



**DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT**  
***Office of the Secretary***

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**CIRCULAR INSTRUCTION NO: 21 OF 2024**

**DATE : 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2024**

**FILE : 1-4-12(A)**

**TO : ALL DEPARTMENTAL HEADS  
ALL PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATORS  
ALL HEADS OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES  
ALL CEOs OF HOSPITALS AND PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITIES  
ALL PUBLIC SERVANTS**

**SUBJECT: 20<sup>TH</sup> OF NOVEMBER TO 10<sup>TH</sup> OF DECEMBER 2024: OBSERVATION OF  
THE ANNUAL 20 DAYS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISM CAMPAIGN**

This Circular Instruction serves to inform all Departmental Heads, Provincial Administrators and Heads of Agencies on the observation and the commemoration of the annual 20 Days of the Human Rights Activism Campaign in the public service that commences on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November and ends on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December, 2024.

**The Official Launching of the 20 Days of Human Rights Activism Campaign**

The "20 Days of the Human Rights Activism Campaign" (2DHRAC) in the country is part of the global movement that began with the "16 Days of Activism Against Gender – Based Violence". The United Nations Secretary – General launched in 2008 the campaign **UNITE by 2030 to End Violence Against Women**, which runs parallel to the 16 Days of Activism.

In the National Public Service, the 20 days of the human rights activism campaign is observed through various agency's GESI Help Desks under the Public Service Male Advocacy Network program. This program aims to work with and for women to raise awareness and advocate for the human rights of women and girls in the workplaces, homes and communities.

The Department for Community Development & Religion is the mandated agency in the implementation and coordination of the 20DHRAC in the country. The department will

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officially launch the 2024 campaign on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2024 in West New Britain Province.

The event will see participation from political leaders, heads of various departments, government representatives, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international entities, donor partners, community-based organizations (CBOs), and members of the general public.

Listed below are the follow up activities leading up to the 20 days activism launch on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November.

<b>Lead Up Activities</b>		
Activity	Date	Agency Responsible
1. Human Rights defenders Training on Laws, policies and International Treaties and Conventions.	4 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> November, 2024	DFCDR/DJAG/UN Women.
2. Men’s Forum	11 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> November, 2024	PNG Lead Women – DFAT/DfCDR.
<b>Other Activities</b>		
3. Human Rights Film Festival the commemoration of Universal Children’s Day.	18 -20 <sup>th</sup> November, 2024	DfCDR
4. Commemoration of 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov (Elimination of violence against women and girls) and 29 <sup>th</sup> (Human Rights Defenders Day) in Imbonggu SHP.	25 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> November, 2024	DfCDR
5. Sign Language training and commemoration of International Disability Day	03 <sup>rd</sup> December, 2024	DfCDR

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## The 2024 -2025 National Theme

Every year, the UNITE Campaign focuses on a specific theme and this year's **international theme** is **"Act Now! End Violence Against Women & Girls"**. This theme underscores the critical urgency of the moment and is built around three core pillars, aligned with UN Women's Beijing+30 engagement strategy: Accountability, Resourcing, and Recommitment to End VAWG. It emphasizes the critical need for accelerated action on ending violence against women and girls.

The national theme for 2024 to 2025 is **"It's My Responsibility – Let's Work Together to Prevent All Forms of Violence."**

The theme, **"It's My Responsibility"** stresses the importance of personal ownership in addressing violence. It challenges individuals to break cycles of violence within their families and communities, encouraging everyone to take action. At the same time, **"Let's Work Together"** reflects the need for coordinated efforts across all sectors of society, reinforcing PNG's cultural value of collective action and support.

"It's My Responsibility – Let's Work Together to Prevent All Forms of Violence" serves as a strong call to action for 2024 to 2025. It highlights that preventing violence is a shared duty, demanding both personal commitment and collective effort. As Papua New Guinea approaches its 50th anniversary of independence, this theme brings a message of hope and unity, motivating the nation to strive for a future free from violence.

## Days of Observation

The official dates of the observations are shown hereunder; all agencies are encouraged to organise activities and observe the 20 days.

<b>Date of Observation</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Event Objective</b>	<b>Colour</b>
November 20	International Children's Day	This celebration aims to <b>raise awareness about children's rights and the challenges they face globally, such as poverty, lack of access to education, healthcare, and child labor.</b>	Blue
November 25	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	<b>The UNITE to End Violence against Women</b> initiative is a multiyear effort to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls around the world.	Orange
November 29	International Women's Human Rights Defender's Day	International Women Human Rights Defenders Day acknowledges the vital role WHRDs play in <b>advocating for</b>	Purple, Green and White

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		<b>human rights, gender equality, and social justice worldwide.</b>	
December 01	World AIDS Day	World AIDS Day brings together people from around the world to <b>raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and demonstrate international solidarity in the face of the pandemic.</b>	Red
December 03	International Day for Persons with Disabilities	The observance of the Day aims to <b>promote understanding of disability issues and encourage support for the rights of persons with disabilities.</b>	Purple
December 05	National Volunteers Day	International Volunteer Day is a chance for individual volunteers, communities and organizations to <b>promote their contributions to development at the local, national and international levels.</b>	Red
December 09	International Anti - Corruption Day	The International Anti-Corruption Day observed every year on December 9th seeks to highlight the rights and responsibilities of everyone - including States, Government officials, civil servants, law enforcement officers, media representatives, the private sector, civil society, academia, the public and youth.	Green
December 10	International Human Rights Day	Human Rights Day is observed by the international community every year on 10 December. It <b>commemorates the day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.</b>	Blue

Together we can make a difference by advocating for gender equity and social inclusion in all aspects of public service. It is crucial that we continue to raise awareness and take action to address issues on the different forms of violence against women and girls. By working together, we can create a more just and equitable workplace and society for everyone.

**TAIES SANSAN**  
Secretary



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