

## NOTES OF MEETING HELD AT PORT MORESBY, 14-15 OCTOBER 2002

### Attendees:

#### Komiti Members

- Sir Alkan Tololo - Chairman
- Dr Graeme Batley - CSIRO (PJV/Placer Technical Advisor)
- Elizabeth Karava - NGO (National Spiritual Assembly of Baha'is of PNG)
- Patricia Pepena - PNG Government (Department of Mining)
- Pete Neilans - Porgera Joint Venture
- Dr. Bob Pidgeon - Independent Expert (Environmental Research Institute of the Supervising Scientist - Australia)
- Gunther Joku - PNG Government (Department of Environment & Conservation)
- Dr. Charles Mgone - NGO (PNG Institute of Medical Research)
- Michael Kiap - PNG University of Technology (Government Technical Adviser)
- Fr. Philip Gibbs - NGO (Melanesian Institute)

#### Apologies:

- Mel Togolo - Placer Dome Asia Pacific
- Lady Hilan Los - NGO (ICRAF)

#### Regular Observers:

- Tim Omundsen - Manager Environment, PJV

#### Invited Guests (part time):

- Dr. Keith Bentley - Centre for Environmental Health
- Dr. Cathy Reto - PJV Medical Centre
- Yamis Gigimat - Community Affairs PJV
- Graham Johnson - Coordinator Mine Closure PJV

### Agenda Item 1

#### Introductions & Apologies

Introductions made and apologies received. The Chairman took the opportunity to welcome all members to the meeting.

### Agenda Item 2

#### Notes of Previous Meeting

Notes of the previous meeting were noted and accepted.

### **Agenda Item 3**

#### Action Items / Matters Arising

Action items were dealt with and out of the meeting new action items were included as follows:

#### **Action Item 1**

Copies of Dr. Taufu's final report (when received) of his team's investigation of deaths from unknown causes in the Upper Strickland region to be distributed to PEAK and relevant Government agencies.

Dr Taufu returned to the villages where he carried out his investigation in August 2002 to explain the results of his investigation. He is adding a section on his follow up visit to his original report. It is anticipated this report will be released by the end of November 2002. A summary of his findings was given to komiti members. (Tim Omundsen/Mel Togolo to action)

#### **Action Item 2**

The results of Dr Taufu's report to be published in a reputable medical journal in Australia (Dr. Taufu/Mel Togolo to action)

#### **Action Item 3**

Mel Togolo will prepare a draft PEAK Annual Report for 2002 for circulation to komiti members for their input and approval. (Mel Togolo to action)

#### **Action Item 4**

Contact to be made with NARI in Mt Hagen regarding the trialing of potato varieties which may be suitable for Porgera. (Yamis Gigimat to action)

#### **Action Item 5**

PEAK website to be linked to Placer Dome website and also to the National Spiritual Assembly of Baha'is of PNG and the Environmental Research Institute of the Supervising Scientist, Australia's websites. (Mel Togolo to action)

### **Agenda Item 4**

#### Environmental Status Report

A [presentation](#) was given by Tim Omundsen. A copy of the template used at Porgera by PJV Rehabilitation was explained and distributed. Additional information provided to the meeting not shown in the presentation related to the potential for a mini hydro scheme on the Pongema River as a sustainability project. A scheme is being investigated that could provide 2.5 MW of reliable power. Hydro Tasmania is presently carrying out a feasibility study. The project would be a partnership between PDA, the Landowners, local communities and PJV. There is considerable enthusiasm for the project in the Porgera Valley which would see the valley have a viable power supply following mine closure. AusAid through the Incentive fund have indicated their interest in the project

#### **Agenda Item 4.1**

##### CSIRO Recommendations

A study on macroinvertebrates in the Porgera/Lagaip River system is on going with assistance from ERISS in Darwin. A comprehensive Health Risk Assessment is also been undertaken on the communities of the Porgera- Lagaip - Strickland Rivers and Lake Murray.

#### **Agenda Item 4.2**

##### Operational Performance

Tim Omundsen gave a [presentation](#) on the problems which have been encountered by the PJV in 2002 on the Hides electrical transmission line.

Pete Neilans gave a [presentation](#) on the operational performance at Porgera.

#### **Agenda Item 4.3**

Briefings as required.

##### *Agenda Item 4.3.1*

##### Mine Closure Update

A presentation was given by Graham Johnson. It is intended to release the document in early 2003. PEAK komiti members will receive a copy of the document before the next PEAK meeting in February 2003.

##### *Agenda Item 4.3.2*

##### Health Risk Assessment

Dr. Keith Bentley gave a presentation on the comprehensive health risk assessment presently being undertaken at Porgera. It is anticipated the study will be completed by September 2003.

## Agenda Item 5

### Community Consultation

#### Agenda Item 5.1

##### World Alliance for Community Health Update

A comprehensive update was given by Dr Cathy Reto, Project Co-ordinator, on the World Alliance for Community Health project in the Nomad District. The project, which commenced in July 2000, is targeting malaria, filariasis and intestinal parasites.

Concern was expressed by the komiti about the sustainability of this important work once the mine closed. Government must be made aware that this project is for the welfare of the people and must be continued post mine closure.

#### Agenda Item 5.2

##### Porgera District Women's Projects

Yamis Gigimat gave a [presentation](#) on activities and projects of the Porgera District Women's Association. The association, of which 90% of members are Ipili, are concentrating on sustainability projects one of these being the mini credit scheme. The women themselves have funded this scheme.

The Association is looking at specific vegetables which could be grown at Porgera and transported to the coast to sell. This is considered by the Association to be a sustainable project after mine closure. Assistance is being sought from AusAid on this project. The Chairman recommended contact be made with NARI in Mt Hagen, as they were trialing different varieties of potatoes there which could be viable at Porgera.

#### Agenda Item 6

##### Recommendations

The komiti wished to emphasise to all stakeholders the urgency in identifying agents who will be able to take over and continue sustainability projects and services which are presently being run by the PJV with the closure of the Porgera Mine. Also of concern is the limited time available for capacity building in organisations responsible for providing services. The first impacts of the

Porgera Mine closure will begin in 2003/2004 when employees begin to be laid off predominantly from the mining and maintenance departments of the mine. The majority of these employees are residents of Porgera.

## **Agenda Item 7**

### PEAK Reporting

None

## **Agenda Item 7.1**

### Annual Report

Mel Togolo will prepare a draft PEAK Annual Report for 2002 for circulation to komiti members.

## **Agenda Item 8**

### Administrative Issues

Nil.

## **Agenda Item 9**

### Any Other Business

It was agreed by the komiti that the PEAK website would be linked to the Placer Dome website (and vice versa). Elizabeth Karava and Bob Pidgeon approved that the PEAK website could also be linked to their respective organisations websites (the PEAK website is already linked to CSIRO).

## **Agenda Item 10**

### Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Komiti will be in Port Moresby on Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 February 2003. The October meetings will be held on Monday 13 October and Tuesday 14 October 2003.