



**ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES FOLLOWED BY  
THE GOVERNMENT OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA INTO OBTAINING THE OFF-SHORE LOAN  
FROM THE UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS**

Hearing Date: Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Venue: Abac Room, Apec Haus, Port Moresby, PNG

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**1. Witness No. 14 & 87 Dairi Vele, Secretary for Treasury, Director of Gas Project Office & Chairman of IPIC Loan Refinancing Committee, 10:00am**

Mr Vele appeared and was further examined by counsel and Commissioners on missing records and documents from those he furnished earlier. Adjourned to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 10:00am for continuation and for him to provide signed statements as per Commission's letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

**2. Witness No. 90- Professor David Kavanamur, Chairman, Kumul Consolidated Holdings (formerly IPBC), 10:00am**

Prof Kavanamur appeared in person and offered explanation on his letters to KCH's Australian lawyers- Norton Rose Fulbright Lawyers and King and Wood Mallesons, both dated 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2021. Adjourned to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021 for him to report on responses.

**3. Witness No 8 – Sir Charles Lepani, former Director of National Planning Office, 11:30am.**

Sir Charles Lepani gave sworn evidence, oral and documentary, from Alotau by Zoom. He was examined by counsel and Commissioners. His evidence related to government policy on government's investments in businesses in the mining and oil and gas sector.

**4. Witness No 12 – Dr Lawrence Sause, Head of Political Science Department, UPNG, 11.30am.**

No appearance. Adjourned generally for witness and counsel to set a new date for him to give evidence.

**5. Witness No 47 – Solomon Awili, Senior Lecturer, Banking and Finance, School of Business & Public Policy, UPNG, 1.30pm.**

Appeared and gave sworn oral and documentary evidence. Examined by counsel and Commissioners. His evidence related to government policy on obtaining commercial loans to finance shares in the capital market and associated risks.

## **6. General Directions**

The Commission issued general directions setting out provisions for interested persons seeking leave to appear to give evidence and directing any persons wishing to give evidence to provide signed statements to the Commission by Friday 30th April 2021.