MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

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"Secure Our World"- Cybersecurity Awareness Month

October 1, 2024 Port Moresby: Cybersecurity Awareness Month highlights the growing importance .of cybersecurity in our daily lives and encourages individuals and businesses to take important cybersecurity steps every day to Secure Our World and stay safe online.

Today I want to reiterate the Marape-Rosso Government's commitment through the Ministry of Information and Communication Technologi (ICT) to cybersecurity education by participating in the 21st Annual Cybersecurity Awareness Month. Founded in 2004.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month, held each October, is the world-'s foremost initiative aimed at promoting cybersecurity awareness and best practices.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month is a collaborative effort among businesses, government agencies, colleges and universities, associations, - nonprofit organizations, tribal communities, and individuals committed to educating others about online safety.

"From mobile to connected home devices, technology is deeply intertwined in our lives. Emerging technologies have many great benefits for society but with those new technologies come new opportunities for bad actors to disrupt our online activities at home, school or at work."

"Cybersecurity Awareness Month aims to highlight some of the emerging challenges that exist in the world of cybersecurity today and provide straightforward, actionable guidance that anyone can follow to create a safe and secure digital world for themselves and their loved ones."

The theme of Cybersecurity Awareness Month is Secure Our World, which encourages all of us to take four easy steps each day to ensure our online safety:

1. Understand the benefits of using a password manager and dispelling existing myths around password manager security and ease of use.
2. Turn on multifactor authentication on personal devices and business networks.
3. Recognize and report phishing — still one of the primary threat actions used by cybercriminals today.
4.1nsta11 updates on a regular basis and turn on automated updates.

As a responsible government; my Ministry through the Department of Information and Communication Technology (DICT) has taken drastic steps in Cybersecurity by improving on compliance and standards measures.

Papua New Guinea has made significant improvement in its digital transformation journey and has doubled its global index score in recent years. The release of the 2024 Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) reported Papua New Guinea has moved from Tier 5 (building) ih 2020 to T-ier 3 (Establishing) 2024. This is a testament of Papua New Guinea's commitment to achieving the targets set with within the Medium-Term Development Plan 2023-2027 and ensuring our nation's digital security matches international standards.

While we acknowledge our achievements thus far, we also recognize that there is still so much to do. We acknowledge the support from our development partners and all stakeholders alike in improving our cybersecurity measures.

As we aspire to open our country through our digital transformation process, protecting our citizens and more so our children is very important therefore our continuing efforts to ensure a safe and secure environment conducive to, the development in the ICT sector."

With that, I would like to call on all our citizens including business houses, academic institutions and private citizens to be vigilant, stay alert and use technology responsibly.

Hon. Timothy Masiu MP
Minister for Information and Communications Technology; and
Member for South Bougainville