LAND ADMINISTRATION GOVERNANCE – PAPUA NEW GUINEA’S PERSPECTIVE

1. INTRODUCTION

• Governance is global topic
• Land governance is critical for Pacific Islands due to climatic changes
• Land governance is fundamental for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
2. LAND ADMINISTRATION GOVERNANCE

- Land plays a central role in everyday lives of Papua New Guineans
- Land Administration governance is a must if there is to be real tangible development
- Issues of bribery and corruption take center stage, giving little or not attention to governance

2.1 Land

- 3% alienated, 97% customary
- Customary land mostly in the rural areas
- Customary land in urban fringes under extreme pressure
2.2 Population

- 85% of our 5 million plus people live in the rural areas
- Population increase resulting in land shortages in some parts of the country
- Conflicts becoming common due to limited land being available
- Unplanned population movement from rural to urban

2.3 Spread of Economic Development

- Most economic activities occur on State land
- Security of title plays a critical role in ensuring security of investment
- State land is now becoming saturated and development needs to take place elsewhere
3. ATTEMPTS TO ADDRESS LAND ADMINISTRATION GOVERNANCE

3.1 Vision 2050

• Easier access to customary land, a fundamental for this vision

3.2 National Land Development Program (NLDNP)

• Address the issues of land administration, land dispute resolution, and customary land registration
• Capacity of implementing agencies being addressed to
• Ensure transparency and accountability at all levels
• Registration of customary, key to further economic growth
3.3 Involvement of Other Agencies

- Transparency is important
- Other agencies such as Office of Civil Registry, Provincial & District Administrations, Village Courts

4. CONCLUSION

- Hopeful most customary land in Papua New Guinea will be registered
- Clear titles with defined ownership and boundaries
- Minimize law and order problems associated with land issues
5. RECOMMENDATION

• Customary land is a very sensitive area
• Type of outside assistance is of great concern for the land reform to progress
• WHAT WE REALLY NEED IS THE STRENGTHENING OF THE CAPACITY OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES OF THE IMPLEMENTATING AGENCIES