



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

5 March 2021

Excellency,

I have learned with great sadness of the passing of Grand Chief Sir Michael Somare, former Prime Minister of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea.

Sir Michael will be remembered for his pivotal role in the independence and foundation of Papua New Guinea, as well as his lifetime of public service dedicated towards building a prosperous and democratic country. The United Nations is also grateful for his commitment to international cooperation and multilateralism.

I extend my deepest condolences to the family of Sir Michael, as well as to the Government and people of Papua New Guinea.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

*with my deep sincerity*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'António Guterres', with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

António Guterres

His Excellency  
Mr. James Marape, MP  
Prime Minister and Minister for Bougainville  
Affairs of the Independent State  
of Papua New Guinea  
Port Moresby