

# Highlands Regional Development Forum Presentation 2017

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# Background

- 1) Highlands Regional Development Forum was held in the New Jiwaka Province from 8-9<sup>th</sup> March 2017.
- 2) Attended by all 7 Highlands Provinces, SHP, Hela, Enga, WHP, Jiwaka, Simbu and EHP.
- 3) Opening – Host Governor, Hon. Dr William Tongamp, Provincial Administrator Mr. Michael Wandil, Hon. Tobias Kulang, Minister for Culture and Tourism. (Hon. Charles Abel, Planning Minister)
- 4) Other Stakeholders: Archbishop Young – Catholic Church, Mt. Hagen. Institute of National Affairs, PNG Resource Governance Coalition, Media Council of PNG. Ombudsman Commission. Dept. Of provincial Affairs, EITI, Transparency International, Community Development Dept. Education Dept.

# Forum Discussion/Issues

1. Westminster verses reality on the ground.
2. Key Public Sector Reforms (National Planning, Finance & DPM)
3. Decentralised Verses Centralised System
4. Leadership and Linking/supporting Community Development Efforts.
5. Promoting Leadership and Governance in the Extractive Sector.

# Feedback from Evaluation

1. 25 Evaluation Forms Completed; 12 people found information provided through the forum useful and the speakers were excellent. However, the rest rated it as poor or good due to many saying too much information and not enough time for discussion. 15 people found the organisation of the forum excellent while the rest considered it as poorly organised or just OK. Food not organised on time, etc. Suggestions: CIMC Forum in LLGs in Future. Excellent Example by Host Governor. Hon. Dr. William Tongamp.

# Summary of Recommendations from the Highlands Region.

## ***D1. Achieving quality leadership and Improved Governance.***

- 1. Provincial Administrators should be the chairman of all development funds.***
- 2. There should be clear guidelines on the District Development Authority (DDA) Act outlining and specifying in detail the composition of DDA board members.***

# Summary of Recommendations from the Highlands Region.

## ***D2. Citizen Participation and Oversight.***

- 1. Government must ensure that all policy, strategy and legislative is made available to the people so that they are aware and use the information as the basis for Development and Participation.***

# Summary of Recommendations from the Highlands Region.

## ***D2. Citizen Participation and Oversight.***

- 1. Government .....***
- 2. Government must ensure that Gender equity and social inclusion is adhered to through implementation of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion policy and other relevant legislations.***

# Summary of Recommendations from the Highlands Region.

## ***D3. Extractive Sector Governance.***

- 1. There should be an independent oversight mechanism for the Sovereign Wealth Fund***
- 2. Social Mapping and land owner identification should be simplified by going down to the communities and identifying people through clans.***



# Summary of Recommendations from the Highlands Region.

## ***D4. Achieving quality education and health outcomes.***

- 1. Partnership between stakeholders , like Churches, NGOs, Health and Education Departments must be strengthened for collective and better delivery of health and education services.***
- 2. Abolish DDA Act completely.***