

25 April 2012

Local EU statement on General Elections in Papua New Guinea

The European Union Delegation issues the following statement in agreement with the EU Heads of Mission in Papua New Guinea

The EU Delegation warmly welcomes Papua New Guinea Prime Minister O'Neill's statements and the decision by NEC confirming that general elections will be held in June this year as scheduled. As other partners, it wishes to support good processes and shares concerns of Papua New Guineans that the election timetable may again be called into question. Promoting democratic principles and following the constitutional path are important issues to all, including Papua New Guinea's friends and partners. These issues also constitute an essential element of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement concluded between the group of African, Caribbean and Pacific States including Papua New Guinea and the European Union. We encourage all parties in PNG to play their part in further strengthening the country's fine tradition of respect for the constitution and the rule of law, as a leading democracy in the Pacific region.