



UNITED NATIONS  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

*Wok Bung Wantaim*

# WanWok

Issue 2, Friday 23 January 2009

## A Seven-Women Panel sworn in to screen applications for 3 women nominated MPs



With UN support to increase number of women in Parliament a seven-woman panel to screen application for three women nominated MPs was sworn in on Tuesday by Deputy Chief Magistrate Steven Oli at the Parliament state function room. The occasion was witnessed by government and opposition representatives, women leaders and the media.

Following the swearing in, the panel was formally addressed by the Governor-General Sir Paulias Matane at the Government House.

The Governor-General said this is an important occasion which marks a significant moment in the process for the selection of three nominated women seats in the National Parliament

"Today you the members of the screening panel for this process have been sworn in and now formally take up the challenging

task of reviewing and shortlisting the expressions of interest that have been received in response to the public call by the Prime Minister based on the National Executive Council decision".

Acknowledging the efforts by the government and partners in bringing the process to this stage, President of the National Council of Women, Scholar Kakas said "I thank the UN for seeing the plight of women and assisting us to achieve what we are achieving today".

The panel is now in the process of making a shortlist of 12 from a large number of applications throughout the country. The RC is providing independent support and oversight to the panel's processes.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

27 January

International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

9- 20 February 2009

Mission on the Pacific Finance Inclusion Programme—UNDP/UNICEF

13 February 2009

Launch of the Pacific Inclusion Programme

20 February 2009

World Day of Social Justice

10 –12 March 2009

UN Convention Against Corruption—Sub Regional Workshop—UNDP

### COMMON ADVOCACY CORNER

#### Farewell Neal and Wallaya!

Staff at the UN House PNG again farewelled two staff who in many ways contributed significantly to the work of UN in the country.



RC Dr Jacqui Badcock in farewell outgoing United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Representative Wallaya Pura, said Ms Pura had made significant impact during her 3 years tenure: "She had helped created a space for human rights in the country and had done a lot of work in gender based violence particularly the White Ribbon campaign".

Human Rights Advisor OHCHR, Neal Gilmore who contributed significantly in setting a foundation for human rights was also leaving the country.

RC Dr Badcock said "Mr Gilmore has done a lot of work and has designed a way forward for UN support to human rights".

We wish you both all the best!

This is YOUR weekly update. Please tell us about the progress on "Delivering as One". We would love to hear from you.

Send your article ideas or suggestions to [elizabeth.turi@undp.org](mailto:elizabeth.turi@undp.org)

UN COMMUNICATIONS TEAM