



NEC APPROVES 2011 NATIONAL LANDS COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

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The National Executive Council has recently endorsed a 2011 National Lands Commission annual report for tabling in Parliament this month.

Prime Minister Peter O'Neill said Cabinet endorsed the report for tabling in the next Parliament session as it will advise the government on the present status of the NLC's operations during 2011.

"The report gives an update on the activities undertaken as per the commission's 2011 work plan. It also highlights the issues and constraints that have hindered the commission's operations resulting in a backlog of cases," he said.

Prime Minister O'Neill said the commission is responsible for maintaining the register of all the national lands secured for public purpose in Papua New Guinea.

"It also exercises *quasi-judicial* powers to settle grievances by determination of claims for settlement payments lodged by former customary landowners arising from acquisition of customary lands during the colonial era," he said.

Prime Minister O'Neill said NLC was established by the virtue of the National Lands Registration Act Chapter 375, which provided for the registration of all State land as "National Land" to protect the State's indefeasible land title for public purposes.

HON. PETER O'NEILL CMG, MP

Prime Minister

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