

# Letter of Transmittal



## Commonwealth Observer Group Papua New Guinea National Elections 2012

Dear Secretary-General,

The Commonwealth Observer Group has completed the final report on its observation of Papua New Guinea's National Elections held in June – July 2012. The Group is pleased to submit our report to you.

Papua New Guinea's 2012 elections have seen some progress and some setbacks in the country's efforts to strengthen democracy. Overall, some of the benchmarks for democratic processes were met, but several serious concerns need to be addressed for the future.

The Group notes that significant challenges remain to achieve the efficient and effective management of elections to ensure maximum franchise for citizens, appropriate and consistent electoral practices for the exercise of that franchise, and a strong culture of democracy throughout the country. In the report, the Group has offered a number of recommendations for further strengthening the electoral process. We hope that the Commonwealth will be ready and willing to assist the relevant authorities in Papua New Guinea secure whatever support they may require in this regard.

We wish to express our gratitude for the support provided to us by the Commonwealth Secretariat staff team.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this important mission. We hope that our report will contribute to the continued strengthening of democracy in Papua New Guinea.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Natapei'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'N'.

**Hon Nipake Edward Natapei MP**  
Chairperson



**Ms Kathryn Omwandho**



**Ms Sarah Fradgley**



**Mr Daryl Mapu**



**Ms Emmanuella Kauhue**



**Ambassador M. M.  
Amanul Farouque**



**Mr Joseph N. Biribonwa**



**Mr Henry Hogger**