



12 September 2020

Mr. Warren Suti,
Manager,
NICTA,
Punaha ICT Haus,
P.O. Box 8444, Boroko,
NCD 111.

Dear Sir,

SUBJECT: NICTA 2021 UAS CONSULTATION PAPER

With reference to the matter above, I would like to submit some of my suggestion and viewpoint in regards to the 2021 NICTAUAS Consultation Paper.

Most of the citizen live in PNG remote rural areas face significant challenges in health, education and agriculture and economic opportunities due to poor network coverage. Communication is an essential services to improve rural social-economy. However, th current affordable communication service, especially 3G/4G is not available and beyond reach many rural areas. Hence, I would like to submit my suggestion and viewpoints for a efficient and smooth execution of UAS.

Below are my suggestion and viewpoints.

1. For Section 3.1, I suggest NICTA to **include the 4G active equipment for the site and increase the budget to 1,100,000 PGK per site**. This is because some mobile operators will set up the RDS tower, without putting the active equipment at site later considering the site is not profitable or high in maintenance. So, it is best that NICTA consider the passive and active part all in one, right at the first time. This problem arises many times where mobile operator install the RDS tower, but do not to install the active equipment. This defeats the purpose of UAS.
2. For Section 7.2 Emergency Telecommunication, **I suggest NICTA to issue the bidding and procure the emergency network system in 2020 or Q1 2021 before the disaster**. If NICTA is to issue the bidding after the disaster strike, it means the equipment will not be ready for use during disaster strike but 3-6 months later considering NICTA has to go through the bidding,



evaluation, procurement, manufacturing and logistics. So, NICTA needs to call for bid and procure this emergency system the soonest possible, preferably in 2020 or Q1 2021. UAS's purpose is proactive planning and plan for emergency.

3. For Section 7.2, I suggest NICTA to **increase the budget to 6 Million PGK as the emergency system use dedicated water proof handset and dedicated system which is higher in standards and maintenance cost.** This should also include emergency communication vehicle which equipment with network poles and generator. Hence, the budget should increase to 6 Million PGK. NICTA needs to procure at least 150 water proof and shock proof handsets to cater for the needs of various agencies.
4. For villages with 1000 – 2000 villagers, **NICTA should consider mono-pole base-station to save cost.** Huawei RuralStar is one of the mono-pole base station that run on solar cell and replace RDS tower with mono-pole with a diameter of 8KM.
5. For section 5, **I suggest NICTA to reduce the budget from 1 Million to 500K PGK as the infrastructure is still critical in the telecommunication development of PNG.** The fund should be channel to infrastructure development first as it is the top priority now.

I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sean Ng", written over a horizontal dashed line.

Sean Ng
Account Director
Huawei Technologies (PNG) Pvt Limited