



CONSULTATIVE IMPLEMENTATION & MONITORING COUNCIL NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM.

20th – 22nd June, 2017

VENUE: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Port Moresby.

**THEME: “Quality Leadership & Community Oversight for Improved
Governance”**

Sub Theme : Mamose CIMC Regional Consultative Forum Report & Recommendations.

Presentation Outline-

1. Introduction
2. Record of Participants
3. Focus of the Presentations & Discussions
4. Method of Engagements
5. Forum Evaluation Reports
6. Recommendations
7. Conclusion

1. Introduction.

- The forum program had a number of sessions with speakers presenting on certain topics followed by question and answer sessions after each presentation.
- Information was gathered from participants through the brief question times at the end of each session and through presentations as well as feedbacks provided from the evaluation forms.

2. Forum Participants.

- Total Number Participants = 120
(recorded for each forum day through the registration forms completed by participants)
- 35 - participants were female.
- 65 % - Representatives from Civil Society.
- 30% - from all levels of government (ward councillors, LLG Presidents and urban LLG - large number from the host province)
- The remaining (5%) was from private sector, Churches and Development partners including Media.

3. Focus of Presentations & Discussions.

Presentations and discussions were around –

- Experiences on leadership,
- Management of public resources,
- Transparency and accountability in the system and
- How existing issues can be improved/going forward.

4. Method of Engagement

- **For Several Government Agencies** - The forum provided opportunities for several government agencies to discuss their roles in enhancing good leadership and governance for improved public services.
- **For NGOs and CSOs** - Discussions on greater participation from citizens at all levels of service delivery and development with ongoing basic education and awareness on important policy and legal reforms.

5. Forum Evaluation Reports.

Information provided by participants through completed evaluation forms highlighted the following based on the 10 questions asked to evaluate the forum;

- 4/10 evaluation questions - sought suggestions from participants on rural development, community engagement in development and their views on what the three most important government priorities to achieve rural development and service delivery should be;

Continue.

- Three (3) questions were on rating the forum, the speakers and how participants valued the forum;
- And two (2) questions related to the value of information collected at the forum and ..
- one question sought suggestions for forum improvement.

Cont... (Based on the questions:)

- Almost all participants rated the information provided through the forum and the speakers highly.
- Most participants also suggested that there should be proper planning for appropriate service delivery, community engagement should be prioritised through resource and information empowerment.
- On the question regarding their view on three most important government priorities to achieve rural development and service delivery:
 - That good leadership, education, health, infrastructure and agriculture should be prioritised.
 - This should then be supported by Timely funding, capacity at districts, downstream processing, SMEs, informed citizen participation;

Cont... (Based on the questions:)

- Almost all participants found the information disseminated through the forum very valuable;
- For improvement suggestions almost all suggested for CIMC to be expanded to the districts and awareness must be done in the provinces and districts about CIMC and what it stands for.

Recommendations - Group 1.

- 1.1 There is lot of duplication of functions in the government system, so a clause has to be inserted in specific legislation calling for Job descriptions for political leaders. Also politicians should only play figure head roles and not project officer roles.
- 1.2 That the school of government must be strictly for government and public service purposes so that government line managers in the districts are given the opportunity to go and train so that capacity at the districts are improved.

Cont... Group 1

- 1.3 Policies made at the national level are shoved down the throat of those at the provincial level without appropriate funding and resources to implement the policies therefore it is recommended that policy information must be widely distributed by government.
- 1.4 Government must institute and apply pre-qualifications to qualify all intending candidates for contesting elections.

Comment: The bureaucracy must connect with elected leaders and work together to ensure development and service delivery

Recommendations- Group 2

2.1 That Government should amend parts of the DDA Act. Case in point as per the DDA Act for appointment of DDA CEO/District Administrator. As allowed by the DAA Act, why does the Provincial Administrator who is supposed to do merit based appointment of a District Administrator then have to consult the Open Member for appointment?

Comment: This alone questions the merit based appointment process of the Public Service system and provides for political infiltration into the public service machinery. Hence, it is recommended that the above provision in the Act be amended so that appointment of District Administrators is done only by Provincial Administrators. Any other provisions in the Act that hinder the work of District Administrators should also be removed or amended.

Cont.... Group 2

- 2.2 That government must build capacity at the provincial and district levels to improve governance and accountability and enable the public servants to be better equipped to implement policy changes and new plans.

- 2.3 **Monitoring, Compliance and Reporting** – Huge chunks of funds are being sent to the districts through the DDA by-passing Provincial Governments. However, the National departments such as National Planning and DIRD want Provincial Government to monitor the use of the funds but there is a disconnect so it may be hard for Provincial Governments to check on how funds are being used at the LLG or District levels. So it is recommended that government put in place a mechanism to ensure people using the funds at the District or LLG levels comply with government fund disbursement guidelines.

Cont... Group 2

- 2.4 That Government reviews the Treasury system in the districts because it is becoming difficult to hold treasury staff operating in the districts accountable for any misdeed including failure to provide reports to the District Audit Committee. The district treasury is the engine room of the service delivery system and it has to be working efficiently.

Recommendations - Group 3

- 3.1 That there should be a neutral body to oversee service delivery and the disbursement of DSIPs, PSIPS and carry out PPP approaches between all players.
- 3.2 The Government reviews the DDA Act and amend where necessary based on a review of the Act.

Recommendations - Group 4

- 4.1 That government provides mechanisms for deed of agreement or MOA between Land Owners and the Government before the people can free up their land for any development purposes. Sometimes politicians use documentation called “Power of Attorney” to act on behalf of the people to sign agreements between themselves and developers without the people’s knowledge.
- 4.2 That the information about the EITI must be spread through established CSOs in the respective Provinces and Districts.

Cont... Group 4

- 4.3 Government must institute a standardised land policy that can be applied throughout the country. All developers will then have to agree to abide by that policy before they can do anything on the land.

- 4.4 Government must make funds available for land mobilisation and customary land registration and forming of ILGs. Under the revised Act government is calling for people to form ILGs but some people cannot do that because of certain disputes, so with funding, government officers can go into such areas and assist people set up proper ILGs.

Comments. Martyn Namorong

- We must know that land needs to be made available for development to happen. With regard to the national policy they are referring to, at the moment we do not have the national content plan framework. There is no template for companies to come and engage so if you are a good negotiator you get a better deal, if you don't negotiate well you get peanuts from your resources. So we must realise the capacity issues of our local people and create a standard template that can be used by all. The companies that want our resources can come and sign up without national minimum standard which captures the interest of our people.

Comments: Samuel Kime

- If the National Government is not going to remove the SABLs in its entirety, then it has to be reviewed .
- I want to ask if EITI can also look or give more time to SABLs as well. We used to have Timber Rights to Purchase (TRP) some 20 years ago and after it was reviewed the Forest Management Authority (FMA) concept was born, however both concepts have not worked as far as the land owners are concerned. There is one more concept known as the Industrial Park that is on the horizon and to my understanding the Industrial Park is the revised SABL or the SABLs in a different form.

Cont... Group 4 Recommendation

- 4.5 **To register an ILG the requirement is birth certificates or NID.**
That government must remove the condition for NID and Birth Certificate as a requirement for ILG formation. That policy is not conducive to local landowners who may have to travel miles by foot and other means to get a NID for the purpose of registering their ILG. It must be replaced with an alternate condition.
- 4.6 Government must provide mobilisation funds and accessibility at the provinces and districts so that the NID service is available and accessible to all people throughout the country.

Recommendations - Group 5

- 5.1 That government through the Education Department adopts the old system again which includes grade 1-6 for primary schools, grade 7-10 for high schools and grades 11-12 for secondary high schools. The Aitape Lumi (back to basics) approach should be picked up by the department and modelled in some provinces.

- 5.2 That government develops alternate pathways to cater for mass dropouts from our institutions into areas of TAFE and Agriculture.

Cont... Group 5

- 5.3 That all health sector funds should be kept at provincial levels for proper control and accountability and the Provincial Health Authorities (PHA) should be empowered to control and manage the said funds. Health component of the DSIPs and PSIPs should be channelled to the PHA for health service delivery.
- 5.4 That contracts for delivery of medical supplies to rural areas should be given by the National Government to organisations who are already doing work on the ground such as Samaritan Aviation who is delivering medical supplies at its own cost to the vast remote areas along the Sepik River.

Conclusion.

- Reference is made to NEFC Mamose Regional Expenditure Performance Review Meeting dated 17th -18th May, 2017.

“Much of the challenges in the delivery of Drugs and Materials in Health and Education Sectors are governed by Policy directions **which in themselves impeded the service delivery** *where the tar hits the dirt*. This is where service delivery is most affected in Health & Education.

To navigate between the lines, the way forward requires revisitation of these Policies and giving provinces an autonomy to craft their way forward with other stakeholders.”

Em Tasol.

Thank You.