

## Ministry of Communications & Information Technology

## Office of the Minister

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## MEDIA STATEMENT

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## Papua New Guinea Progresses as Greatest Gainer in 2024 Global Cybersecurity Ranking

The Ministry is pleased to announce a significant milestone in the country's digital transformation journey. The release of the 2024 Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) reports that Papua New Guinea has advanced rapidly in its global index score from Tier 5 (Building) in 2020 to Tier 3 (Establishing) 2024, doubling its global index score from 26.34 to over 58.00 surpassing all pacific countries (except Vanuatu), which remain in Tier 4 and 5.

With drastic improvements in key areas such as Legal Measures (14.98), Technical Measures (9.31), Organizational Measures (14.65), and Capacity Development (13.18), Papua New Guinea has now joined Vanuatu and New Zealand in Tier 3, while leading other Pacific countries and territories in Technical and Organizational Capacity. Key interventions in the last four years have included the endorsement of the National Cybersecurity Policy 2021, the legal provisioning of the National Cyber Security Centre within the Digital Government Act 2022, the re-establishment and enforcement of the Cybersecurity Operations Centre within the Department in 2023, and the finalization of the National Cybersecurity Strategy 2024. This progress is a testament to our commitment to achieving the targets set within the Medium-Term Development Plan 2023-2027 and ensuring our nation's digital security matches international standards.

As we acknowledge these advancements, we recognize that there is still much to do. Our improvement in cybersecurity measures over the last four years is only the beginning, and the Marape-Rosso Government is focused on improving standards and compliance measures. In the next phase, and through current partnerships with Australia, India, South Korea, and Israel, we are now prioritizing the establishment and strengthening of Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) across the private sector and operationalizing our cyber forensics function.

Papua New Guinea's drastic improvement in the global cybersecurity space is a clear demonstration of our ability to innovate, adapt, and take charge of our digital future. The Department of ICT, alongside our partners, will continue to lead initiatives so that we finally realize Papua New Guinea as a digital leader in the region.

