



Universal Periodic Review of Papua New Guinea

UPR Info pre-session for PNG – October 2021

Shirley Kaupa (Magna Carta PNG Inc)



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Magna Carta PNG Inc (MCPNGI) is an independent human rights organization based in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

MCPNGI's aim is to educate, empower and embrace human rights through the four pillars of the organization called PREA

- ✓ Protection,
- ✓ Reporting,
- ✓ Education, and
- ✓ Awareness of Human Rights.

MCPNGI has been involved effectively in protecting gender-based violence and sexual abuse victims, supporting and advocating for the rights of persons with disabilities and supporting victims to access justice.

Rights of persons with disabilities

► Recommendations during the 2nd cycle of the Universal Periodic Review

“104.20 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Ghana);”

“104.150 Take practical steps to implement fully the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at both the federal and state levels to ensure that persons with disabilities enjoy equal rights and opportunities in Papua New Guinea, including by creating a database to guide policy planning and provision of services (Canada);”

“104.151 Further strengthen the national endeavours in promoting and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Myanmar); “

General Assessment

➤ Current situation

- No national disability data management system
- National disability launched in 2015
- National Disability Authority Bill still not adopted.

➤ Recommendation:

- *Call on the Central Agencies Coordinating Committee to expedite the adoption of the National Disability Authority Bill and call for greater awareness of the implementation of the National Disability Policy.*



Children with disabilities

Current situation:

- No access to education
 - Structural accessibility issues
 - 5 out of the 24 provinces engaged in disability learning
 - Sets a higher threshold for acts of violence to be qualified as torture

Recommendations

- ***Ensure the right to education of children with disabilities by engaging all provinces in disability inclusive learning and guaranteeing accessibility to all schools.***

Violence against persons with disabilities

Current situation:

- Many cases documented
 - Women and girls with disabilities = most vulnerable
 - Increase of cases during the covid-19 pandemic
 - Difficult access to justice for victims and light penalties against the authors

Recommendations

- ***Ensure that all cases of violence against persons with disabilities are adequately investigated and that the authors of such acts are prosecuted and sentenced proportionally to the gravity of their acts; in particular by creating a safe environment for persons with disabilities to present their complaint and ensure the training of police officers on human rights and the rights of persons with disabilities***

Participation in public affairs

➤ Current situation:

- Obstacles to take part in public affairs (to vote and stand for office)
 - Voter's registry not up to date
 - Dangerous voting venue – particularly unsafe for people with disabilities

➤ Recommendations

- ***Ensure that all cases of violence against persons with disabilities are adequately investigated and that the authors of such acts are prosecuted and sentenced proportionally to the gravity of their acts; in particular by creating a safe environment for persons with disabilities to present their complaint and ensure the training of police officers on human rights and the rights of persons with disabilities***



Priority recommendations

- ▶ *Call on the Central Agencies Coordinating Committee to expedite the adoption of the National Disability Authority Bill and call for greater awareness of the implementation of the National Disability Policy;*
- ▶ *Ensure the right to education of children with disabilities by engaging all provinces in disability inclusive learning and guaranteeing accessibility to all schools;*
- ▶ *Ensure that all cases of violence against persons with disabilities are adequately investigated and that the authors of such acts are prosecuted and sentenced proportionally to the gravity of their acts; in particular by creating a safe environment for persons with disabilities to present their complaint and ensure the training of police officers on human rights and the rights of persons with disabilities;*
- ▶ *Ensure the participation of person with disabilities in public affairs by guaranteeing that they are adequately enrolled in the voters' registry and creating a safe and enabling environment to vote and stand for office.*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**