



## MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

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*9<sup>th</sup> February 2009*

### **Stakeholders and Interest Parties**

**RE: INVITATION FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT EXPERTS REPORT  
ON THE NATIONAL ICT POLICY PHASE 2 REFORMS**

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Today I am releasing the Experts' Report on the National ICT Policy Phase 2 Reforms.

The Report provides an informative and rigorous discussion of the key issues in ICT regulation and proposes a number of significant recommendations for continued reform of the ICT sector in Papua New Guinea.

I welcome the Report and commend the work undertaken by the Department of Communication and Information in developing these reforms.

These recommendations have been developed in accordance with NEC Decision NG 21/2008 which requires me, as the Minister for Communication and Information, to report to the National Executive Council by March 2009 with a timetable and mechanism for the introduction of Open Competition in the ICT sector.

The recommendations arise out of the detailed analysis and public consultation undertaken by the Department of Communication and Information and its advisers in 2008.

The Report recommends a number of significant changes to the competitive and regulatory environment to encourage effective and sustainable competition throughout the ICT sector. These are exciting reforms which will have a profound effect on existing market structures and lead to realistic improvements in ICT capabilities for the benefit of all residents in both rural and urban areas alike. The recommendations cover a range of important ICT issues, including:

- 55 The timely and comprehensive move to Open Competition underpinned by a new licensing regime.
- 56 Liberalisation of International Gateway services.
- 57 A new access regime for wholesale services.
- 58 Removal of unnecessary retail price regulation.
- 59 A new universal access scheme to further enhance access to telecommunications services and in particular access to rural population,
- 60 New institutional arrangements with a new ICT regulator with responsibility for regulation in the ICT sector.

I am releasing the Report as a basis for a final round of public consultation.

I welcome the views of all interested parties the specific recommendations contained in the Experts' Report. These views will help guide me as I hope to finalise my report to the National Executive Council in March 2009.

Written submissions should be provided to the Department of Communication and Information by no later than 20 February 2009. Please provide responses either by:

**Email:** [ictreview@gopng.gov.pg](mailto:ictreview@gopng.gov.pg)

**Post:** Secretary  
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Additional copies of the Report are available from the Department of Communication and Information.

I encourage all interested parties to continue engagement in this exciting reform process.

Yours sincerely



**Hon. Patrick Tammur, MP**  
**Minister for Communications and Information**