust participatory inclusion approach to ensure all groups are included and engaged as valued decision-makers, leaders, and drivers of change.**4. Human Dignity** Our programs apply a rights-based approach in line with the Constitution, with a focus on building self-determination and safeguarding the human dignity of all people.**5. Accountability** We all hold ourselves accountable to these principles through a variety of mechanisms including transparency, indicators, allocated resources, and building staff capacity. |
| **Do you have any comments on the GESI principles?** |  **YES✓ / No** |
| If yes, please provide details below. Yes, I think also include :“Empathy” we show empathy to all who approach and use our services in compliance to the UN Declaration of Human Rights, UN Convention on Civil, Cultural, Social, and Political Rights and the principles outlined in the ”Right To Protection (RtP)” endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Security Council for those women, girls, men and boys affected and impacted by the causes of armed conflict both against the State and as a result of rising civil conflicts exasperated by a lack of employment opportunities over many years. |
| **Do you have any general comments on the final report**  | **YES✓ / No** |
| If yes, please provide details below. The findings of the Parliamentary Committee on Ending Gender Based Violence and all previous Reports is very insightful and interesting. However, the scope of the report could have been broadened through the Terms of Reference issued to the Consultants. The Report should focus on Funding Modalities and Decentralisation of the Policy in partnership with Non-Governmental Organization and Faith Based Organizations across Papua New Guinea and also from Abroad.I think such a broader scope would go a long way towards translating policy mechanics into implementation mechanics that links well with existing and new policies of the Government of Papua New Guinea. |