



## MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS & IMMIGRATION OFFICE OF THE MINISTER



### MEDIA RELEASE

BY

**HON. RIMBINK PATO, OBE, LLB, MP  
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS & IMMIGRATION**

#### ***“RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PNG CONSULATE IN CAIRNS, AUSTRALIA & COMMENCEMENT OF VISA AND CONSULAR FUNCTIONS”***

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Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration, the Hon. Rimbink Pato, OBE, LLB, MP announced today that the Government through its initiative to improve service delivery successfully re-established the PNG Consulate in Cairns, Australia in late December 2013.

The Consulate has today commenced issuing Visas to foreigners travelling to PNG after the successful deployment of the Border Management System by the Australians and PNG Immigration and Citizenship Service Authority (PNG ICOSA). Consular support services will also be provided to PNG citizens living in the North Queensland area.

Minister Pato said that the establishment of the Consulate in Cairns will assist business communities in PNG and Australia by further enhancing current services provided by the other three (3) established PNG Overseas Missions/Posts in Canberra, Sydney and Brisbane.

He also said that the Consulate's operations will further boost PNG's Trade and Investment interests in Australia, particularly in North Queensland area, including the Tourism industry's drive to implement direct international flights from Cairns to designated provincial ports in the country.

The Minister commended the efforts of the PNG Immigration and Citizenship Service Authority, and the Department of Foreign Affairs for effectively implementing Government initiatives through the establishment of vital PNG Overseas Missions/Posts at strategic locations globally.

Authorised by:

**Hon. Rimbink Pato, OBE, LLB, MP  
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration**

27 January, 2014