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PRESS RELEASE

**State Successfully Concludes Alotau Consultations On
Porgera CDA**

The Porgera Mining Project Community Development Agreement (CDA) consultation process which began on Monday September 4, 2023 in Alotau, was successfully concluded yesterday (Sept 5, 2023).

Chairman of the consultative meeting Harry Kore, said the process went according to plan. He said the plan was to bring all the landowner groups, impacted communities and stakeholders to one location, to enable each stakeholder through their duly nominated leaders, to present their position papers freely without fear or any form of intimidation.

Position papers are documents that outline the landowners' and impacted communities' development aspirations and plans, which will form the basis for the CDA negotiations going forward.

The position papers were presented to the Mining Minister Hon Sir Ano Pala as follows:

1. Special Mining Lease (SML): Presented by the Chairman of the Porgera Landowners Association (PLOA) Tony Mark Ekepa.
2. Lease for Mining Purposes: Presented by the Interim Chairman of the Association Timothy Andambo
3. Mining Easement (ME): Presented by Philip Mungalo
4. Mining Lease (ML): Presented by Gideon Karipe
5. Hides-Porgera Power Line: Presented by Ekamari Ekanjia and Alfred Andapanga
6. Riverine communities from the Enga and Western Provinces' Porgera/Strickland River, and the West Sepik's Telefomin District: Presented by Peter Papo
7. The Western Provincial Government: Presented by Governor Taboi Yoto
8. West Sepik Provincial Administration: Presented by Member for Telefomin Hon Solan Mirisim and Governor Hon Tony Wouwou.

Minister Pala assured the landowners that the government was committed to ensuring that the process going forward was efficiently managed to make sure that the National Government listens to all their concerns in order to make justifiable decisions on the benefit distribution that is acceptable and one that every stakeholder can live with.

The Vice Minister for Mining Hon James Donald and Vice Minister Assisting Prime Minister and Minister for State Negotiation Team, Hon Jimmy Maladina, expressed satisfaction on the positive outcome of the meeting.

Minerals for Life

The State Team will travel to Wabag next week and Tari the following week, to receive position papers from the Enga and Hela Provincial Governments.

The receipt of all the position papers from each stakeholder will effectively conclude the Development Forum.

The State Team has commenced developing a matrix that will contain all position papers, in preparation for the commencement of the CDA negotiations going forward.



Photo: Porgera Landowners Association (PLOA) Chairman Tony Mark Ekepa (left) presenting his association's position paper to Minister Pala yesterday in Alotau. On the right is Andrew Gunua, MRA's Executive Manager for the Development Coordination Division.

