



**Bougainville Referendum Support Project**

Project Board Meeting  
15 November 2019  
minutes

**Present**

UNDP (in the Chair)  
Australia  
Japan  
New Zealand  
United Kingdom  
BRC (online from Buka)

**1 Welcome**

UNDP Resident Representative Dirk Wagener welcomed all to the meeting.

**2 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were approved.

**3 Update from the BRC**

The Chief Referendum Officer gave an update on BRC activities and BRC readiness for polling to commence on 22 November. He thanked the project and its donors for the continuous material and advisory support being provided to BRC.

**4 and 5 Project update and financial update**

The Board took the next two items together, as they are inextricably linked. The Senior Referendum Advisor highlighted some major areas of project activity including:

- The full deployment of the team's advisors across the BRC's five offices;
- The arrival and subsequent dispatch of essential electoral materials (ballot papers, polling kits, voting screens, indelible ink and NRB supplies);
- The use of the flexible funding window to meet the costs of BRC events, the count centre, NRB and OCV travel costs and other BRC needs.

The Board noted the financial update provided in paper PB6.

In terms of Activity 3.1, the Flexible Funding Window, the Board discussed BRC priorities and likely requests, including the need for standby air support and to allow for BRC contingencies.

The Board requested that UNDP provide a 'top ten' list of the most expensive items covered by the Flexible Funding Window. At 1 December, there were:

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>USD amount</b>	<b>For</b>
Malabolo Holdings	126,380.11	Rent for BRC HQ
Emptor International AS	120,064.50	Polling kits, voting screens, indelible ink etc
Pacific Cargo Service	82,799.17	Atolls polling boat
Mauricio Claudio	72,037.50	CRO salary
Network Innovations AP	58,166.62	Rental of portable VSATs
Henrico Trading	54,006.75	Rent for BRC HQ warehouse
Arawa Properties & Rental Limited	49,124.96	Rent for BRC Arawa office and warehouse
Al Ghurair Printing & Publishing LLC.	36,500.00	Ballot papers and freight to Buka
Pentagon Freight Services (PNG) Ltd	31,556.62	Shipment of various goods and supplies
Bena Transport Service	29,904.82	Rent for BRC Buin office

## **6 Project Assets**

UNDP shared a list of assets that were in the Temporary Custody of the BRC for discussion. The CRO confirmed that most assets would be returned to UNDP by 31 December on current plans, and that the BRC would write to request the further retention of those assets BRC would wish to use until the BRC was wound up (primarily vehicles, IT and furniture).

The Board discussed the list of assets and possible disposal options at an overall level, and noted:

- That UNDP should prepare a more detailed proposal for disposal;
- That the original agreement with Japan for the continued maintenance of the printing presses could be supported by proceeds for any asset sale; and
- UNDP should call a further meeting to discuss in the next weeks.