Autonomy and Decentralization Research Project - NRI

Seminar 3
Outline

• Arms of government/Levels of government
• Parliament Committees
• Provincial and district governments
• Service delivery failure: Causes
• Politics first
• Possible research areas
Arms of Government

• Three arms of Government:

  Legislative, Executive, and Judiciary

  In principle, separate or independent

  Each arms holds the other accountable
Levels of Government

• Administratively, 3 (4?) levels of government

• Politically 2: National and Local Level Government

• Or ONE?
National Government

- Legislative: Law makers

- Executive: Budgets, implementation

- Now, service delivery/project management
Committees

APPOINTMENTS: Mr Philip Undialu (Chairman), Mr William Powi (Deputy Chairman), Mr Garry Juffa, Mr Peter Yama, Mr Robert Naguri and Dr William Tongamp. (one vacancy)

BROADCASTING OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS: Mr Speaker (Chairman) ex-officio Member, Mr Nakikus Konga (Deputy Chairman), Mr Francis Maneke and Mr Michael Dua.

*CITIZENSHIP MATTERS: Mr Taboi Yoto (Chairman), Mr Ginson Saonu and Mr Robert Agarobe. (four vacancies – Deputy Chairman and members)

*CONSTITUTIONAL LAWS AND ACTS AND SUBORDINATE LEGISLATIONS: Sir Peter Ipatas (Chairman), Mr Ginson Saonu, Mr Philip Undialu and Mr William Powi. (three vacancies – Deputy Chairman and members)

*CULTURE AND TOURISM: Mr Kennedy Wenge (Chairman), Mr Allan Bird, Mr Charlie Benjamin, Mr Peter Numu and Mr Robert Agarobe. (six vacancies – Deputy Chairman and members)
Committees

Mr Charlie Benjamin, Mr Garry Juffa, Mr Nakikus Konga and Mr William Nakin. (one vacancy)

*FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE: Dr William Tongamp (Chairman), Mr Fabian Pok (Deputy Chairman), Mr Garry Juffa, Sir Peter Ipatas and Mr Tony Wouwou. (two vacancies)

*LAW AND ORDER: Mr Tony Wouwou (Deputy Chairman), Dr Allan Marat, Mr Belden Namah and Mr Moriape Kavori. (three vacancies – Chairman and members)

LEGISLATION: Mr Speaker (Chairman) ex-officio Member, Mr William Powi (Deputy Chairman), Dr Allan Marat, Mr Chris Haiveta, Mr Peter Numu, Mr Peter Yama and Mr Taboi Yoto.

NATIONAL PARLIAMENT: Mr Speaker (Chairman) ex-officio Member, Mr Chris Haiveta, Mr Powes Parkop and Mr Tony Wouwou. (one vacancy)

PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS: Mr Chris Haiveta (Chairman), Mr James Donald, Mr Nakikus Konga, Sir Peter Ipatas and Mr Powes Parkop. (one vacancy – Deputy Chairman)

PLANS AND ESTIMATES: Mr Allan Bird (Chairman), Mr Ginson Saonu (Deputy
Committees

PRIVILEGES:  Mr Charlie Benjamin (Chairman), Mr Benjamin Philip (Deputy Chairman), Mr Powes Parkop, Mr William Powi and Dr William Tongamp.

*PUBLIC ACCOUNTS:  Mr Aiye Tambua (Chairman), Mr Garry Juffa (Deputy Chairman), Mr Benjamin Philip, Mr Charlie Benjamin, Mr James Donald, Mr Kennedy Wenge, Mr Koi Trape, Mr Moriape Kavori, Mr Peter Numu, Mr Robert Naguri, Mr Taboi Yoto, Mr William Powi and Dr William Tongamp. (one vacancy)

*PUBLIC WORKS:  Mr Douglas Tomuriesa (Deputy Chairman), Mr Francis Maneke, Mr Ginson Saonu, Mr James Donald, Mr Michael Dua, Mr Moriape Kavori, Mr Peter Numu, Mr Robert Atiyafa, Mr Taboi Yoto and Mr William Nakin. (four vacancies – Chairman and members)
Committees

Committee Officers of Committees, Mr Deputy Speaker (Deputy Chairman) ex-officio Members, Dr Allan Marat, Mr Chris Haiveta, Mr Ginson Saonu, Mr Peter Yama and Mr Powes Parkop. (two vacancies)

BI-PARTISAN COMMITTEE

BOUGAINVILLE MATTER: Mr William Nakin (Deputy Chairman) and Dr Allan Marat. (three vacancies – Chairman and members)

SPECIAL COMMITTEE

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE: Mr Charles Abel (Chairman), Mr Allan Bird (Deputy Chairman), Mr Aiye Tambua, Dr Allan Marat, Mr Ginson Saonu, Mr Michael Dua and Mr Powes Parkop.

PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM AND SERVICE DELIVERY: Mr Garry Juffa (Chairman), Mr William Nakin (Deputy Chairman), Mr Allan Bird, Mr Elias Kapavore, Sir Peter Ipatas, Mr Peter Numu, Mr Philip Undialu, Mr Robert Agarobe and Mr William Powi.
Committees

• 22 of the 34 committees operating

• Public Accounts Committee – selective cases

• Parliament Business Committee
Provincial Assembly

• Provincial assembly

• Delegated roles: 5 areas

• Funding: Grants, and Province Service Improvement Program Funds
District Development Authority

• Sharing functions with provincial government
• Delegated functions from the Minister
• District grants
• District Service Improvement Program Funds
Service Delivery

• What are the causes?
Were the decline in service delivery casually related to country’s political architecture?

“None of the basic institutional features... is directly responsible for service delivery failures... but the way the system is used, and abused..” (p 2)
Service Delivery

• What are the causes?
• Ketan (2013) described the Western Highlands Provincial Government as:

  “woeful administrative... dreadful financial mismanagement, and political interference”

An all political ecosystem
Service Delivery

• What are the causes?

None of the the reforms were intended to improve service delivery. They were all initiated by political motivations

1995 reforms, DDA 2014
Politics first

Parliament term: 5 years

18 months
- After PM is elected: 18 months ‘grace period’
- Vote of no confidence cannot be moved

30 months
- Period of instability
- Vote of no confidence can be moved against PM

12 months
- Last 12 months before issue of writs for next election: vote of no confidence not possible
Politics first

O’Neill’s 5 years (2012 - 2017): Constitutional Amendments

30 months (previously 18)
Amendments to the Constitution:
- ss. 145 (4): extended grace period
- ss. 124 (1): reduced parliament sitting days from (63 to 40)
- ss. 145 (1): increased days for notice, and number of MPs to sign the notice for the motion for VONC

18 months (previously 30)
Opposition had 60 days in 5 years, to have 22 MPs to sign the notice for VONC, and submit it one month in advance

12 months
Last 12 months before issue of writs for next election: vote of no confidence not possible

O’Neill amended the Constitution 14 times: How was that possible? DSIP & PSIP? Ministerial portfolios?
Vice-Minister for Provincial and LLG Affairs, 2016:

“The reason [for the unsuccessful VONC against O’Neill in 2016] is because DSIP is there that's why we will be in the government and support the O'Neill-Dion government. It's not about your number of qualifications you have to lead the government, so long as you have the money, you will master the numbers....” (Freddy Mou, 2016).
Questions for further research

• Discretionary funds and alignment with national development goals

• Possible reforms for the SIPs