



## **Australian Government**

### **Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA ON FURTHER BILATERAL COOPERATION ON HEALTH, EDUCATION AND LAW AND ORDER**

**Update as at 7 November 2017**

- The Joint Understanding (JU) was signed by Prime Minister O'Neill and former Prime Minister Rudd on 19 July 2013.
- Under the JU, Australia committed \$420 million of assistance to:
  - (i) fund 50% of the redevelopment of Lae ANGAU Hospital and contribute to the costs of senior management personnel;
  - (ii) deploy an additional 50 Australian Police in Port Moresby and Lae;
  - (iii) rehabilitate essential infrastructure at the University of PNG and support twinning and exchange with Australian institutions;
  - (iv) scope and design the Lower Courts complex in Port Moresby;
  - (v) scope and design the Madang-Ramu Highway; and
  - (vi) recruit senior positions in the Royal PNG Constabulary, and National Departments of Health and Education.
- The JU Joint Implementation Framework was signed by the Australian High Commissioner and the PNG Chief Secretary on 10 January 2014.

### **Australia to fund 50% of the redevelopment of Lae ANGAU Hospital and contribute to the costs of senior management personnel**

- It was agreed at the Ministerial Forum in March 2016 that Australia should proceed with some elements of the redevelopment using its funding, whilst continuing to explore options for PNG co-funding in accordance with the terms of the JU.
- The Master Plan for the Lae ANGAU Hospital was finalised in June 2015.
- In July 2015, Dr Christopher Kenyhercz, a senior healthcare executive from the United States, commenced as the CEO of ANGAU Hospital following an international recruitment process which was undertaken in conjunction with the PNG Departments of Personnel Management and Health.
  - Australia is funding the non-salary component of the CEO position.

- The first phase of redevelopment works commenced in September 2015. These works, valued at approximately K25 million, were designed to improve service delivery and prepare for the commencement of major works at the hospital.
  - The first phase included the construction of a new operating theatre, 20-bed ward and stand-alone dental clinic.
- Australia also undertook K25 million in infrastructure upgrades to increase student capacity at the Lae School of Nursing, which is located at ANGAU Hospital.
- A consultant to oversee major redevelopment works at ANGAU Hospital commenced work in January 2017 and the development is progressing as planned.
  - A major program of upgrades is currently underway. This includes site clearance and civil works, plumbing and electrical upgrades and mechanical repairs as well as construction of new facilities including a Family and Sexual Violence centre, chapel and mortuary.
  - A managing contractor to undertake further major works is expected to be engaged in late 2017.

#### **Additional 50 Australian Police in Port Moresby and Lae**

- All 50 Australian Federal Police (AFP) were deployed before the end of 2013 in Port Moresby and Lae under a Memorandum of Understanding for deployment signed by the AFP and Royal PNG Constabulary Commissioners.

#### **Rehabilitation of essential infrastructure at University of PNG (UPNG) and support for twinning and exchange with Australian institutions**

- Australia has agreed to fund a package of major infrastructure upgrades at UPNG.
  - Construction of the new Lecture Theatre is complete and the new Student Services Building will be completed in late 2017.
- Australia has also funded infrastructure and maintenance upgrades including security lighting upgrades to key campus pathways, ICT upgrades to the Main Lecture Theatre and refurbished facilities for dentistry students at the Medical School.
- Arrangements for twinning and exchange programs with Australian tertiary institutions have been finalised.
  - In April 2015, UPNG agreed a twinning MoU with James Cook University (JCU) for support to improve teaching and learning services.

- JCU has commenced delivery of the Graduate Certificate of Education (Academic Practice) to selected UPNG academics

### **Scoping and Design of the Lower Courts Complex in Port Moresby**

- The scoping and design of the Lower Court Complex (Magisterial Services), including a masterplan and architectural designs has been finalised.

### **Scoping and Design Study of the Madang – Ramu Highway**

- The scoping and design study of the Ramu Highway is being managed by the Australian-funded PNG-Australia Transport Sector Support Program (TSSP).
  - The PNG Department of Works (DoW) approved the approach for the scoping and design study tender in March 2014.
- The scoping study has been finalised and the design phase of this study is underway.
  - This study is expected to be completed in early 2018.

### **Recruitment of senior positions in PNG Police, Correctional Services and National Departments of Health and Education**

- The Government of PNG has not yet identified the positions for which it wishes to utilise Australian assistance. Any positions to be filled will be identified through the Joint Understanding Consultative Committee.