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PRESS RELEASE

Porgera Mine Union now has an office

PORT MORESBY, 03 JULY, 2019, 0900HRS: The Porgera Mining and Allied Workers Union (PMAWU) now has an office, thanks to the Porgera Joint Venture (PJV).

The office, equipped with the basic office supplies and equipment, is located within the Porgera Mine premises, because a secure location outside of the mine was unavailable.

Industrial Registrar Helen Saleu officiated at the opening on 29 March, 2019.

Ms Saleu said Unions were corporate entities that must have registered offices because without offices their existence could be questioned.

“I am happy to witness now the opening of this office, which is a requirement for Unions to get registered.

“They have a constitution that they operate with and they must have a registered office so we get all the Union financial members to come to a location, where they can sit down and do their business without interference of the employer,” she said.

She called on Union executives led by President Dassil Mangapen, to ensure they keep records of the Union’s work in the office.

“Whatever correspondence I write to you regarding meeting the requirements of the Act, which you are registered under, will be kept here for me or my inspectors to come and do inspections.

“You are lucky you have a Union and you are lucky you have an office,” she added.

Mr Mangapen while receiving the keys to the office was thankful to the Porgera Mine management team that the Union, together with its executives and the members now have an office.

He said the location of the office symbolised the continued partnership between the company and the Union.

Mangapen also said his team would now pick up on a lot of administrative tasks that lagged over the years due to the unavailability of a secure office, as he cautioned his members, to front up at the office during their shift off and not while on duty.

PJV Senior Manager for Human Resources and Employee Development David Lilley said, it was a good thing that the Union now has an office as employees can meet with the Union to discuss their issues.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Porgera Gold Mine in Enga Province, Papua New Guinea, is operated by Barrick (Niugini) Limited (“BNL”)– through an equal partnership between Barrick Gold Corporation and Zijin Mining Group Company Limited – which owns 95 percent participating interest in the Porgera Joint Venture (PJV). The remaining 5% in PJV is owned by Mineral Resource Enga (MRE) Limited – a consortium consisting of the Enga Provincial Government and the Porgera landowners.

The Porgera Mine employs over 3,300 Papua New Guineans, and over the life of the mine has produced more than 20 million ounces of gold and contributed approximately 10% of PNG’s total annual exports.



Ms Saleu (right) cuts the ribbon with Mangapen of the new off for the Union, at the premises of the Porgera Mine.



Mr Lilley (right) handed over the keys to Mr Mangapen, witnessed by Ms Saleu at the premises of the Porgera Mine.

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