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**MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Chamber welcomes new Mineral Resource Authority Managing Director**

The PNG Chamber of Mines and Petroleum has welcomed the new Managing Director of the Mineral Resources Authority (MRA) Mr Jerry Garry.

Congratulating Mr Garry on his appointment, Chamber Vice President Mr Richard Kassman OBE said the MRA Board and the Mining Minister should be commended for appointing someone with outstanding credentials, including international mining experience, to head an important State institution like MRA.

Mr Kassman said the MRA's good performance would be further strengthened under Mr Garry's leadership.

"On behalf of the members of the Chamber, I would like to warmly congratulate Mr Garry on his appointment," Mr Kassman said.

"The MRA has an admirable history of strong leadership and safe, efficient management of the mining sector, and we are confident that Mr Garry will continue and further improve this fine tradition. The Chamber particularly welcomes his extensive international experience, technical expertise, and sound understanding of our industry," he said. He added the Chamber stood ready to work with Mr Garry and his management team to face both the challenges and opportunities facing the mining industry.

He said one of the challenges included the proposed changes to the Mining Act, which were deeply concerning to the Chamber, industry, and international investors.

"We recognise the Government's desire to update PNG's mining legislation to meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and we stand ready to work closely with the Government to achieve internationally competitive legislation that ensures modern regulation of the industry, whilst encouraging and maintaining investment," Mr Kassman said.

Mr Kassman further assured Mr Garry that the Chamber and its members would continue to work closely with MRA to ensure the Wafi-Golpu and the Frieda River projects are properly delivered.

"The participants in these mining projects remain committed to working with you to take these projects forward, so we can see start to see their immense economic and social benefits flowing across Papua New Guinea," he said.

Mr Kassman also expressed industry's sincere thanks to Mr Nathan Mosusu for his exemplary leadership and collaborative approach while acting Managing Director.



*Caption: Chamber Vice President Mr Richard Kassman*

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