



Auditor - General's Office  
PAUA NEW GUINEA

# NEWS BULLETIN

JULY - SEPT 2024  
3RD QUARTER

## HEADLINES

*DAG Lemeki Completes First Statutory Bodies Audit Using Teammate Plus Software. Pg.2*

*Funding Shortfall Impacts Papua New Guinea's Accountants Registration Board Operations. Pg.5*

## FOREWARD MESSAGE



**Mr Gordon Kega - MBA, CPA**  
Auditor General of Papua New Guinea

Dear colleagues and stakeholders,  
Let me take this time to welcome you to this second issue of our newsletter. As we reflect on the third quarter of 2024, the Auditor General's Office continues to take significant steps towards modernization, climate action, and rural development, underscoring our commitment to efficiency, accountability, and community empowerment.

We celebrate a groundbreaking achievement led by Deputy Auditor General Lemeki Ila and his team with the first successful audit sign-off using Teammate Plus software. This marks a vital shift towards technological innovation in our auditing processes, with a target to fully integrate the system by 2025. The dedication of our team in embracing this pilot project signifies the future of more efficient and transparent auditing within our statutory bodies.

Further expanding our responsibilities, the launch of the Climate Scanner Project is a crucial step in assessing and strengthening Papua New Guinea's climate governance.

Led by Principal Auditor Ms. Norma Dalu and Director of Audits Ms. Maureen Adadikam, this project demonstrates our office's commitment to global climate action by evaluating national responses and contributing to the international dialogue at COP 28.

As we celebrate Papua New Guinea's Independence Day, our reflections remind us of the importance of uniting as a nation to address ongoing social and economic challenges. My message resonates deeply within the Auditor General's Office, reinforcing our mission to promote accountability and foster development that benefits all citizens.

Amid these achievements, challenges remain. Also wearing another hat as the Accountants Registration Board, the ARB continues to face funding shortfalls, threatening its ability to regulate accounting standards in line with international benchmarks. We remain committed to advocating for the necessary support to uphold the integrity of our financial systems.

Finally, we take pride in the launch of the Kuna Inland Fish Farmers Co-operative in Jiwaka Province, a model for rural development and sustainable agriculture. This initiative highlights the profound impact that targeted efforts in agriculture can have on local economies, food security, and community livelihoods.

Together, these stories reflect the Auditor General's Office's unwavering dedication to modernization, climate responsibility, and community-centered development. We look forward to continuing our mission of service to Papua New Guinea with these core values in mind.



## DAG Lemeki Sign-Off First Audit within Stat Bodies using Teammate Plus Software



Deputy Auditor General Lemeki Ila and his team made history by completing the 2021 audit of the PNG Institute of Medical Research in Goroka using Teammate Plus software.

Deputy Auditor General Lemeki Ila and his team achieved a significant milestone by successfully signing off on the 2021 audit of the PNG Institute of Medical Research in Goroka using the advanced Teammate Plus software. This marked the first time a Deputy Auditor General has utilized this innovative tool as part of a pilot project within the Statutory Bodies Division.

The audit team, led by DAG Lemeki and including Fred Rocky, Maureen Adadikam, Raymond Veratau,

Miria Kupa, and Ekip Kop, was praised for their efforts in adopting this modern approach. Their work reflects the office's ongoing commitment to modernizing its processes and improving efficiency.

Looking ahead, Auditor General Gordon Kega has set a goal to fully transition from manual auditing to the Teammate Plus system by 2025. This move highlights the office's dedication to leveraging technology to enhance its auditing capabilities and ensure accountability in governance.





## Auditor General's Office Launches Climate Scanner Project to Review National Climate Actions



The Auditor General's Office of PNG, led by Principal Auditor Norma Dalu and Director of Audits Maureen Adadikam, has launched its first environmental audit through the Climate Scanner Project, using an online tool to assess the country's climate efforts, with findings to be presented at COP 28 in Azerbaijan this October.

The Auditor General's Office of Papua New Guinea (PNG) has started the Climate Scanner Project, part of a global effort with Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) to assess how countries are addressing climate change.

This project uses an online tool to review areas like governance, public policies, and climate finance, giving a full picture of PNG's climate efforts.

This is PNG's first step into environmental audits, helping to identify where the country can take stronger climate action and face challenges related to cli-

mate change.

Data from PNG's assessment will be included in a global report, which will be presented at COP 28 in Azerbaijan this October.

The project is led by Principal Auditor Ms. Norma Dalu and Director of Audits Ms. Maureen Adadikam, following training provided by SAI Brazil in June.

The assessment will wrap up by the end of September 2024 and provide important insights into PNG's approach to climate governance, while also contributing to the global understanding of climate action.



## Auditor-General's Office Marks Independence Day with Reflections on Progress



In celebration of Papua New Guinea's Independence Day, Auditor-General Gordon Kega delivered an inspiring speech to staff, emphasizing that true independence goes beyond political freedom, calling for unity in addressing economic growth, social equality, and the daily challenges faced by communities.

In honor of Papua New Guinea's Independence Day, the staff of the Auditor-General's Office celebrated the occasion within their respective divisions.

Auditor-General Gordon Kega, along with members of the Executive Division, held a small but meaningful ceremony where AG Kega delivered an inspiring speech.

Reflecting on his experiences from the historic handover on September 15, 1975, AG Kega highlighted that independence is more than just political freedom—it represents the nation's ongoing journey toward economic growth, social equality, and overcoming poverty.

In his address, AG Kega urged staff to unite in ensuring the benefits of independence are experienced by all, emphasizing the need to tackle challenges like high living costs and social inequality.

He called for collective efforts to promote economic progress and social justice, reinforcing that true independence means freedom from daily struggles that affect the well-being of the community.

AG Kega concluded by expressing pride in the nation's progress and encouraged all to continue striving for development, while upholding the values of unity and independence.





## Funding Shortfall Hampers Papua New Guinea's Accountants Registration Board



In a recent consultation at Finance Department Tower One, Auditor General and ARB Chairman Gordon Kega highlighted the critical funding challenges faced by the Accountants Registration Board, stressing the need for financial support to ensure it can uphold international accounting standards in Papua New Guinea.

In a recent consultation between the Accountants Registration Board (ARB) and the Finance Department, critical funding issues were highlighted.

The ARB, a small government entity, is struggling due to a lack of necessary financial support, which is vital for its operations and regulatory responsibilities.

Auditor General Kega, who also serves as the chairman of ARB, emphasized the challenges the board faces in fulfilling its mandated duties.

He underscored the importance of the ARB's role in ensuring that accounting practices in Papua New Guinea meet the standards set by

the International Federation of Accountants.

The funding shortfall, he noted, severely hampers the board's ability to function effectively.

The ARB Board members are preparing a budget submission to be reviewed by the Finance Department.

This crucial meeting took place at Finance Department Tower One, marking a significant step towards addressing the funding inadequacies and ensuring the ARB can continue its essential regulatory work.





## Auditor-General of Papua New Guinea Launches Inland Fish Farmers Co-operative in Jiwaka Province



Auditor-General Gordon Kega launched the Kuna Inland Fish Farmers Co-operative Society in KunaKaip village, Jiwaka Province, highlighting fish farming's vital role in promoting food security, economic growth, and rural livelihoods, while commending the community's resilience in maintaining infrastructure to support their sustainable agriculture efforts.

Auditor-General Gordon Kega recently launched the Kuna Inland Fish Farmers Co-operative Society at KunaKaip village in Jiwaka Province, marking a significant step towards promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development in Papua New Guinea.

Established after a 2004 training course, the co-operative has become a model of community resilience, with the community maintaining vital infrastructure, such as roads to the fish ponds, that supports their fish farming efforts.

During his visit, Mr. Kega emphasized the role of fish farming in boosting food security, economic growth, and livelihoods in rural areas.

He also highlighted the importance of stakeholder engagement, aligning the initiative with the strategic priorities of the Auditor-General's Office.

The co-operative cultivates species like carp, tilapia, and trout, providing a sustainable source of protein for local communities and contributing to improved nutrition and economic stability.