



10 July 2018

MEDIA STATEMENT

**Calls on the Government to ban the Fly In Fly Out (FIFO) practice by Resource Owners
Federation of Papua New Guinea**

Papua New Guineans make up around 95% of the workforce in mature mining and petroleum operations in PNG. They are employed from the Preferred Area local communities and the host province, as well as from other parts of Papua New Guinea.

Thus, a significant part of the workforce is flown on a Fly-In/Fly-Out (FIFO) basis from around the country on a regular basis. This FIFO employment model for the resource industry provides the best balance of shared benefits to communities right across PNG.

Many of the employees from other parts of the country prefer to live in their own homes than to take their families to mostly remote and isolated areas where the operations are located.

FIFO allows these employees to return regularly to their families, which spreads the economic benefits to these parts of the country instead of being concentrated in one area. The economic benefits of these resource industries are distributed across the country through the FIFO model, hence encouraging for example, the growth of SMEs encouraged by the Government in other parts of the country too.

FIFO delivers skills-transfer opportunities, drives domestic industry through air links and helps provide a tangible boost to local suppliers, contractors and goods and services trade throughout the country.

Additionally, FIFO helps ensure the resource project does not become a social or environmental burden on the host population. The significant cost of building townships to sustain and support families onsite can be an immense strain on a community and are not sustainable in the long term after project closure.

The Chamber of Mines and Petroleum also notes that host communities of resource developments already enjoy considerable socio-economic opportunities not available to other communities in the country such as employment and training, health and education services, community infrastructure development, business development and contracts, and agriculture projects.

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