



PRESS RELEASE: Embargo for release 10th April 2017



European Union Trade Related Assistance Project Hosts Single Window Feasibility Study Workshop 5th April 2017, Port Moresby

The European Union (EU) Trade Related Assistance Project (EU-TRA 2) hosted a Single Window Feasibility Study Workshop at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Port Moresby on the 5th April 2017.

Through the EU-TRA2 the European Union is supporting PNG in its efforts to boost trade for economically sustainable development; this will assist with enhancing the benefits from PNG's Free Trade Agreements, including the interim Economic Partnership between PNG and the EU.

36 officials representing 20 Government Departments and agencies that have been identified as requiring access to a Single Window system attended the workshop.

Mr Richard Yakam, First Assistant Secretary, Trade Division, Department of Trade, Commerce & Industry, opened the workshop and provided an introduction, highlighting the importance of a Single Window initiative to facilitate trade in providing economic prosperity for PNG.



Single Window Expert Mr Anthony Tissington addresses participants

This was followed by a presentation delivered by Mr Timothy Little, Key Expert for Component 3 of the EU-TRA2 project, and Mr Anthony Tissington, a Single Window short-term expert funded through the project. The two experts have spent the last five weeks undertaking a feasibility study for the establishment of a Single Window in PNG. The presentation covered the key components and requirements for establishing a Single Window. This included:

- An introduction to the Single Window concept, its purpose and benefits to trade: *'a Single Window environment aims to expedite and simplify information flows between trade and government, that allows traders to lodge information with a single body to fulfill all import or export related requirements'*.
- The outcome of the Single Window Feasibility Study and recommendations for moving forward.
- The necessity of creating an enabling legal infrastructure as a critical element to the

success of establishing a Single Window, i.e. an e-commerce law (for the electronic sharing of data exchange, data security, privacy and electronic signatures)

- The Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the Single Window initiative – to develop Single Window Systems in each APEC country by 2020. Since PNG is a member of APEC, there is a need to align the roadmap to the APEC Single Window Roadmap.

The workshop concluded with a presentation and group discussion on the road map to Single Window implementation in PNG. It was recommended that since PNG is hosting APEC in 2018, the Single Window journey should be started before the end of 2017.

The workshop attendees provided feedback of their specific requirements for access to a Single Window, such as the issue of import / export permits, and thanked the EU TRA 2 programme and the Trade Division officials for providing a clear understanding of what a Single Window is and for facilitating the first ever workshop on this subject.

The European Union (EU) is represented by the Delegation of the EU to Papua New Guinea. HE Ioannis Giogkarakis-Argyropoulos is the Ambassador of the EU Delegation in Port Moresby. The European Union has 28 Member States including France and the UK, both also represented in PNG. Visit the EU Delegation website:

http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/papua_new_guinea/index_en.htm

