



BANK OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

P R E S S S T A T E M E N T

On the 19th April 1975, Papua New Guinea first issued its own currency the Kina and Toea. Introducing our own currency was one of the many moves towards nation building. Just like the national flag, the national anthem and the national crest, our currency the Kina and Toea is the national symbol which depicts elements of our culture, tradition and heritage.

The Kina was named after a valuable shell used as traditional money in the Highlands and Momase regions, while the Toea (pronounced in Motu, toya) was named after the armshell widely used in the Papuan coast.

Our currency has come a long way from paper substrate to polymer substrate, and with the introduction of high denomination K50 in 1998 and K100 in 2005 with a shift towards mixing traditional and non-traditional designs – the Parliament appears on the front of the notes a theme, which symbolize nationhood, unity and nation building.

Today, 19th April 2007 marks the 32nd Anniversary of the Kina and Toea and to commemorate the event, the Governor of the Bank of Papua New Guinea Mr. L. Wilson Kamit, announced the introduction of the new series of 2 Kina banknote.



1. **Front:**

Reduced size of Papua New Guinea National Crest which is a stylised Bird of Paradise sitting on a Kundu (drum) and a Spear, and Parliament House symbolizing nationhood and unity.

The design surrounding the Parliament House, National Crest and the numeral represent local lineal art patterns in modern style and do not interpret any particular subject.



2. **Back:**

The back of the banknote retain all the features of the old K2 note :

- A Mount Hagen Axe
- An Arm Shell (Toea) from Central Province

- Engraved dogs teeth from the Bougainville area, and
- A Clay Pot from the Sepik Province

The background tints have been composed of patterns taken from :

- A Tapa Cloth from the Oro Province
- Waist Band from the Gulf Province
- A Canoe from the Trobriand Islands
- A Shield from the Sepik area
- A Canoe from the West Sepik
- A Madang Shield, and
- Clubs from the Huon Gulf region of the Morobe Province

3. Size:

70 x 140mm and printed on Polymer Substrate

4. Colour:

A mixture of colours from green and blue with patches of gold

The note is printed on polymer and bears the following advanced security features to protect the note from counterfeiting:-

1. **Complex Clear Window** – incorporating a vignette of the Bank of Papua New Guinea
2. **Shadow Image** – shadow image of the Bank of Papua New Guinea logo, which is visible when raised to the light.
3. **G-Switch Feature** – G-Switch on the front and back of the note in a dynamic optical feature that changes colour when tilted under a light source
4. **Emboss** – the numerical “2” is embossed in the secondary clear window
5. **Offset** – complex security patterns in multiple rainbow print
6. **Intaglio** – raised keyline intaglio print on the front of the banknote
7. **Iridescent Feature** – iridescent Bird of Paradise in full flight is applied on the back of the note providing a change of color with orientation
8. **Serial Numbers** – black serial numbers that fluoresce under ultra violet light

The new 2 Kina banknote will become legal tender on Kina and Toea day, 19th April 2007 and will circulate with the old K2 banknote, which will be gradually withdrawn from circulation.

Today is also another event in the history of Papua New Guinea story of banknotes and coins.

The one (1t) and two (2t) Coins cease to be legal tender today.

L. WILSON KAMIT, CBE
GOVERNOR