FACT SHEET
2022 NATIONAL GENERAL ELECTION - OBSERVATION REPORT
BY PNG NRI

Tambul Nebliyer Open Electorate

Background
Tambul-Nebliyer District is one of the four districts of Western Highlands Province (WHP). It has two Local Level Governments (LLGs): Nebilyer Rural LLG and Mt. Giluwe Rural LLG. Its capital is at Tambul Station.

Observations on Campaign Strategies
1. **Posters:** Apart from posters on papers, most candidates also used full body of the vehicle to paint their posters. Most posters were also displayed on the doors of houses and buildings in common places like Hagen town.
2. **Banners and billboards:** Candidates put up big banners and billboards at the junction or markets and most entrances to the District.
3. **Vehicle campaign:** Candidates used convoy of more than 5 to 10 vehicles with full load of supporters to show their numbers.
4. **Money Power Play:** Most candidates were giving out money to supporters to pay for funeral expenses, bride price and even money for the tribes to share amongst them to vote the candidate.
5. **Campaign Houses:** Candidates and supporters were kept all night singing “Waipa Waipa” and passing time with other activities till daybreak.
6. **Networking and Alliances:** Candidates also built strong network and alliances with other candidates to share their second and third preferences of votes. The candidates even had their own regional candidates’ network for the Western Highlands Governor’s seat.
7. **Support for services:** People went freely to pledge their support to a candidate by bringing food and money. In return, they demanded services, and they were given bus fares by the candidates to travel back home.

Observations on Polling
- **Two lines for voting:** following the new directions from PNG Electoral Commission, there two lines for voting, one for male and another female.
- **Security:** There were less than three security personnel in most of the polling stations observed.
- **Consented Community Block Voting:** People allowed few elites to mark all their ballots for their candidates.
- **Killing:** Four people were killed during the polling at the Tomba Bridge.
- **General behavior:** People behaved generally well during the polling.

Observations on Counting
- Counting took place at Kimininga Police Barracks.
- The security forces allowed two scrutineers per candidate, that is for regional and open seats into counting rooms.
- The media personnel and election observers (both domestic and international) were allowed to go in and observe the counting.

• Declaration for the Seat was made on 5th August 2022.

Recommendations
1. The National Household Census and Common Roll update must be conducted to determine the number of eligible voters for 2027 and ballot papers must be printed according to the updated common roll.
2. Recruit locals and allow them to provide additional usher roles or security roles.
3. Distribution of ballot boxes must be made by the security forces only.
4. Recruit students from tertiary institutions to count the ballot papers.
5. The government needs to make more funding available on time for future elections.
6. The logistical coordination of the election must be given to the security personnel.

Authorised for Release by
Dr. Osborne Sanida
Director, PNG NRI.