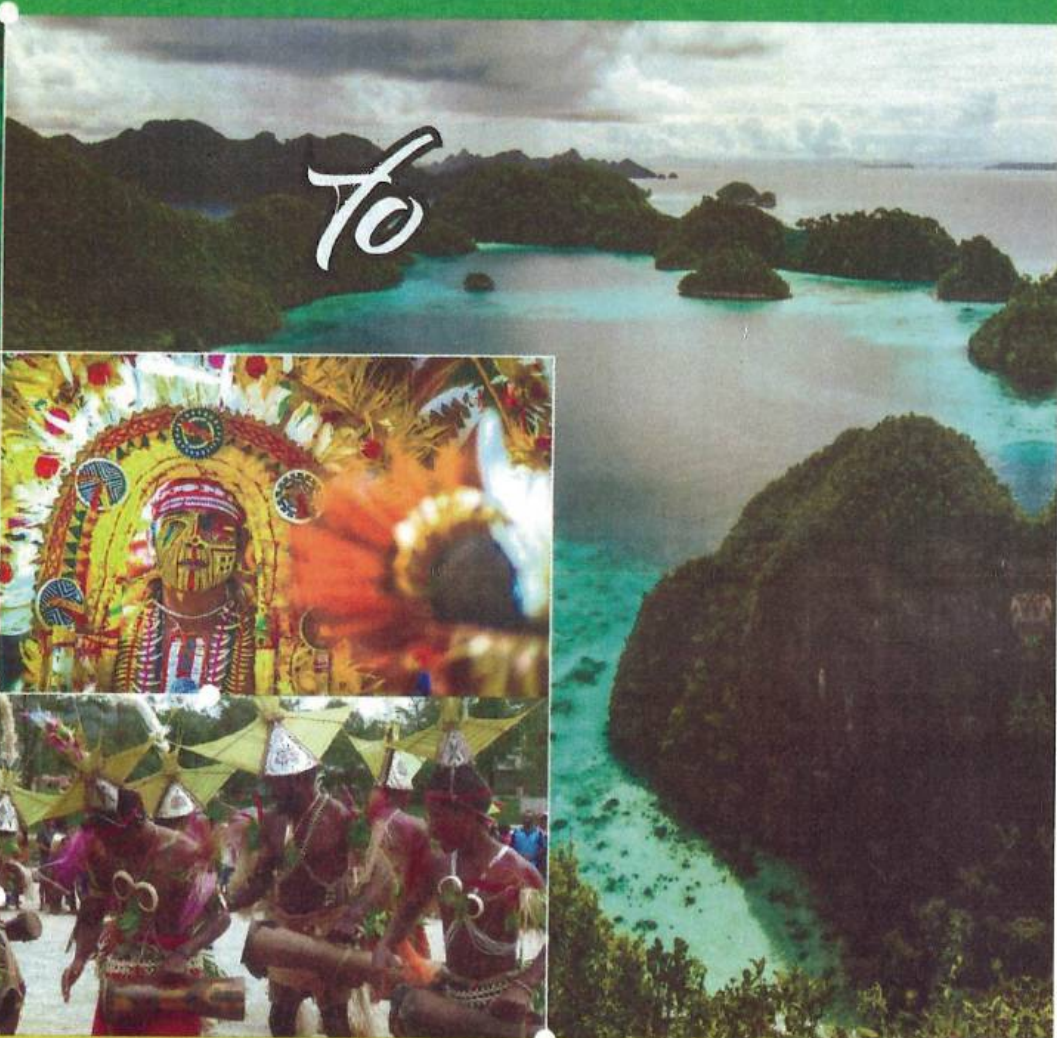




The Independent State of Papua New Guinea

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION

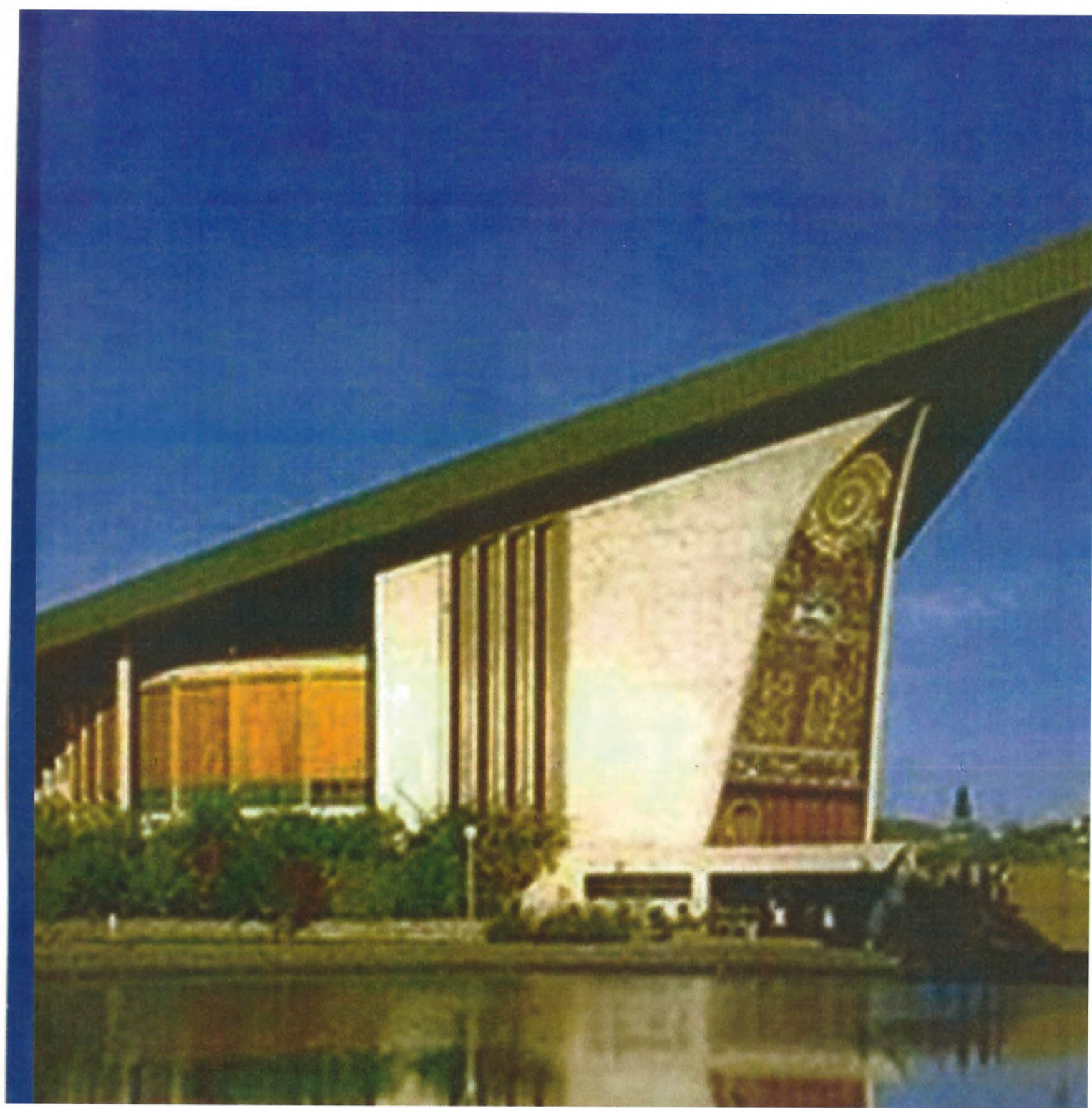
2021 REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS OF ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION



2021

NATIONAL PARLIAMENT

Prepared & Authorised by the Chairman
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION





Chairman's Foreword:

The under representation of the people of PNG in political decision making is a major concern expressed throughout the country"

The first distribution of Electoral Boundaries in the political life of Papua New Guinea was in 1976. The Electoral Boundaries was carried out at that time with implementation prior to the in 1977 National General Election, thus the first ever election to take place after the independence of the sovereign nation of Papua New Guinea.


The approved number of open electorates at that time was 89 and 20 Provincial Boundaries which remained until the creation of Hela and Jiwaka Provinces in 2011. Several attempts by the Electoral Boundaries Commission to increase the number of Open Electorates in its Electoral Boundaries Reports from 1981, 1985/1986, 1991 and 2005/2006 were rejected by Parliament.

This 2021 Electoral Boundaries Commission Report is another attempt, as allowed for by the Constitution to redistribute the current electoral boundaries. The Law allows for such, and the time is right for the Parliament to accept the call of the Electoral Boundaries Commission who are translating the peoples' views in demand for fair distribution of the Country's wealth in providing the needed goods and services to the people in a more represented manner. Population have grown over time, thus better representation is a catalyst towards better service delivery, which is lacking in most parts of the Country.

The manner in which the Law allows the Electoral Boundaries Commission to recommend is based on population quota but also mindful of the population growth since 2011 National Census. Looking at the number of people in each current Open Electorates is already overwhelming and with the current criteria, many of the 89 electorates may qualify for a new open electorate.

The other considered factors on the criteria under the same view are based on language barriers, voting trends, overlapping maps, customary allies, diversity of social context, economic relations, extensive land mass, growing population and too much diversity for uniformity.

The Law also allows for additional open electorates to be created. We took notice of the recent amendments to the **Organic Law on National and Local Level Government Elections** that requires certain number of Open Electorates to meet the allowed number by the same Law. Thus, the Electoral Boundaries Commission has worked using the allowed matrix to recommend a number of new open electorates ranging from 89 minimum to 120 maximum.



The Electoral Boundaries Commission considered population as the leading factor besides geographical settings to appreciate the call of the people which is considered paramount importance in any sovereign nation like Papua New Guinea.

The Electoral Boundaries Commission has recommended for seven (7) new open electorates based not only on the highest number of people but allowed others on special consideration given their peculiar and inherent circumstances. Our population has overwhelmingly grown in the last decade and from observations, almost all the 22 Provinces and most of the 89 Electorates has the capacity to qualify for a new open electorate.

The 2021 Electoral Boundaries Commission Report carries the interest of the 20 Provinces, Autonomous Region of Bougainville, National Capital District and 89 Open Electorates.

The methodology used in the program has adequately captured the views of the citizens in the places that were visited. Only National Capital District stakeholders did not attend any of the public meetings scheduled for them.

Prioritizing and concentrating on the tasks of EBC were crucial. The resources have been committed, risks encountered and mitigated by the Teams, commitment and tireless efforts by the Public Servants, EBC Commissioners and staff, and counterparts from the Provinces have resulted to this report. All the stakeholders nationwide who are involved in one-way or another are acknowledged. The EBC therefore views that the people have been consulted well by the teams in each of the four (4) regions of Papua New Guinea.

The result of the visitation and objection periods dictated the final result of the report. It is now presented to the legitimate authority, hence the Parliament to adhere to the call of the people as this cry is about better representation and equal distribution of our rich Country's wealth.

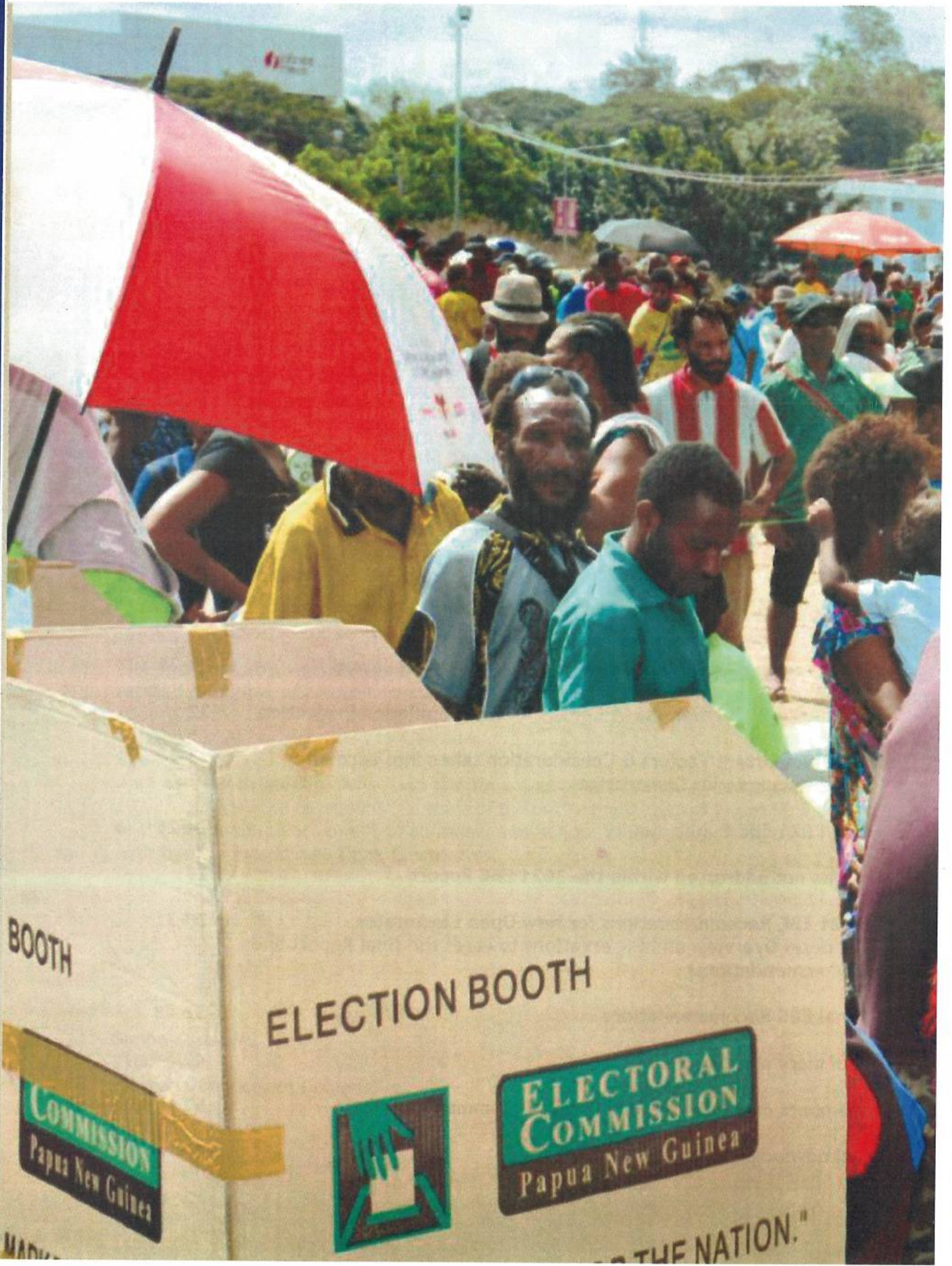
I am at ease to humbly reflect on the time and effort compounded by professional citizens in this work to present the voice of the entire population of Papua New Guinea to the honourable Parliament to consider, and honour the people of this great nation with their proposed new Open Electorates.



Simon Sinai, ML
CHAIRMAN
Electoral Boundaries Commission

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Executive Summary

The present electoral boundaries in PNG consist of 22 Provincial Electorates and 89 Open Electorates. This is a total of 111 Electorates. The Open Electorate boundaries were approved and accepted by a resolution of Parliament on 7th February, 1977, along with 20 provincial electorates. Two additional provinces of Hela and Jiwaka were created in 2011.

The 89 Open Electorates have remained same since, despite electoral boundaries reviews that were conducted from 1981, 1985/1986, and 1991. The reports were all rejected.

The 2005/2006 was the most recent attempt that the Electoral Boundaries Commission conducted to review these boundaries. Their First and Second Reports were rejected by Parliament in 2006. Therefore, the open electorate boundaries that were used in the past may be applied in the 2022 National General Elections. These were determined over 44 years ago. The same boundaries are likely to be adopted again for the next Local-level Government elections.


The focus of the 2021 Electoral Boundaries Review was the 89 Open Electorates. The recommendations when enacted by Parliament will become effective in accordance with the decision of the National Parliament.

There are a total of 7 new Open Electorates from 7 provinces that are recommended by the Electoral Boundaries Commission, after their deliberations from the provincial visitations and the Public Inquiry.

The table below shows the names of the recommended Open Electorates, their population figures after the split from the current Open Electorates, and their projected 2021 population figures.

2021 Recommended Open Electorates

Province	Recommended Open Electorates	Existing Open Electorate	2011 Population	Projected Population 2021
Western	Delta Fly	Middle Fly	50, 859	67, 000
Central	Hiri Koiari	Kairuku Hiri	63, 016	87, 000
Northern	Popondetta	Ijivitari	72, 001	74, 000



West New Britain	Nakanai	Talasea	122, 418	165, 000
Morobe	Wau Waria	Bulolo	44, 142	55, 000
Hela	Magarima	Komo Magarima	35, 604	61, 000
Enga	Lagaip Pogera	Pogera Paiela	84, 242	126, 000

Three of the recommended open electorates are below the lower range of the criteria, whilst the new Nakanai Open Electorate is over the upper threshold as determined by the population quota. Nevertheless, EBC took into consideration of the 10-year gap of census of population since 2011. The new Open Electorates of Popondetta, Pogera Paiela and Hiri Koiari are within the criteria of 60, 628 persons to 90, 940 persons.



The names of some of the existing Open Electorates have been changed as well. The existing Kairuku Hiri has been renamed as Kairuku Open Electorate, the existing Komo Magarima has been renamed as Komo Hulia Open Electorate and existing Lagaip Pogera has been renamed Lagaip Open Electorate. The details of the affected Local-level Governments and Wards are captured within each respective Open Electorate in the Report.

Furthermore, after careful thoughts and considerations, the Boundaries Commission also recommended that Baniara Open Electorate, Motu Koitabu Open Electorate, Baining Open Electorate, Middle Sepik Open Electorate, Mendi Central Open Electorate and Anglimp Open Electorate will come into effect in the 2027 National General Election.

The outstanding issues in relation to the provincial electorates and the creations of new provinces and women's representation continue to persist. The relevant authorities may have to be instructed to work with the Electoral Boundaries Commission to constitutionally and legally establish their basis.

All the reviews conducted so far by Electoral Boundaries Commission have been within the legislative framework of the PNG National Constitution, the Organic Law on Provincial Boundaries and the Organic Law on National and Local-level Government Elections.

The COVID-19 pandemic had a major impact upon the work of the 2021 Electoral Boundaries Review. The EBC public consultation was limited and localized at the provincial headquarters. In many instances these were a shorter consultation period. The provincial visitation commenced from 4th July to 21st July, 2021. This was followed by the Public Inquiry during August and September.



There were five regional teams formed and each was headed by an appointed member of the EBC. These were the Southern team, New Guinea Islands team, Momase team, Highlands team 1 and Highlands team 2. Each team was supported by technical officers from the National Statistical Office, National Mapping Bureau and PNGEC staff.

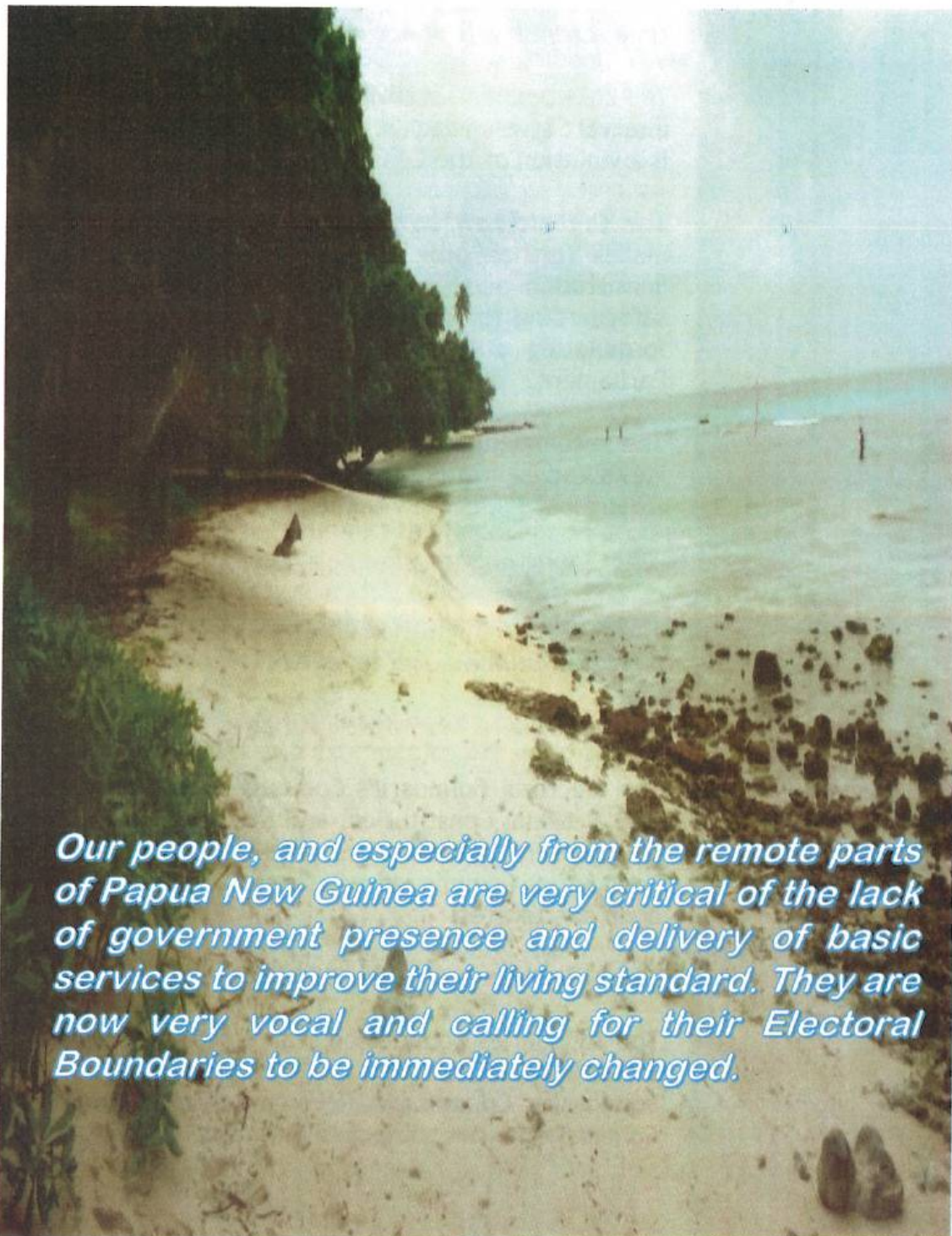


Figure 1



Background and Justification:

The main responsibility of the Electoral Boundaries Commission (EBC) stems from **Section 125(1)** of the PNG **National Constitution** that states;

“The number of open electorates and the provincial electorates and their boundaries shall be determined by Parliament in accordance with the recommendations from the Boundaries Commission from time to time, at intervals of not more than ten (10) years”.

The 2021 Boundaries review is overdue by almost 15 years. The ten-year interval between each review has not been consistently maintained. This is a violation of the Constitution.

The **Organic Law on National and Local level Government Elections** makes further provisions for and in respect of the appointment, constitution and procedures of the Boundaries Commission, and for safeguarding its independence, and in relation to the procedures for formulating and considering its recommendations to the National Parliament.

The recommendations by the EBC to the Parliament are documented views and aspirations from the extensive consultations with the people throughout Papua New Guinea.

What is the Electoral Boundaries Commission (EBC)?

The EBC is an institution created under Section 26 of the **Organic Law on National and Local level Government Elections**.

The Legislative Framework for the Electoral Boundaries Commission

The Electoral Boundaries Commission operates under the authority of PNG National Constitution, and the Organic Law on National and Local-level Government Elections. The latter provides the details of how the Boundaries Commission will operate to review the boundaries of the open electorates.

The Independence of the Electoral Boundaries Commission

The Boundaries Commission is an independent commission and conducts its work as such. Even the National Parliament cannot amend the Boundaries Commission Recommendations presented before it. The Commission is not subject to direction or control by any authority.



The Members to the Electoral Boundaries Commission:

- | | | |
|----|---|-------------|
| 1. | the Electoral Commissioner | Chairperson |
| 2. | the National Statistician | Member |
| 3. | the Surveyor General | Member |
| 4. | three Persons appointed by the Head of State on advice from the NEC | Members |

Three persons make up the EBC private Members. These persons may come from experience serving and/or retired Public Servants. The other private EBC Member must be an experienced practicing lawyer with extensive Public Inquiries background.

There are provisions within the law as well that allow for the appointment of Deputies for each of the EBC Member. A Deputy can perform the duties of the EBC Member they represent during their absences.

The Main Functions of the Electoral Boundaries Commission

The ultimate responsibility of the Boundaries Commission is to submit the 2021 Boundaries Review Report and Recommendations to the Parliament. The EBC only submits the Report and Recommendations and Parliament makes the decision to accept or reject the reports.

These findings have their basis from the field visits and the Public Inquiries that the EBC conducted throughout the country.

The provincial visit commenced in all the regions by the different Teams from the 4th July 2021 and extended to 21st July, 2021.

2021 Boundaries Review Program

The purpose of the public consultation was to obtain the views of the people who are being affected and who will be affected by these changes. The EBC notes that whilst, the law does not require the Boundaries Commission to go out and obtain the views of the people before preparing the preliminary recommendations on the proposed electoral boundaries, it sees appropriately important as the changes when approved by Parliament will inevitably affect the lives of the people.

Table 1: 2021 Overall Electoral Boundaries Commission Review Program

	Activity	2021						
		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	Convene First Meeting of EBC Commissioners							
2	Formulate preliminary views to conduct a formal inquiry							
3	Conduct awareness for stakeholders							
4	Accept submissions and views and EBC							
5	Conduct field work and public inquiry in each region							
6	Produce the draft public inquiry report and accept final submissions							
7	Prepare draft EBC report and maps and new proposals							
8	Submit Final EBC Report to Minister, and Parliament							

Public attention was drawn to the places where the initial proposals from the EBC were presented for viewing and inspection. This included inviting the stakeholders to present their views, and included:

- i. any member of Parliament affected by the proposed redistribution;
- ii. the members of a Provincial Government and any local-level government council of the areas affected by the proposed redistribution;
- iii. the officers of the National Public Service in the area affected by the proposed redistribution;
- iv. any cultural or land groups in the area affected by the proposed redistribution; and
- v. any other person whom the Boundaries Commission consider relevant.



Determination of the Provisional Number and size of Open Electorates and 2011 Population Census

Section 35(1) of the *Organic Law on National and Local-level Government Election* provides the lower and upper limit of the number of Open Electorates that the Boundaries Commission will work within. The Boundaries Commission will decide the Provisional Number of Open Electorates but from within the range of 89 to 120 as allowed by the Organic Law.

The analysis of the 2011 census population data for the provinces and each open electorate enabled the calculation of the ideal size for each open electorate. These were presented during the public consultation in each province.

The EBC has an obligation to ensure that relevant information was disseminated and understood by our citizens.

The EBC initial findings were based on the 2011 National Population analysis and the delimitation legal framework. The regional provincial data from Southern, New Guinea Islands, Momase and the Highlands are indicated in the regional tables below:

Open Electorate Population Quota and 2011 Census of Population

Southern Region

Southern Region, commonly called Papuan Region, is made up of six (6) provinces. The National Capital District, though, is the capital of PNG is regarded as a Province thus, counted as a province in the Region. The total population of the Region is 1,456,250 (2011 Pop). The region has a landmass of 13, 906, 300 Ha and sea mass of 59, 185, 700 Ha. It shares three international borders with Solomon Islands to the eastern end (Milne Bay), Australia to the south and eastern end (Western Province & Milne Bay), and Indonesia to the West (Western Province).

In political governance, the Region has a total of 18 Open Electorates, 6 Provincial Seats, sixty-eight (68) Local-Level Governments and 1, 342 Council Wards (2019 LLG Proclamations).

The region has 18 open electorates. Of these 15 of the open electorates do not comply with the 20% threshold based on the 89 Open Electorates. Only 3 electorates satisfy the threshold criteria.

Table 2: Southern Region

NO.	PROVINCE	OPEN ELECTORATE	NO. LLGs	2011 POP.	MIN. QUOTA (-20%)	MAX. QUOTA (+20%)	QUOTA STATUS
2011 BASE POP. QUOTA = 75, 478 (TOTAL 2011 POP. 7,275,324/89 OPEN ELECTORATES)							
SOUTHERN REGION (15 TOTAL: 6 ABOVE, 9 BELOW)							
1.	WESTERN	MIDDLE FLY	6	79,349	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		NORTH FLY	5	62,850	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		SOUTH FLY	4	59,152	65,396	98,094	BELOW
2.	GULF	KEREMA	6	107,231	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		KIKORI	4	50,966	65,396	98,094	BELOW
3.	CENTRAL	ABAU	3	55,569	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		GOILALA	3	36,092	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		KAIRUKU-HIRI	6	121,586	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		RIGO	4	56,509	65,396	98,094	BELOW
4.	NATIONAL CAPITAL DISTRICT	NORTH WEST	1	129,828	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		NORTH EAST	1	152,068	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		SOUTH	1	82,229	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
5.	MILNE BAY	ALOTAU	7	99,539	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		SAMARAI-MURUA	4	58,590	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		KIRIWINA-GOODENOUGH	2	63,916	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		ESA'ALA	3	54,467	65,396	98,094	BELOW
6.	NORTHERN	IJIVARTI	5	99,762	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		SOHE	4	86,547	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT

New Guinea Islands

The Region is made up of five (5) provinces. The total population of the Region is 1, 096, 543 (2011 Pop). It has a land mass of 5, 697, 736 Ha and sea mass of 121, 162, 263 Ha

In political governance, the Region has a total of 12 Open Electorates, 5 Provincial Seats, fifty-two (52) Local-Level Governments and 779 Council Wards (2019 LLG Proclamations).

The region has a total of 12 open electorates. Of these 7 electorates do not meet the criteria of 20% threshold based on the 89 Open Electorates. Only 5 electorates comply.

Table 3: New Guinea Island Region

NO.	PROVINCE	OPEN ELECTORATE	NO. LLGs	2011 POP.	MIN. QUOTA (-20%)	MAX. QUOTA (+20%)	QUOTA STATUS
2011 BASE POP. QUOTA = 81,745 (TOTAL 2011 POP. 7,275,324/89 OPEN ELECTORATES)							
NEW GUINEA ISLANDS REGION (7 TOTAL: 4 ABOVE, 3 BELOW)							
7.	MANUS	MANUS	12	60,485	65,396	98,094	BELOW
8.	NEW IRELAND	KAVIENG	4	83,162	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		NAMATANAI	6	110,905	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
9.	EAST NEW BRITAIN	GAZELLE	5	129,317	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		KOKOPO	4	87,829	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		POMIO	5	71,836	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		RABAUL	4	39,387	65,396	98,094	BELOW
10.	WEST NEW BRITAIN	KANDRIAN-GLOUCESTER	5	74,265	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		TALASEA	7	189,999	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
11.	BOUGAINVILLE	NORTH BOUGAINVILLE	6	109,023	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		CENTRAL BOUGAINVILLE	2	58,660	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		SOUTH BOUGAINVILLE	4	81,675	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT

Momase Region

The Region has only four (4) provinces and has the second highest total population of 1, 867, 657 (2011 Pop). It has a land mass of 6, 183, 000 Ha and sea mass of 7, 685, 744 Ha.

In political governance, the Region has a total of 25 Open Electorates, 4 Provincial Seats, ninety-eight (98) Local-Level Governments and 2, 045 Council Wards (2019 LLG Proclamations).

The region has a total of 25 open electorates. Of these 14 electorates do not meet the criteria of 20% threshold based on the 89 Open Electorates. Only 11 electorates comply.

Table 4: Momase Region

NO.	PROVINCE	OPEN ELECTORATE	NO. LLGs	2011 POP.	MIN. QUOTA (-20%)	MAX. QUOTA (+20%)	QUOTA STATUS
2011 BASE POP. QUOTA = 81,745 (TOTAL 2011 POP. 7,275,324/89 OPEN ELECTORATES)							
MOMASE REGION (14 TOTAL: 4 ABOVE, 10 BELOW)							
12.	MOROBE	BULOLO	6	101,568	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		FINSCHAFEN	5	54,672	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		HUON GULF	3	77,564	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		KABWUM	4	43,472	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		LAKE	2	148,934	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		MARKHAM	3	62,495	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		MENYAMYA	4	87,209	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		NAWAE	3	44,556	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		TEWAE-SIASSI	3	54,340	65,396	98,094	BELOW
13.	MADANG	BOGIA	3	75,067	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		MADANG	3	110,978	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		MIDDLE RAMU	4	78,892	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		RAI COAST	4	83,218	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		SUMKAR	2	84,944	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		USINO BUNDI	3	60,807	65,396	98,094	BELOW
14.	EAST SEPIK	AMBUNTI-DREKIKIER	4	71,491	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		ANGORAM	5	98,135	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		MAPRIK	5	72,235	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		WEWAK	6	87,761	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT

NO.	PROVINCE	OPEN ELECTORATE	NO. LLGs	2011 POP.	MIN. QUOTA (-20%)	MAX. QUOTA (+20%)	QUOTA STATUS
		WOSERA GAWI	4	62,030	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		YANGORU SAUSSIA	4	58,878	65,396	98,094	BELOW
15.	WEST SEPIK	AITAPE-LUMI	5	72,319	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		NUKU	4	58,158	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		TELEFOMIN	4	48,882	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		YANIMO-GREEN RIVER	5	69,052	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT



Highlands Region

The Region is made up of seven (7) provinces. It has the highest total population of 2, 854, 874 (2011 Pop). The land mass of the Region is 5, 507, 400 Ha.

In political governance, the Region has a total of 34 Open Electorates, 7 Provincial Seats, one hundred and fourteen (114) Local-Level Governments and 2, 215 Council Wards (2019 LLG Proclamations)

The region has 34 open electorates. Of these, 17 electorates do not meet the criteria of 20% threshold based on the 89 Open Electorates. Only 17 electorates comply.

Table 5: Highlands Region

NO.	PROVINCE	OPEN ELECTORATE	NO. LLGs	2011 POP.	MIN. QUOTA (-20%)	MAX. QUOTA (+20%)	QUOTA STATUS
2011 BASE POP. QUOTA = 81,745 (TOTAL 2011 POP. 7,275,324/89 OPEN ELECTORATES)							
HIGHLANDS REGION (17 TOTAL: 7 ABOVE, 10 BELOW)							
16.	SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS	IALIBU-PANGIA	4	63,478	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		IMBONGGU	3	80,994	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		KAGUA-ERAWE	4	74,139	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		MENDI	4	144,629	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		NIPA-KUTUBU	5	147,005	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
17.	HELA	KOMO-MAGARIMA	5	96,153	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		KOROKA-KUPIAGO	4	73,855	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		TARI-PORI	5	79,441	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
18.	ENGA	KANDEP	2	73,102	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		KOMPIAM-AMBUM	4	54,624	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		LAGAIP-POGERA	6	158,873	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		WABAG	3	73,649	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		WAPENAMANDA	2	71,797	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
19.	WESTERN HIGHLANDS	DEI	3	81,016	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		MT. HAGEN	2	123,299	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		MUL-BAIYER	3	83,036	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		TAMBUL-NEBILYER	3	75,499	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
20.	JIWAKA	ANGLIMP-SOUTH WAGHI	3	194,109	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		JIMI	3	71,379	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT

NO.	PROVINCE	OPEN ELECTORATE	NO. LLGs	2011 POP.	MIN. QUOTA (-20%)	MAX. QUOTA (+20%)	QUOTA STATUS
		NORTH WAGHI	2	78,499	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
21.	CHIMBU	CHUAVE	3	39,021	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		GUMINE	3	56,860	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		KARIMUI-NOMANE	3	52,159	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		KEROWAGI	4	93,107	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		KUNDIAWA-GEMBOGL	4	78,521	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		SINA SINA-YONGGOMUGL	3	56,805	65,396	98,094	BELOW
22.	EASTERN HIGHLANDS	DAULO	3	45,783	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		GOROKA	3	103,396	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		HENGANOFI	3	62,904	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		KAINANTU	5	126,248	65,396	98,094	ABOVE
		LUFA	3	61,057	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		OBURA-WONENARA	2	39,919	65,396	98,094	BELOW
		OKAPA	2	73,393	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT
		UNGGAI-BENA	3	67,125	65,396	98,094	COMPLIANT



Determination of the Population Quota

The population quota is calculated from the Total Population of PNG divided by the Provisional Number of Open Electorates. The Provisional number of Open Electorates for 2021 is 96. Section 35(1) provides the formula as:

$$Q = \frac{P}{N}$$

Q is the Population Quota for an open electorate

P is the Total Population of the country

N is the Provisional Number of Open Electorates as determined by the Boundaries Commission and within the limits specified in Section 35.

Population Quota for an Open Electorate

The Population Quota that has been calculated is taken to be the average size for an ideal open electorate.

For example:

$$Q = \frac{(P) \text{ PNG Population at 2011 Census}}{(N) \text{ Provisional Number of Open Electorates as determined by the Boundaries Commission and within the limits specified in Section 35}}$$

$$Q = \frac{7,275,324}{96}$$

$$Q = 75,784$$

An Open Electorate would therefore have an average population size of 75,784.

Population Tolerance

In addition to this, the Law allows for a 20% **Population Tolerance** limit within each open electorate. This leverage allows for an upper limit increase of 20% to be added onto the quota (Q) and a lower limit of 20% minus from the quota (Q). The size of an open electorate may be within this range.

An example will show how this works:

Population Tolerance:

When PT is + 20 %

$$PT = \frac{Q \times 20}{100}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{PT} &= \frac{75,784 \times 20}{100} ; \\ &= 15,156 \end{aligned}$$

So the tolerance level of plus or minus 20 % is = 15, 156

Upper Limit = 75, 784 + 15, 156 = 90, 940 and,
Lower Limit = 75, 784 - 15, 156 = 60, 628

Therefore, the size of an open electorate may be within the calculated range of 60, 628 persons to 90, 940 persons.

Rules and Principles the Boundaries Commission followed

The **first Rule** is that the EBC must try to ensure that the size of all open electorates contain approximately the same number of persons. This emanates from the population quota as discussed earlier. (Reference Sec 35 and 36 of OLN&LLG elections).

The **second Rule** is that there shall be one Provincial electorate for each province and that its boundaries shall be the same as the boundaries of that province. When there are changes to a provincial boundary, Provincial Electorate boundaries do not take effect until after Parliament next accepts the Report and Recommendations from the EBC incorporating the changes.

The **third Rule** is that there shall be at least one open electorate in each province, but in no case shall the total number of open electorates in the country be less than 89 or more than 120.

The **fourth Rule** is that the EBC shall determine a number between 89 and 120 (inclusive) referred to as the Provisional Number of Open Electorates and then divide the Total Population of PNG by that Provisional Number to get the Population Quota (or average size) for an open electorate.

The **fifth Rule** is that the population for each open electorate must lie between the limits of plus and or minus 20 % of the population quota. In the example discussed above the Population Quota as determined by the EBC will be 75, 784 persons. This means that each Open Electorate must have their size between the population tolerance of 60, 628 to 90, 940 (inclusive) persons in it. However, there are provisions of the Law that allow the EBC to go outside these limits on special circumstances.

The **sixth Rule** is that the EBC must not recommend Open Electorates which cross the boundaries of other provincial or open electorates.

The **seventh Rule** is that when determining how large an Open Electorate should be, but within the population limits as highlighted in the fifth Rule, the EBC shall also consider:

- (a). the Density of population;
- (b). the physical features and communications;
- (c). the Existing Electoral Boundaries;
- (d). the Local-level Governments and Provincial and other administrative areas; and
- (e). the Community and diversity of interests where the EBC considers it relevant to do so.

The **eighth and final Rule** is that the EBC must use the current Population Figures provided by the National Statistician based on the 2011 National Population Census. In accordance with this rule the National Statistician has provided the 2011 census population figures and the 2021 projected population figures for each of the Provinces.

Population size is an important determinant when deciding the Provisional Number of Open Electorates, the Population Quota and the Population Tolerance limits. The Electoral Boundaries determined by Parliament in 1977 used the 1971 Census figures among other considerations.

The 2011 census of population has provided the basis for the calculation of the Population Quota in this report.



The provincial population as recorded from the 2011 census together with 2021 population projections is shown on Table 6.

Table 6: Provincial Population: 2011 Census

	Province	CENSUS OF POPULATION	
		2011	2021
1	Western	201,351	257,996
2	Gulf	158,197	227,670
3	Central	269,756	380,552
4	National Capital District (NCD)	364,125	502,224
5	Milne Bay	276,512	353,546
6	Northern	186,309	252,304
7	Manus	60,485	81,441
8	New Ireland	194,067	301,725
9	East New Britain	328,369	469,845
10	West New Britain	264,264	364,998
11	Bougainville	249,358	342,535
12	Morobe	674,810	827,461
13	Madang	493,906	649,901
14	East Sepik	450,530	576,666
15	West Sepik	248,411	322,694
16	Hela	249,449	331,770
17	Southern Highlands	510,245	698,964
18	Enga	432,045	617,517
19	Western Highlands	362,850	501,991
20	Jiwaka	343,987	599,134
21	Chimbu	376,473	531,982
22	Eastern Highlands	579,825	758,508
TOTAL PNG		7,275,324	9,951,424

Other Important Factors & Considerations were:

The Boundaries Commission also carefully considered other factors when determining the degree of variation of size between electorates. These included:

- (a) density of population;
 - (b) physical features and communications;
 - (c) existing electoral boundaries;
 - (d) local government council and provincial and other administrative areas; a
 - (e) the community and diversity of interests where it considers it relevant to do so.
- The views and expressions of the people, especially from the rural areas for changes both in political inclusion and on basic service delivery mechanisms echoed very loud and clear. The Boundaries Commission under very special consideration, considered factors on diversity of social context, economic surroundings and activities in the rural areas, growing population, effective delivery of basic services and service centres, and realistically too much diversity to specifically comply and standardized conformity across the proposed new open electorates.
- The challenge for 2021 EBC was maintaining uniformity within a diverse Nation State.
- The EBC recommendations are in line with Goal No. 2 of the National Goals and Directive Principles where it will create an equal opportunity for all citizens to participate and benefit from the development of the Country.
 - It will also create a fair distribution of resources amongst our people when the redistribution/split in electorates come into effect.
 - EBC reports and recommendations in the past have all been rejected despite the growing population. These reports and recommendations were based on the same policy basis in giving effect to Goal No 2 of the National Goals and Directive Principles.

- Hence, to date, the current Open Electoral Boundaries remain as determined by the Parliament in 1977. No new Open Electorates has been declared in accordance with **section 125** of the **Constitution**, since 1977. The boundaries of the Open Electorates have not been altered or changed to coincide with the population growth since 1977.
- Since 1977, the population of PNG has grown from 2.3 million to over 9 million people in 2021 (National Census Office, projected 2021). 2021 marked the 10-year periodic review for the Electoral Boundaries, under **section 125** of the **Constitution**.
- And the likely impact of additional electorates will have upon the National and Provincial Governments, and resources of the Nation.

The 2021 EBC Public Inquiry

Based on the written submissions and views obtained during the initial Public Consultations with the Provinces, proposals were developed for an additional 22 new Open Electorates by the EBC. The operational itinerary is as indicated in the tables below.

The notice for public objections was published and the inquiry was conducted. The EBC Open Electorates Recommendations were eventually finalized, and presented in the Report, as the 2021 EBC Recommendations for new open electorates.



Regional Snap Shots and Provincial Public Inquiry Timetable

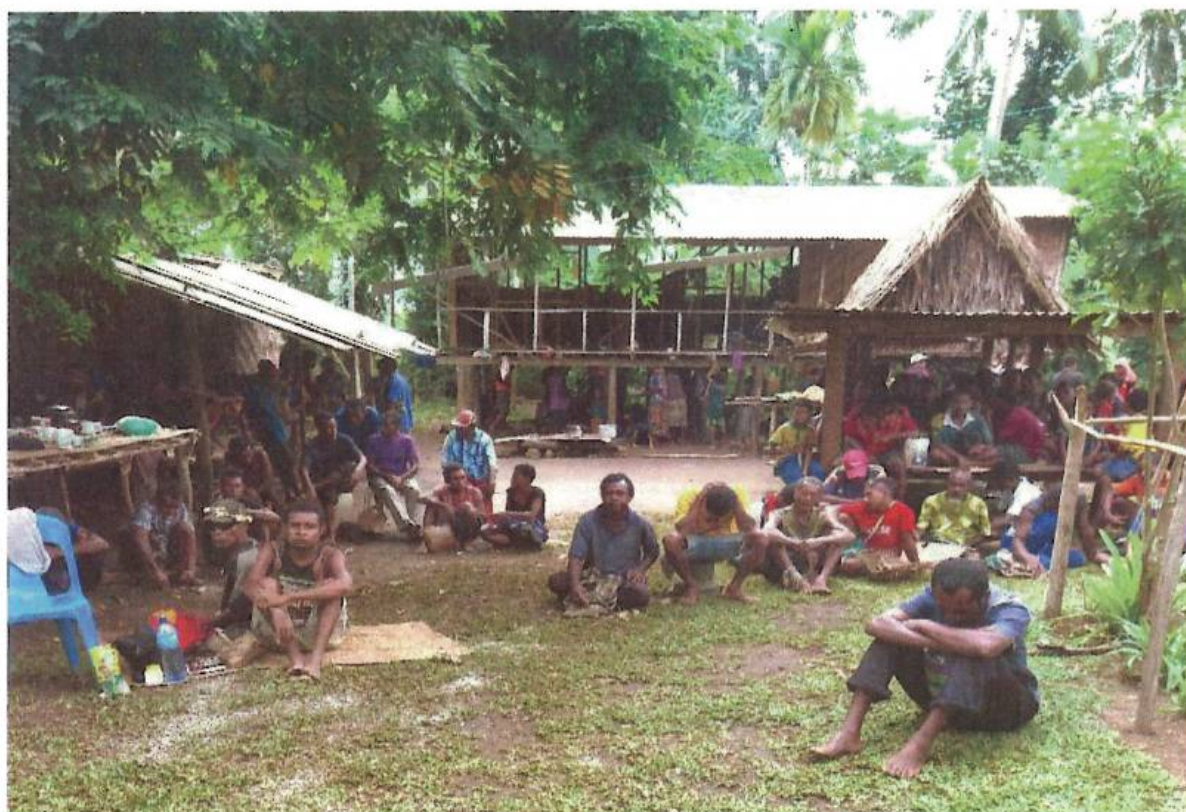
Southern Region

The Southern Region is currently made up of 6 provinces and 18 open electorates.

The table below captures the views of the people who are affected as expressed during the initial consultation visit.

Table 7: Proposed Open Electorates

PROVINCE	CURRENT ELECTORATES TO BE SPLIT	PROPOSED OPEN ELECTORATES	VENUE FOR PUBLIC ENQUIRY	DATE OF PUBLIC ENQUIRY
<i>Southern Region</i>				
Milne Bay	Alotau	Baniara Open	Alotau	30-31/8/21
Northern	Ijivitari	Popondetta Open	Popondetta	2/9/21
Western	Middle Fly	Delta Fly Open	Kiunga	6/9/21
Gulf	Kerema	Kaintiba Open	Kerema	9/9/21
Central	Kairuku - Hiri	Hiri Koiari Open	Bereina Mirigeda	13/9/21 14/9/21
NCD	No consultation was conducted despite several scheduled but cancelled events			



New Guinea Islands Region

The New Guinea Islands Region is currently made up of 5 provinces and 12 open electorates. The table below captures the views expressed by the stakeholders within each respective province in the region during the initial visit.

Table 8: Proposed Open Electorates

PROVINCE	CURRENT ELECTORATES TO BE SPLIT	PROPOSED OPEN ELECTORATES	VENUE FOR PUBLIC ENQUIRY	DATE OF PUBLIC ENQUIRY
<i>New Guinea Islands Region</i>				
Manus	Manus	East Manus West Manus	Lorengau	30/8/21
New Ireland	Namatanai	Konos Open	Kavieng	2/9/21
East New Britain	Gazelle	Baining Open	Kokopo	4/9/21
West New Britain	Talasea	Nakanai Open	Kimbe	6/9/21
AROB	People where not fully supportive of the boundary changes, especially women due to lack of awareness and the current events concerning the Region			



Momase Region

The Momase Region is currently made up of 4 provinces and 25 open electorates presently. The table below captures the views expressed by the stakeholders within each respective province in the region during the initial visit.

Table 9: Proposed Open Electorate

PROVINCE	CURRENT ELECTORATES TO BE SPLIT	PROPOSED OPEN ELECTORATES	VENUE FOR PUBLIC ENQUIRY	DATE OF PUBLIC ENQUIRY
<i>Momase Region</i>				
West Sepik	Vanimo Green	Green River	Vanimo	31/8/21
	Aitape Lumi	Lumi Open	Vanimo	31/8/21
East Sepik	Angoram	Middle Sepik Open	Wewak	06/9/21
Madang	Madang	Madang Rural Open	Madang	08/9/21
Morobe	Bulolo	Wau Waria Open	Lae	10/9/21
	Lae	Lae West Open Lae East Open	Lae	10/9/21



Highlands Region

The Highlands Region is currently made up of 7 provinces and 34 open electorates. The table below captures the views expressed by the stakeholders within each respective province in the region during the initial visit

Table 10: Proposed Open Electorate

PROVINCE	CURRENT ELECTORATES TO BE SPLIT	PROPOSED OPEN ELECTORATES	VENUE FOR PUBLIC ENQUIRY	DATE OF PUBLIC ENQUIRY
Hela	Komo Magarima	Magarima Open Obene Open	Tari	31/8/21
Jiwaka	Anglimb South Wahgi	Anglimp Kuli Open Kambia Open	Banz	03/9/21
Western Highlands	Tambul Nebilyer	Nebilyer Open	Mt. Hagen	30/8/21
	Mul Baiyer	Baiyer Lumusa Open	Mt. Hagen	30/8/21
Southern Highlands	Imbonggu	Mendi (Lower and Upper including Urban) Mendi Central Open	Mendi	01/9/21
	Mendi	Karints Lai Valley Open	Mendi	01/9/21
	Nipa Kutubu	Kutubu Bosavi Open	Mendi	01/9/21
Enga	Laiagap Porgera	Porgera Paiela Open	Wabag	03/9/21
		Laiagap Mulitaka Open	Wabag	03/9/21
Simbu	People opted for their electorates to remain the same			
Eastern Highlands	People opted for their electorates to remain the same			



Issues Not Addressed within the 2021 EBC Report

Women's Reserved Seats

Women's representation in Parliament will persist as an agenda on the national scene. There were no specific presentations and discussions on electoral boundaries for the women's reserved seats in Parliament.

Provincial Boundaries

The boundaries of the Provinces and the National Capital District are described in the Organic Law on Provincial Boundaries and Organic Law on National Capital District. Only the National Parliament can change their boundaries by changing the descriptions contained in the Laws. The 2021 Electoral Boundaries Commission did not conduct discussions on the provincial boundaries during its public consultations.

The Boundaries Commission primary focus, as mandated by Law was the 89 Open Electorates.



2021 EBC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEW OPEN ELECTORATES

Report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission

The signed 2021 Boundaries Commission Report includes:

- i. the Electoral Boundaries Report;
- ii. the Maps showing the proposed redistributions of each open electorate; and
- iii. the proposed listings of the Local-level Governments and Wards for each proposed open electorate.

General Overview and Observations towards the Final Report and Recommendations

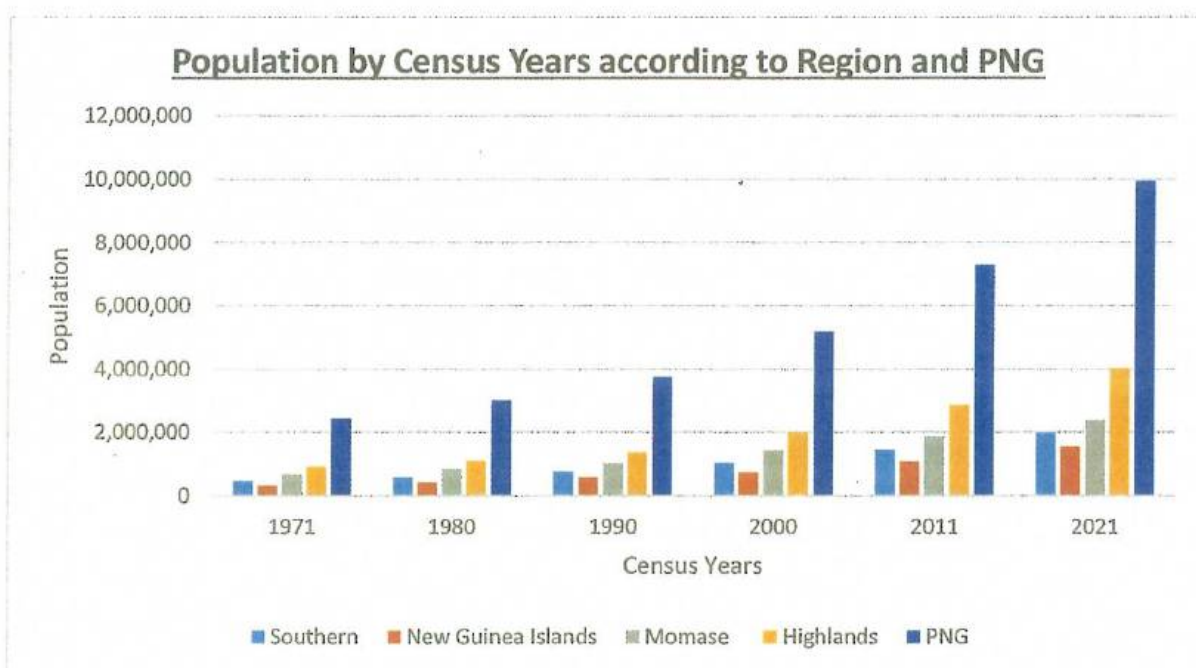
1. 2011 Census of Population

The Electoral Boundaries Commissioners unanimously decided to apply the 2011 census figures.

The population distribution from 1971 to 2011 census is graphically shown below. The graphs show the general increase of population across the country and the regions since 1971. The graph also shows the projected population for the country to 2021, which is almost 10 million persons.



Figure 1: PNG Population Distribution: 1971-2021



2. Recent Information

The EBC was privy to the information from the 2011 census of population and new changes to the ***Organic Law on National and Local Level Government Elections (2012)*** on the amendments to the number of open electorates that ranged from 89 and up to 120.

The EBC therefore were able to determine that of the current 89 open electorates, 53 did not comply with the threshold. However, the scenario will change after the provisional number of the open electorates are proposed by the Boundaries Commission.

3. Best Practice Principles

The EBC has been guided by the legal framework on the review of electorata boundaries. Maintaining the issues of equality of voting strength and community interest is difficult to assess and include impartially. The population size variability for open electorates in PNG will persist, and can be examined by future reviews.

The COVID-19 situation likewise may have prevented stakeholders from attending and did not provide an inclusive environment. Similarly, the EBC deliberations had to confront the challenges of maintaining fairness during their decision making.



final EBC Recommendations of 7 new Open Electorates were made on day, 14th February 2022, during EBC Meeting No.7/21-22. The Open Electorates that are affected and those that have not changed are indicated below their respective regions.

Southern Region

The three recommendations by the EBC for the region are Delta Fly Open Electorate, Hiri Koiari Open Electorate and Popondetta Open Electorate. The massive land area, population, remoteness of local dwellings and distant service centers has been taken into consideration by the review, among other factors.

Table 11: Recommended Open Electorates - 2021

		Western Province	
Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1 Middle Fly	<u>Electorate split into 2 new</u>		
1 Middle Fly	<u>Existing electorate part</u>	Lake Murray Rural LLG	14,410
		Nomad Rural LLG	14,080
			28,490
4 Delta Fly	<u>New proposed electorate (part)</u>	Balimo Urban LLG	4,394
		Bamu Rural LLG	13,432
		Aramia Gogodala	23,683
		Fly Gogodala	9350
			50,859
2 North Fly	<u>Existing electorate</u>	Kiunga Rural LLG	14,883
		Kiunga Urban LLG	10,981
		Ningerum Rural LLG	16,697
		Olsobip Rural LLG	4,886
		Star Mountains Rural LLG	15,403
			62,850
3 South Fly	<u>Existing electorate</u>	Daru Urban LLG	15,142
		Kiwai Rural LLG	17,336
		Morehead Rural LLG	16,133
		Oriomo-Bituri Rural LLG	10,541
			59,152



		Gulf Province		
	Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Kerema	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Central Kerema Rural LLG	16,609
			East Kerema Rural LLG	13,134
			Kaintiba Rural LLG	12,955
			Kerema Urban LLG	5,885
			Kotidanga Rural LLG	45,385
			Tauri-Lakekamu Rural LLG	13,263
				107,231
2	Kikori	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Baimuru Rural LLG	12,059
			East Kikori Rural LLG	11,512
			Ihu Rural LLG	18,360
			West Kikori Rural LLG	9,035
				50,966

		Central Province		
	Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Abau	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Amazon Bay Rural LLG	11,352
			Aroma Rural LLG	28,639
			Cloudy Bay Rural LLG	15,578
				55,569
2	Goilala	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Guari Rural LLG	5,602
			Tapini Rural LLG	9,233
			Woitape Rural LLG	21,257
				36,092
3	Kairuku - Hiri	<i>Electorate split into 2 new</i>		
3	Kairuku	<i>Existing electorate (part)</i>	Kairuku Rural LLG	29,485
			Mekeo Rural LLG	19,980
			Kuni Rural LLG	9105
				58,570
5	<i>Hiri Koiari</i>	<i>New proposed (part)</i>	Hiri Rural LLG	33,840
			Koiari Rural LLG	15,922
			Vanapa Brown	13,254
				63,016
4	Rigo	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Rigo Central Rural LLG	15,422
			Rigo Coastal Rural LLG	25,966
			Rigo Inland Rural LLG	15,121
				56,509

		National Capital District		
Open Electorate:1977		Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Moresby North West	Existing electorate	Moresby North West	<u>129,828</u>
2	Moresby North East	Existing electorate	Moresby North East	<u>152,068</u>
3	Moresby South	Existing electorate	Moresby South	<u>82,229</u>
				<u>364,125</u>
		Milne Bay Province		
Open Electorate:1977		Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Alotau	Existing electorate	Makamaka Rural LLG	9,554
			Daga Rural LLG	7,109
			Weraura Rural LLG	15,284
			Maramatana Rural LLG	9,988
			Huhu Rural LLG	33,868
			Suau Rural LLG	11,879
			Alotau Urban LLG	11,857
				<u>99,539</u>
2	Samarai-Murua	Existing electorate	Bwanabwana Rural LLG	12,115
			Louisiade Rural LLG	23,225
			Yaleyemba Rural LLG	13,059
			Murua Rural LLG	10,191
				<u>58,590</u>
3	Kiriwina-Goodenough	Existing electorate	Kiriwina Rural LLG	36,721
			Goodenough Isla LLG	27,195
				<u>63,916</u>
4	Esa'ala	Existing electorate	West Ferguson Rural LLG	14,786
			Dobu Rural LLG	22,781
			Duau Rural LLG	16,900
				<u>54,467</u>



		Northern Province		
	Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Ijivitari	<i>Existing electorate split into 2 new</i>		
1	Ijivitari	<i>Existing electorate part</i>	Tufi Rural LLG	18,281
			Afore Rural LLG	18,535
			Safia Rural LLG	3,432
				40,248
3	Popondetta	<i>New proposed electorate (part)</i>	Popondetta Urban LLG	29,454
			Oro Bay Rural LLG	30,060
			Higaturu Rural LLG,(part)	12,487
				72,001
2	Sohe	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Kokoda Rural LLG	20,925
			Higaturu Rural LLG,(part)	36,215
			Tamata Rural LLG	14,175
			Kira Rural LLG	2,745
				74,060



New Guinea Islands

The EBC has recommended Nakanai Open Electorate as the only new open electorate in the Region. It noted that the size of the electorate remains higher than maximum tolerance limit. The relocations of Hoskins, Mosa, Central Nakanai and East Nakanai Local-level Governments from the existing Talasea Open Electorate has been made for the creation of the proposed Nakanai Open Electorate.

Table 12: Recommended Open Electorates - 2021

		Manus Province		
	Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Manus	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Aua Wuvulu LLG	1,459
			Nigoherm LLG	1,930
			Bisikani/Soparibeu LLG	6,388
			Pomutu/Kurti/Andra LLG	7,377
			Lelemadih/Bupichupeu LLG	8,619
			Lorengau Urban LLG	8,882
			Los Negros LLG	3,494
			Nali Sopat/Penabu LLG	5,154
			Tetidu LLG	3,149
			Pobuma LLG	6,077
			Balopa LLG	3,516
			Rapatona LLG	4,440
				60,485

		New Ireland Province		
	Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Kavieng	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Murat Rural LLG	4,210
			Lovongai Rural LLG	29,005
			Tikana Rural LLG	33,222
			Kavieng Urban LLG	16,725
				83,162
2	Namatanai	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Namatanai Rural LLG	29,767
			Sentral Niu Ailan Rural LLG	29,932
			Konoagil Rural LLG	13,132
			Tanir Rural LLG	12,466
			Nimamar Rural LLG	25,608
				110,905

East New Britain Province			
Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1 Gazelle	<i>Existing electorate</i>		
		Central Gazelle Rural LLG	28,075
		Livuan/Reimber Rural LLG	28,973
		Vunadidir/Toma Rural LLG	31,888
		Inland Baining Rural LLG	26,826
		Lassul Baining Rural LLG	13,555
			129,317
2 Kokopo	<i>Existing electorate</i>		
		Bitapaka Rural LLG	23,116
		Duke of York Rural LLG	14,009
		Kokopo/Vunamami Urban LLG	31,965
		Raluana Rural LLG	18,739
			87,829
3 Pomio	<i>Existing electorate</i>		
		Central/Inland Pomio LLG	20,456
		East Pomio Rural LLG	7,478
		Melkoi Rural LLG	11,257
		West Pomio/Mamusi Rural LLG	13,542
		Sinivit Rural LLG	19,103
			71,836
4 Rabaul	<i>Existing electorate</i>		
		Balanataman Rural LLG	19,621
		Kombiu Rural LLG	11,583
		Rabaul Urban LLG	4,785
		Watom Island Rural LLG	3,398
			39,387

West New Britain Province			
Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1 Kandrian/Gloucester	<i>Existing electorate</i>		
		Gasmata Rural LLG	11,439
		Gloucester Rural LLG	11,940
		Kandrian Coastal Rural LLG	17,073
		Kandrian Inland Rural LLG	13,248
		Kove/Kaliai Rural LLG	20,565
			74,265
2 Talasea	<i>Electorate split into 2 new</i>		
2 Talasea	<i>Existing electorate(part)</i>		
		Bali/Witu Rural LLG	16,665
		Kimbe Urban LLG	22,923
		Talasea Rural LLG	27,993
			67,581
3 Nakanai	<i>New electorate (part)</i>		
		Hoskins Rural LLG	27,665
		Mosa Rural LLG	36,380
		Central Nakanai	28,044
		East Nakanai Rural	30,329
			122,418

		Bougainville Province		
Open Electorate:1977		Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	North Bougainville	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Tinputz LLG	16,661
			Kunua LLG	13,525
			Selau/Suir LLG	15,141
			Buka LLG	53,986
			Nissan LLG	6,810
			Attols LLG	2,900
				109,023
2	Central Bougainville	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Wakunai LLG	13,795
			Arawa LLG	44,865
				58,660
3	South Bougainville	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Buin LLG	35,327
			Siwai LLG	17,624
			Bana LLG	22,457
			Torokina LLG	6,267
				81,675



Momase Region

The EBC recommended for one (1) new Open Electorate in the Region. The new Wau Waria Open Electorate will be made up of Wau Rural LLG, Waria Rural LLG and part Wau Urban LLG.

The massive land area, vast geographical rugged terrains and mountains, numerous rivers and distant service centers has been taken into consideration by the Review.



Table 13: Recommended Open Electorates - 2021

		Morobe Province		
	Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Populati
1	Bulolo	<i>Existing electorate split into 2</i>	Mumeng Rural LLG	23,656
1	Bulolo	Existing Electorate (part)	Watut Rural LLG	17,480
			Bulolo Urban LLG (part)	7, 079
			Buang Rural LLG	9,200
				57, 426
10	Wau Waria	New proposed electorate (part)	Wau Rural LLG	29,253
			Waria Rural LLG	11,381
			Wau Urban LLG (part)	3, 508
				44, 142

2	Finschafen	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Hube Rural LLG	12,081
			Kotte Rural LLG	9,942
			Yabim Mape Rural LLG	16,315
			Burum Kwat LLG	13,429
			Finschafen Urban LLG	2,905
				54,672
3	Huon	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Morobe Rural LLG	13,739
			Salamaua Rural LLG	11,906
			Wampar Rural LLG- (part)	51, 919
				77, 564
4	Kabwum	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Deyamos Rural LLG	13,133
			Yus Rural LLG	10,937
			Komba Rural LLG	9,682
			Selepet Rural LLG	9,720
				43,472
5	Lae	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Ahi Rural LLG	60,326
			Lae Urban	88, 608
				148, 934
6	Markham	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Onga/Waffa Rural LLG	10,304
			Umi/Atzera Rural LLG	36,600
			Wantoot/Leron Rural LLG	15,591
				62,495
7	Menyamy	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Kome Rural LLG	31,043
			Wapi Rural LLG	16,730
			Kapao Rural LLG	19,425
			Nanima Kariba LLG	20,011
				87,209
8	Nawae	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Nabak Rural LLG	9,865
			Wain-Erap Rural LLG	20,787
			Labuta Rural LLG	13, 904
				44, 556
9	Tawae/Siassi	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Sialum Rural LLG	22,840
			Siassi Rural LLG	17,660
			Wasu Rural LLG	13,840
				54,340

		Madang Province		
	Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Bogia	Existing electorate	Almami Rural LLG	23,605
			Iabu Rural LLG	9,895
			Yawar Rural LLG	41,567
				75,067
2	Madang	Existing electorate	Ambenob Rural LLG	54,038
			Madang Urban LLG	35,971
			Transgogol Rural LLG	20,969
				110,978
3	Middle Ramu	Existing electorate	Arabaka Rural LLG	29,544
			Josephstaal Rural LLG	19,315
			Simbai Rural LLG	18,595
			Kovon LLG	11,438
				78,892
4	Rai Coast	Existing electorate	Astrolabe Bay Rural LLG	19,417
			Naho Rawa Rural LLG	14,027
			Rai Coast Rural LLG	40,353
			Navudo Rural LLG	9,421
				83,218
5	Sumkar	Existing electorate	Karkar Rural LLG	49,454
			Sumgilbar Rural LLG	35,490
				84,944
6	Usino Bundi	Existing electorate	Bundi Rural LLG	14,681
			Usino Rural LLG	35,286
			Gama Rural LLG	10,840
				60,807



		East Sepik Province		
Open Electorate:1977		Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Ambunti/Drekikier	Existing electorate	Ambunti Rural LLG	13,904
			Drekikier Rural LLG	24,359
			Gawanga Rural LLG	12,674
			Tunap/Hustein LLG	12,733
				<u>71,491</u>
2	Angoram	Existing electorate	Angoram/Middle Sepik LLG	25,377
			Karawari Rural LLG	14,204
			Keram Rural LLG	24,806
			Marienberg Rural LLG	20,840
			Yuat Rural LLG	12,908
				<u>98,135</u>
3	Maprik	Existing electorate	Albiges/Mablep Rural LLG	14,657
			Bumbita/Muhian Rural LLG	18,806
			Maprik/Wora Rural LLG	21,374
			Yamil/Tamaui Rural LLG	17,398
				<u>72,235</u>
4	Wewak	Existing electorate	Boikin/Dagua Rural LLG	20,907
			Turubu Rural LLG	11,727
			Wewak Islands Rural LLG	10,873
			Wewak Rural LLG	19,783
			Wewak Urban LLG	24,471
				<u>87,761</u>
5	Wosera Gawi	Existing electorate	Burui/Kunai Rural LLG	13,249
			Gawi Rural LLG	9,616
			North Wosera Rural LLG	16,908
			South Wosera Rural LLG	22,257
				<u>62,030</u>
6	Yangoru Saussia	Existing electorate	East Yangoru Rural LLG	18,309
			Numbor Rural LLG	13,347
			Sausso Rural LLG	11,179
			West Yangoru Rural LLG	16,043
				<u>58,878</u>

		West Sepik Province		
Open Electorate:1977		Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Aitape/Lumi	Existing electorate	East Aitape Rural LLG	32,148
			East Wapei Rural LLG	10,759
			West Aitape Rural LLG	19,258
			West Wapei Rural LLG	10,154
				72,319
2	Nuku District	Existing electorate	Nuku Rural LLG	24,251
			Palai Rural LLG	13,519
			Yangkok Rural LLG	16,425
			Maimai Wanwan LLG	3,963
				58,158
3	Telefomin	Existing electorate	Namea Rural LLG	9,373
			Oksapmin Rural LLG	18,629
			Telefomin Rural LLG	11,734
			Yapsie Rural LLG	9,146
				48,882
4	Vanimo/Green River	Existing electorate	Amanab Rural LLG	11,869
			Bewani/Wutung Onei Rural LLG	20,813
			Green River Rural LLG	14,266
			Vanimo Urban LLG	13,970
			Walsa Rural LLG	8,134
				69,052



Highlands Region

The two (2) recommendations by the EBC for the region are Magarima Open Electorate, and Pogera Paiela Open Electorate. Magarima Open Electorate will comprise of Lower Wage and Upper Wage LLGs, and Pogera Paiela Open Electorate will comprise of Paiela/Hewa, Pogera Rural, Maip Mulitaka Rural LLGs and Pogera Urban LLG.

The large population, vast rugged terrains and mountains, numerous rivers and distant service centers has been taken into consideration by the Review.

Table 14: Recommended Open Electorates - 2021

		Hela Province		
	Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Komo/Magarima	<i>Electorate split into 2 new</i>		
1	Komo Hulia	<i>Existing electorate (part)</i>	Hulia Rural LLG	41,642
			Komo Rural LLG	18,907
			Mt Sisa (part)	5,789
				60,549
4	Magarima	<i>New proposed (part)</i>	Lower Wage LLG	20,654
			Upper Wage LLG	14,950
				35,604
2	Koroba/Kopiago	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Awi/Pori Rural LLG	21,198
			Lake Kopiago Rural LLG	18,088
			North Koroba Rural LLG	13,631
			South Koroba Rural LLG	20,938
				73,855
3	Tari/Pori	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Hayapuga Rural LLG	18,047
			Tagali Rural LLG	10,672
			Tari Urban LLG	39,279
			Tebi Rural LLG	11,443
				79,441

		Southern Highlands Province		
	Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Populat
1	Ialibu/Pangia	<i>Existing electorate</i>	East Pangia Rural LLG	15,580
			Ialibu Urban LLG	6,914
			Kewabi Rural LLG	14,300
			Wiru Rural LLG	26,684
				63,478
2	Inbonggu	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Ialibu Basin Rural LLG	23,014
			Imbongu Rural LLG	25,156
			Lower Mendi Rural LLG	32,824
				80,994
3	Kagua/Erave	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Erave Rural LLG	15,952
			Kagua Rural LLG	27,338
			Kuare Rural LLG	10,075
			Aiya Rural LLG	20,774
				74,139
4	Mendi/Munihu	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Karints Rural LLG	34,194
			Lai Valley Rural LLG	55,096
			Mendi Urban LLG	21,135
			Upper Mendi Rural LLG	34,204
				144,629
5	Nipa/Kutubu	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Lake Kutubu Rural LLG	16,070
			Mt Bosavi Rural LLG (part)	9,347
			Nembi Plateau Rural LLG	25,216
			Nipa Rural LLG	48,573
			Poroma Rural LLG	42,010
				141,216



Enga Province			
Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1 Kandep	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Kandep Rural LLG	42,438
		Wage Rural LLG	30,664
			73,102
2 Korpiani	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Ambum Rural LLG	21,022
		Korpiani Rural LLG	27,505
		Wapi-Yengis Rural LLG	6,097
			54,624
3 Lagaip/Pogera	<i>Electorate split into 2 new</i>		
3 Lagaip	<i>Existing electorate (part)</i>	Lagaip Rural LLG	44,650
		Pilikambi Rural LLG	29,981
			74,631
6 Pogera Paiela	<i>New proposed (part)</i>	Paiela/Hewa Rural LLG	20,508
		Pogera Rural LLG	40,749
		Pogera Urban LLG	4362
		Maip Muritaka Rural LLG	18,623
			84,242
4 Wabag	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Wabag Urban LLG	5,041
		Wabag Rural LLG	54,431
		Maramuni Rural LLG	14,177
			73,649
5 Wapenamanda	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Wapenamanda Rural LLG	50,334
		Tsak Rural LLG	21,463
			71,797

Western Highlands Province			
Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1 Dei	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Dei Rural LLG	61,175
		Kotna Rural LLG	19,841
			81,016
2 Mt Hagen	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Mt Hagen Rural LLG	90,469
		Mt Hagen Urban LLG	32,830
			123,299
3 Mul/Baiyer	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Mul Rural LLG	37,543
		Baiyer Rural LLG	32,040
		Lumusa Rural LLG	13,453
			83,036
4 Tambul/Nebilyer	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Mt Giluwe Rural LLG	40,578
		Nebilyer Rural LLG	34,921
			75,499

Jiwaka Province			
Open Electorate:1977	Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1 Anglimp/South Waghi	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Anglimp Rural LLG	100,301
		South Waghi Rural LLG	93,808
			194,109
2 Jimi	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Jimi Rural LLG	44,974
		Kol Rural LLG	26,405
			71,379
3 North Waghi	<i>Existing electorate</i>	North Waghi Rural LLG	46,401
		Nondugl Rural LLG	32,098
			78,499

		Chimbu Province		
Open Electorate: 1977		Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Chuave	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Chuave Rural LLG	13,592
			Elimbari Rural LLG	12,906
			Siane Rural LLG	12,523
				39,021
2	Gumine	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Bomai/Gumai Rural LLG	12,457
			Gumine Rural LLG	21,954
			Mt Digne Rural LLG	22,449
				56,860
3	Karimui/Nomane	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Karimui Rural LLG	23,596
			Nomane Rural LLG	7,859
			Salt Rural LLG	20,704
				52,159
4	Kerowagi	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Gena/Waugla Rural LLG	36,242
			Upper/Lower Koronigl LLG	25,667
			Kup Rural LLG	26,484
			Kerowagi Urban LLG	4,714
				93,107
5	Kundiawa/Gembogl	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Kundiawa Urban LLG	10,833
			Mt. Wilhelm	23,860
			Niglkande Rural LLG	16,397
			Waiye LLG	27,431
				78,521
6	Sina Sina Yonggomugl	<i>Existing electorate</i>	Tabare Rural LLG	13,717
			Suai Rural LLG	24,358
			Yonggomugl Rural LLG	18,730
				56,805

		Eastern Highlands Province		
Open Electorate:1977		Proposed Status 2021	LLGs	2011 Population
1	Daulo	Existing electorate	Watabung Rural LLG	7,439
			Lower Asaro Rural LLG	27,241
			Upper Asaro Rural LLG	11,103
				45,783
2	Goroka	Existing electorate	Gahuku Rural LLG	47,407
			Goroka Urban LLG	23,277
			Mimanalo Rural LLG	32,712
				103,396
3	Henganofi	Existing electorate	Kafentina Rural LLG	22,882
			Dunantina Rural LLG	19,246
			Fayantina Rural LLG	20,776
				62,904
4	Kainanatu	Existing electorate	Kamano No. 2 Rural LLG	18,603
			Kainantu Urban LLG	7,287
			Kamano No. 1 Rural LLG	31,038
			Agarabi Rural LLG	31,394
			Gadsup/Tairora Rural LLG	37,926
				126,248
5	Lufa	Existing electorate	Unavi Rural LLG	10,610
			Mt. Michael Rural LLG	22,135
			Yagarai Rural LLG	28,312
				61,057
6	Obura/Wonenara	Existing electorate	Lamari Rural LLG	17,854
			Yelia Rural LLG	22,065
				39,919
7	Okapa	Existing electorate	East Okapa Rural LLG	41,415
			West Okapa Rural LLG	31,978
				73,393
8	Unggai/Benna	Existing electorate	Lower Benna LLG	26,330
			Upper Bena Rural LLG	17,335
			Unggai Rural LLG	23,460
				67,125

Summary and Conclusion

The Constitutional Planning Committee (CPC) in its Report ofsaid the following:

“We therefore recommend that boundaries be redrawn after each official five-yearly census or, in any event, at not more than six-yearly intervals”.

The views of CPC unfortunately were not taken into consideration; the Report by EBC is now made on 10-year interval. The current 89 Open Electorates were approved in 1977. It is now 45 years since their establishment. Undoubtedly, the population has substantially increased in that period and there is a huge disparity among existing Electorates.

The **seventh Rule**, under **Section 36(3)(4)** of the **Organic Law on National & Local-level Government Elections**, stipulates that when determining how large an Open Electorate should be, the EBC shall also give due consideration to:

- (a) *the Density of population;*
- (b) *the physical features and communications;*
- (c) *the Existing Electoral Boundaries;*
- (d) *the Local-level Governments and Provincial and other administrative areas; and*
- (e) *the Community and diversity of interests where the EBC considers it relevant to do so.*

The EBC under special consideration, considered factors on the criteria under the same view based on language barriers, electoral voting trend, overlapping maps, customary allies, diversity of social context, economic relations, extensive land mass, growing population and obviously too much diversity for uniformity.

The challenge for 2021 EBC was maintaining uniformity within a diverse Nation State. This scenario will persist far into the future.

For instance, Middle Fly Electorate has the largest land mass electorate in PNG, with a population of 79, 349 (2011 Census). It covers a land measure of 44, 479 square kilometres. The Electorate is covered with extensive plains, floodplains and hills of the Fly and Strickland Rivers from Nomad in the north to Fly River delta in the south.

All areas north of Tabubil and small portions west of Nomad are very remote, and people take more than a day's travel to the nearest service centres.

The huge size of the Electorate makes it extremely difficult to effectively deliver services to the scattered population and the diverse geographic settings. The cost of conducting business and delivering services is extremely high and prices of goods are exorbitantly high as well which further compounds the Electorate's and the Province's service and development challenges

The scenario of the Electorate is such that it fits the 'special consideration' as stipulated by the *Organic Law*.


The other new 6 Open Electorates also have a massive land mass and high population figure like Nakanai Open Electorate, which makes the delivery of basic services extremely difficult.

The table below shows the new 7 Open Electorates and the details of Local-level Governments and Wards that have been relocated to create the new Open Electorates. Their population figures are shown for the new open electorates after the split from the existing Open Electorates with the projected 2021 population.

The EBC under these circumstances and with special considerations recommends to Parliament the following 7 new Open Electorates to come into effect in 2022 National General Election:

Table 15: Detailed Description of the Recommended Open Electorates, Local-level Governments and Wards

Province	Existing Electorate	Recommended Open Electorates (7)	LLGs and Wards	2011 Population	Projected Population 2021
Western	Middle Fly	Delta Fly	Balimo Urban LLG Bamu Rural LLG Aramia Gogodala Fly Gogodala	50, 859	67, 000
Central	Kairuku Hiri	Hiri Koiari	Hiri Rural LLG Koiari Rural LLG Vanapa Brown	63, 016	87,000
Northern	Ijivitari	Popondetta	Popondetta Urban Oro Bay LLG Higaturu LLG (part) Wards 22-28	72, 001	74, 000



West New Britain	Talasea	Nakanai	Hoskins Rural LLG Mosa Rural LLG Central Nakanai Rural LLG East Nakanai Rural LLG	122, 418	165, 000
Morobe	Bulolo	Wau Waria	Wau Rural LLG Waria Rural LLG Wau Urban LLG (part)	44, 142	55, 000
Hela	Komo Magarima	Magarima	Lower Wage Rural LLG Upper Wage Rural LLG	35, 604	61, 000
Enga	Lagaip Pogera	Pogera Paiela	Paiela/Hewa Rural LLG Pogera Rural LLG Pogera Urban LLG Maip Mulitaka Rural LLG	84, 242	126, 000

In consistence with EBC mandate, the public consultations have been wide and fair, and have tried their utmost best to provide practical recommendations in a manner that is cognizant of the government mechanisms in place.

Further, as envisaged by our forefathers in the CPC Report, the Boundaries Commission was designed to ensure equal participation of our people in our Nation's political process in place. While EBC has aimed to achieve this result throughout the consultation, it is difficult to ignore the impacts our recommendations will have, particularly on the Electoral Commission to conduct the elections for the new seven (7) recommended electorates.

The EBC acknowledges that while the right to equal representation is there by creating new electorates, we cannot easily ignore or dismiss the clear inability on the part of the Electoral Commission to conduct elections for these electorates.

Therefore, after careful thought and consideration, the Boundaries Commission further recommends that 6 Open Electorates: *Baniara Open Electorate, Motu Koitabu Open Electorate, Baining Open Electorate, Middle Sepik Open Electorate, Mendi Central Open Electorate and Anglimp Open Electorate* will come into effect in the 2027 National General Election.

The 6 Open Electorates have also fully satisfied the criteria for redistribution.

The table below shows the 2027 recommended 6 Open Electorates and the details of Local-level Governments that have been relocated to create the new Open Electorates. Their population figures are shown after the split from the existing Open Electorates with the projected 2021 population.

Table 16: Detailed Description of the 2027 Recommended Open Electorates and Local-level Governments

Province	Existing Electorate	Recommended Open Electorates	LLGs and Wards	2011 Population	Projected Population 2021
Milne Bay	Alotau	Baniara	Makamaka Rural LLG Daga Rural LLG Weraura Rural LLG	59,142	78,000
NCD	Moresby Nort West	Motu Koitabu	Motu Koitabu Wards	45,365	61,000
East New Britain	Gazelle	Baining	Inland Baining Rural LLG Lassul baining Rural LLG Sinivit Rural LLG	59,483	79,000
East Sepik	Angoram	Middle Sepik	Angoram Middle Sepik Rural LLG Karawari Rural LLG	39,581	52,642
Southern Highlands	Imbonggu	Mendi Central	Lower Mendi Rural LLG Mendi Urban LLG	53,959	71,000
Jiwaka	Anglimp South Waghi	Anglimp	Anglimp Rural LLG	100,301	133,000

The inclusion of 6 Open Electorates in 2027 will bring the number of open electorates to 102. The 102 open electorates is within the provisional number of Open Electorates as allowed for under Section 35 of the *Organic Law*. The Law allows for a number between 89 - 120

The task undertaken by the EBC was affected by both the COVID-19 environment and the short time frame to achieve its mandate. Whilst the EBC is grateful for the funding provided to undertake this mammoth responsibility, much more remains to be done.

The Regional distribution of the number of Open Electorates, and percentage since 1977 is shown below.

Table 17: Regional Distribution of Open Electorates - 1977

Regions	Open Electorates
Southern	18
New Guinea Islands	12
Momase	25
Highlands	34
Total	89

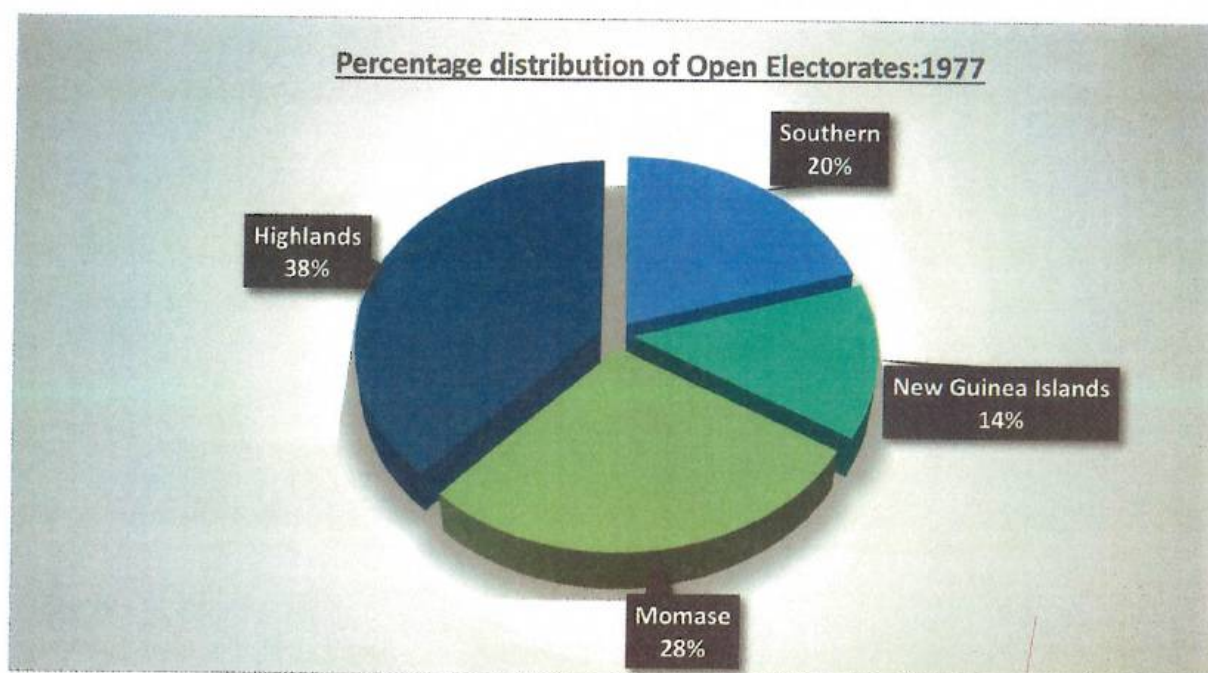
The 1977 Electoral Boundaries were determined during the colonial administration in 1971, and the 89 Electorates became effective in the first National General Election in 1977. It is now 45 years since established. Those boundaries were set during the colonial administration purposely for its administrative convenience. They do not capture the realities of the rugged terrain, extensive river systems and massive land and sea mass where great majority of PNG people live and survive in very difficult conditions.

The Boundaries also split traditional, cultural and ethnic affiliations and had less or no consideration of communal land ownership, tribal and clan structures.

These were some very crucial points that were expressed in nearly all the Provinces, and especially from areas that now have major development projects.

The Boundaries Commission took note of these crucial points and were guided into making its final recommendations

Figure 2: The regional percentage distribution

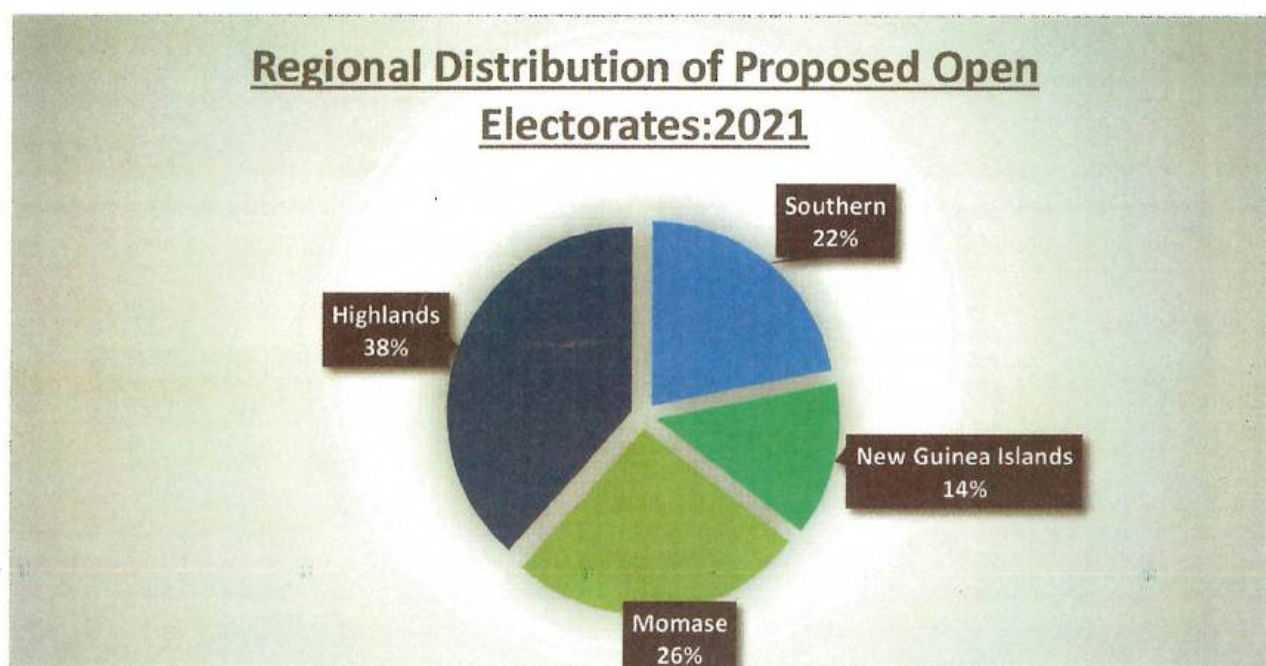


The 2021 EBC recommendations have indicated an increase of 7 new open electorates across the 4 regions of PNG. There would be a total of 96 Open Electorates.

Table 18: Regional Distribution of Open Electorates - 2021

Regions	Open Electorates
Southern	21 (+3)
New Guinea Islands	13 (+1)
Momase	26 (+1)
Highlands	36 (+2)
Total	96 (+7)

Figure 3: Regional Percentage Distribution - 2022

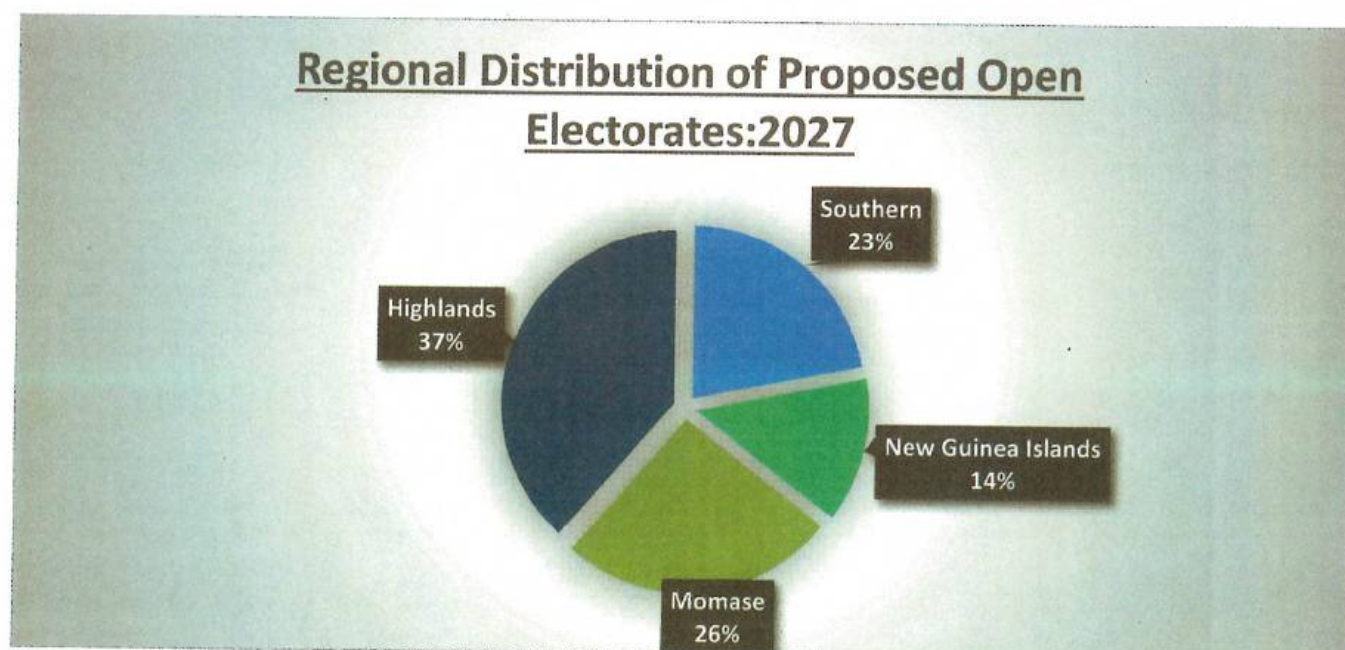


The 2022 regional percentage distribution has not indicated any significant increase in the number of open electorates.

Table 19: Regional Distribution of Open Electorates - 2027

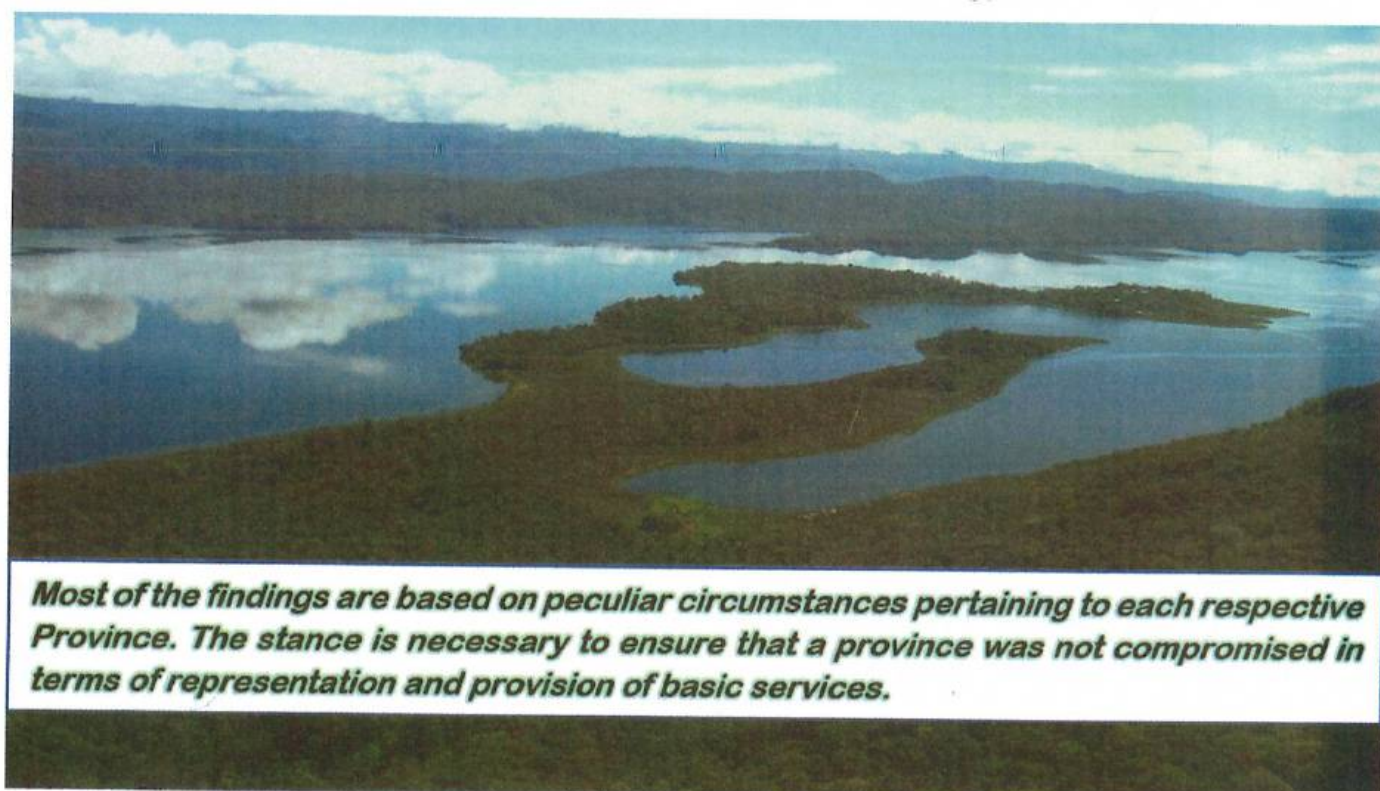
Regions	Open Electorates
Southern	23 (+2)
New Guinea Islands	14 (+1)
Momase	27 (+1)
Highlands	38 (+2)
Total	102

Figure 3: Regional Percentage Distribution - 2027



The 2027 regional percentage distribution has not indicated any significant increase in the number of open electorates.

The 2021 EBC recommendations have indicated that in 2027, there will be an additional of 6 new open electorates across the 4 Regions. That will bring the total number of Open Electorates to 102.





The review of the boundaries conducted and the recommendations on this report are the true translations of expressions of the general level of dissatisfaction obtained from the people in the 21 Provinces.

The population size has grown to almost 10 million people as projected by the National Statistical Office, 2021. This signifies that there is still critical under-representation of the population to the National Parliament. As such, there is unequal participatory on-behalf of the majority in the decision making process that affects their lively hood.

The people from the rural areas have strongly expressed their sentiments on the general lack of provision of basic goods and services, and further disadvantaged by accessing the nearest service centre. They are now, more then ever, calling on the National Government and Elected Members of this term of Parliament to critically consider their pleas and change their Electoral Boundaries for their sake.

The Electoral Boundaries Commission has translated the overwhelming views of our people on this Report and sincerely hopes this Report is accepted by Parliament so that we make a progress for a fair, better and equal representation of our people and their endeavors of improved delivery of basic services forward.

The Report and Maps are now commended to the Prime Minister for presentation to the National Parliament.

Dated this 14th day of February, 2022



SIMON SINAI, ML

Chairman, Electoral Boundaries Commission



KARO LELAI

Member



JOHN IGITOI

Member



McRONALD NALE

Member



CHRIS MANDA

Member



FRANCIS KAIGERUA

Member

THE MEMBERS OF THE 2021 ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|----------------|
| 1. | Mr. Simon Sinai, ML - <i>Electoral Commissioner</i> | - | Chairman |
| 2. | Mr. John Igitoi - <i>National Statistician</i> | - | Member |
| 3. | Mr. Chris Manda - <i>Surveyor General</i> | - | Member |
| 4. | Ms. Karo Lelai | - | Private Member |
| 5. | Mr. McDonald Nale | - | Private Member |
| 6. | Mr. Francis Kaigerua | - | Private Member |



SIMON SINAI, ML
Chairman
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JOHN IGITOI
National Statistician
Member



CHRIS MANDA
Surveyor-General
Member



KARO LELAI
Private Member



McRONALD NALE
Private Member



FRANCIS KAIGERUA
Private Member

Acknowledgement

The task of redistribution of electoral boundaries is a mammoth task and indeed formidable for anyone person or institution to conduct. The tireless efforts and undivided views of the entire Electoral Boundaries personnel and relevant institutions have made the 2021 Electoral Boundaries Report possible.

The Electoral Boundaries Commission is thankful to the National Statistical Office, National Mapping Bureau and the Electoral Commission for the institutional support and vital necessities during the Public Inquiry and formulation of the final Report.

The EBC is indebted to the six appointed EBC Commissioners who provided the leadership to conduct the initial provincial visitation and then the Public Inquiry to solicit views and the participation of the stakeholders. EBC is also thankful for the active and constructive participation from all the Provinces that were visited.

The Electoral Boundaries Commission also acknowledges the administrative and technical support of the following PNGEC staff;

1. **Mr. John Kalamoroh** - Deputy Electoral Commissioner
2. **Mr. Peter Malaifeope** - Co-ordinator EBC



Simon Sinai, ML
Chairman
Electoral Boundaries Commission





ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION MEMBERS & STAFF AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE OF THE EBC LAUNCHING.

Prepared and authorised by the Chairman
Electoral Boundaries Commission