

## Papua New Guinea Government – API Governance Framework

*Aligned with the MuleSoft Anypoint Platform as the Secured Data Exchange Platform - SevisDEx*

*Under the Authority of the Public Service ICT Steering Committee (PSICTSC)*

*Pursuant to the Digital Government Act 2022 (No. 4 of 2022)*

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### 1. Legal Mandate and Institutional Alignment

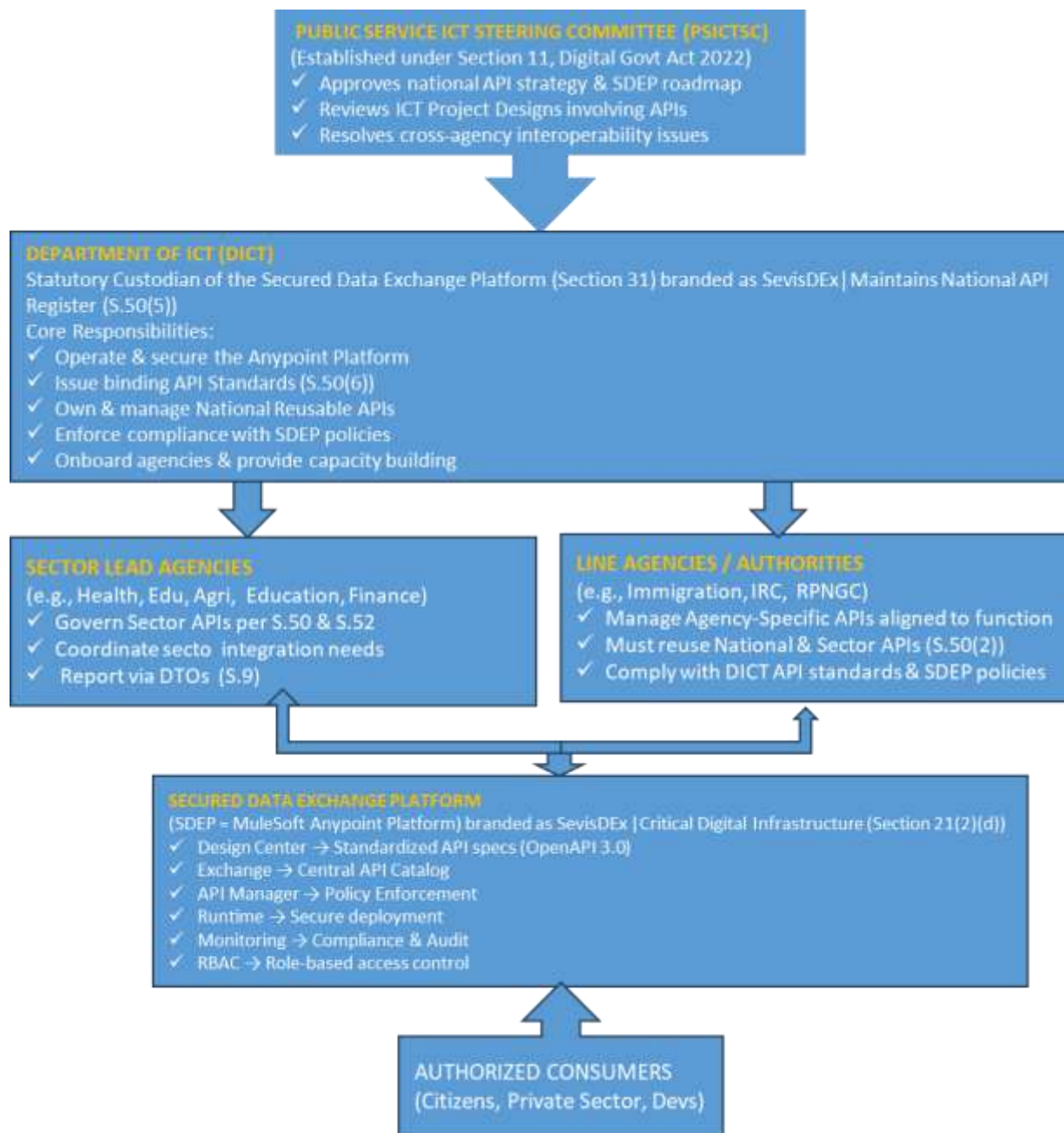
This API Governance Framework is issued by the **Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT)** in fulfillment of its statutory functions under the **Digital Government Act 2022**, specifically:

- **Section 6(1)(c)**: DICT must “co-ordinate the construction and delivery of whole-of-government digital infrastructure and digital services.”
- **Section 31**: DICT shall “develop, operate and maintain a secured data exchange platform for all public bodies.”
- **Section 50**: DICT shall issue **API standards** and maintain a **register of APIs used by public bodies**.
- **Section 11–12**: The **Public Service ICT Steering Committee (PSICTSC)** is the sole strategic governance body for ICT across the public service.
- **Section 21(2)(d)**: The **Secured Data Exchange Platform** is designated as **Critical Digital Infrastructure**.

**There shall be no parallel or ad hoc governance boards.** All API-related strategy, policy, and oversight flow through the PSICTSC as established under **Section 11** of the Act.

The **MuleSoft Anypoint Platform**, procured and operated by DICT, is formally designated as the national **Secured Data Exchange Platform (SDEP)** under **Section 31** of the Act branded as the **SevisDEx**.

### 2. GoPNG API Governance Structure



### 3. API Classification & Ownership (Per Act)

API Tier	Legal Basis	Owner	Governance Authority
National APIs	S.31, S.50, S.6(1)(c)	DICT (on behalf of GoPNG)	DICT + PSICTSC oversight
Sector-Specific APIs	S.50(2), S.52 (data sharing)	Sector Lead Agency	Sector Lead + DICT standards
Agency-Specific APIs	S.50(4) (agency must report API specs)	Line Agency / Authority	Agency (must comply with DICT API standards)

All APIs must facilitate systems interoperability (S.2) and support electronic data sharing (S.52) via the Secured Data Exchange Platform (S.31).

#### 4. Governance Workflow – Statutorily Anchored

##### Step 1: Strategic Direction

- PSICTSC (Section 12) approves the Digital Government Plan (Section 10), which includes the national API and SDEP strategy.
- DICT issues binding API Standards under Section 50(6) and Section 64 (standards/guidelines).

##### Step 2: API Registration & Classification

- Every public body must designate a Digital Transformation Officer (DTO) (Section 9).
- DTO submits new API proposals to DICT.
- DICT classifies APIs based on scope and reusability, aligning with Section 50(2) (interoperability) and Section 52 (secure data sharing).

##### Step 3: Design & Development on SDEP

- APIs developed using Anypoint Design Center must comply with:
  - Section 50(2)(a–vi): APIs must be machine-readable, stable, scalable, interoperable, multi-platform, and cyber-secure.
  - Section 31(4): “Secured API shall be used” for identity/authentication services.
- DTO ensures alignment with agency’s ICT Project Design, which requires PSICTSC review if ≥K5M (Section 14(4)(a)).

##### Step 4: Publication & National Register

- All APIs published in Anypoint Exchange.
- DICT maintains the National API Register as required by Section 50(5).
- Metadata includes: owner, classification, data sensitivity (per Section 45), and reuse potential.

##### Step 5: Secure Data Sharing

- Data exchanged via APIs must comply with:
  - Section 52: “necessary precautions to ensure... secured manner without causing data privacy violations.”
  - Section 45: Data classified as Top-Secret, Confidential, or Open.
  - Section 29/47: Access to personal data requires individual consent.

##### Step 6: Monitoring, Audit & Enforcement

- DICT monitors all API traffic via Anypoint for compliance.
- ICT Audit Committee (Section 16–17) may audit API usage and security.
- Non-compliant APIs may be suspended under Section 56(e) (“stop or suspend... project not in compliance”).

##### Step 7: Lifecycle & Retirement

- APIs must follow versioning and deprecation rules per DICT standards (**Section 50(3)(b–c)** for open data APIs).
- Retired APIs removed from Exchange; usage logs archived in **Central Electronic Data Repository (Section 28)**.

## 5. Roles & Statutory Responsibilities

Entity	Statutory Basis	API Governance Role
PSICTSC	Sections 11–13	Strategic approval of API policy, SDEP roadmap, and high-value ICT Project Designs.
DICT	Sections 6, 31, 50, 56	Operates SDEP; issues API standards; maintains API register; enforces compliance.
Digital Transformation Officers (DTOs)	Section 9	Agency-level coordination; API submission; compliance reporting to DICT.
Sector Lead Agencies	Implied by Sections 50, 52	Govern sector-wide reusable APIs; ensure intra-sector interoperability.
Line Agencies / Authorities	Sections 50(4), 52	Own function-specific APIs; must reuse higher-level APIs; report specs to DICT.
ICT Audit Committee	Sections 16–17	Audits API security, data handling, and compliance with Act and standards.

## 6. Compliance & Enforcement

- **Failure to comply** with API standards or SDEP usage constitutes an offence under **Section 58** (unauthorized data access/use) or **Section 3(2)** (non-compliance by public bodies).
- DICT may issue **directions** under **Section 55** to block non-compliant integrations.
- **Section 14**: No ICT Project Design involving APIs may proceed without DICT/PSICTSC approval (if ≥K5M).
- **Section 65(2)**: All agencies have **3 years from commencement** (i.e., by mid-2025) to transition to compliant API practices.

## 7. Conclusion

This framework operationalizes the **Digital Government Act 2022** by embedding API governance within the **statutorily mandated institutions** (PSICTSC, DICT, DTOs) and anchoring technical execution in the **Secured Data Exchange Platform**—implemented via **MuleSoft Anypoint Platform**. It ensures that every API:

- Supports **systems interoperability** (S.2),
- Enables **secure electronic data sharing** (S.52),
- Complies with **national API standards** (S.50),
- And operates on **critical digital infrastructure** (S.21, S.31).

**Effective immediately** under the authority of the Digital Government Act 2022.  
All public bodies must align API activities with this framework.

## 8. Contact

For inquiries, onboarding, or policy clarification:

**Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT)**

Digital Government Division

Email: [api-governance@dict.gov.pg](mailto:api-governance@dict.gov.pg)

Portal: <https://api.png.gov.pg> (Anypoint Exchange – Government Instance)

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*Issued by: Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT)*

*On behalf of the Public Service ICT Steering Committee (PSICTSC)*

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