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PRESS RELEASE

BNL and Enga MP's meet to discuss mine challenges

PORT MORESBY, 8 OCTOBER 2017, 1300HRS: Barrick (Niugini) Limited ("BNL") has given undertaking to work in partnership with the Enga Provinces' elected Members of Parliament (MP) to progress the Provinces' development agenda through sustainable projects.

And to support this partnership, the provincial leaders will be recommending to the National Government, a Special Tax Credit Scheme (TCS) arrangement, details of which will be worked out during further consultation.

BNL on 27 September held a briefing session in Port Moresby with the Engan leaders led by the Governor, Sir Peter Ipatas.

Present were the new member elect for Wabag, Dr Lino Tom, the new MP for Lagaip-Porgera Tomait Kapili and new the MP for Kandep and Minister for Civil Aviation, Alfred Manasseh.

Member for Wapenamanda and Foreign Affairs Minister Rimbink Pato and Member for Kompiani-Ambum and Environment, Conservation and Climate Change Minister John Pundari were not able to attend.

BNL's representation included the Executive Managing Director (EMD) Richmond Fenn, BNL General Manager Corporate and Legal, Anthony Smare, BNL Country Executive Director, Dr Ila Temu, BNL Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Senior Manager, Timothy Andambo, Corporate Social Responsibility Manager, John Liston and BNL Commercial Services Senior Advisor-Corporate, Chao Robin Wang.

Dr Temu said PJV has done a lot in the Enga province and wants to work in partnership with the Enga MP's in the next five years to try to address issues of mutual interests.

"We thought it would be a good idea to share our views and the challenges we face in Porgera in the hope that you can understand what the issues are and we also hope that you can help us try and influence the decision and processes especially at the political and government level," Dr Temu said.

Mr Fenn presented PJV's challenges. Illegal mining, the Highlands Highway, law and order, resettlement, the MOA review, proposed amendments to the Mining Act and proposed amendment to the MRA Act he said presented some of the more imminent and biggest challenges for the mine operation.

"While some of the issues we can manage as a company, others are more complex and need considerable amounts of commitment from the government to make it work" Mr Fenn said.

Governor Sir Peter said Porgera mine is not a renewable resource and it is now up to the leaders of the province to chart a new future for Enga.

"We have to work to sustain Porgera to continue to provide services. The mine will come to an end. In the future, the province will have to fall on its own economy. We have the right leadership and we have to incorporate our plans for development into the government agenda," he said.

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 2,500 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.



Dr Temu (standing) speaking to the Enga parliamentary leaders during the information session, while looking on are Sir Peter (seated form left to right), Messrs Manasseh and Kapili with Mr Andambo and Mr Wang.



Mr Fenn delivering a presentation on the Porgera mine operation.

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