



Independent State of Papua New Guinea

Department for Religion and Community Development

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PRESS RELEASE

MILNE BAY PROVINCE FIRST TO BE GIVEN DELEGATION OF POWERS UNDER LPA

Milne Bay has become the first Province in the country to conduct a Training Workshop for its District Community Development Officers (DCDO) and Child Protection Officers (CPO) to make them understand their roles and responsibilities under the Lukautim Pikinini Act.

A total of 20 participants, 14 DCDO's and CPO's, and 6 representatives from development partners took part in the week long workshop conducted in Alotau on the 29th of November to 02nd December, 2016

The Workshop was the initiative of the Milne Bay Community Development Office and was facilitated by Mr Otto Trur, Manager-NCD Welfare Services.

The Officers were presented with a Certificate of Participation and for the first time were also given their Delegation of Powers which was presented by the Director for Child and Welfare Services, Mr Simon Yanis.

When speaking to the participants during the presentation, Mr Yanis said he was really appreciative of such training with the fact that the National office can now work with the Provincial Office, something that has been lacking for years.

“The Delegation of Powers you receive today will be with you. This is to up skill you and this is not the first and last training. More will come when we establish our provincial councils, district committees and when our volunteers at the LLG levels are selected,” said Mr Yanis.

The Director told the participants to understand the Delegation of Powers stating, the Children's Office was established by Law and everyone must work together with one aim and that is to protect the interest and Rights of our children.

“You are the eyes and ears of the children. You the mouth piece of the children. We don't own anything but we owe it to our children, we borrow it for our children. So let us work together to ensure that children's protection system are in place and must be implemented at all levels to protect our children,” said Mr Yanis.

He also stressed the importance of forming a good and effective working relationship, and appealed to other Inter-State Agencies, development partners as well as the Provincial and District Offices to come together to ensure children's Rights are protected.

Acting Principle Advisor for the Milne Bay Provincial Community Development Office, Mr Alfred Kidilon on behalf of the Provincial Administration extended his appreciation to the Director, Mr Yanis and the Department Head, Secretary Anna Solomon for providing the resources for the training.

He also stressed that the training was timely for the officers. He said, with the newly passed Lukautim Pikinini Act, it was vital they are given the mandate and proper training to carry out their tasks and responsibility effectively for the benefit of our children.

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Approved for Release by:

Mr Simon Yanis
Director – Office of Child & Welfare Services
Department for Community Development & Religion