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MEDIA RELEASE

Industry Awards Reinforces PNG Resource Industry Contributions and Importance

The PNG Chamber of Mines and Petroleum last night reinforced the importance of the resource industry to Papua New Guinea by recognising six outstanding initiatives driven by industry organisations towards the development of the country.

These initiatives were recognised as part of this year’s Resource Industry Recognition Awards which was held in conjunction with the Papua New Guinea Mining and Petroleum Conference which began yesterday in Port Moresby and ends tomorrow 5th December.

The Awards was held at the Hilton Hotel in which nearly 500 attendees attended together with special guest the Minister for National Planning and Monitoring Hon. Sam Basil and other key industry executives such as Oil Search Managing Director Peter Botten, ExxonMobil PNG Managing Director Andrew Barry, Ok Tedi Mining Limited Chairman Sir Moi Avei, and other dignitaries.

“The Awards reinforces the importance of the resource industry to Papua New Guinea as a big investor, not just in the mining, and oil and gas, but areas such as health, education, community infrastructure, employment, scholarships and training, agriculture, and SME,” the Chamber stated.

The winners for the Awards were:

1. Oil Search Foundation who received the Outstanding Womens’ Contribution in the Resource Industry for their efforts in improving services and accessibility of family and sexual violence, labour services and conduct outreach immunization and antenatal care to women and children.

2. International SOS who received the Outstanding Health and Safety Initiatives through their partnership with Newcrest Mining Limited where they launched a TB outreach program and increased the detection and improve treatment of TB patients on Lihir.

3. NKW Group of Companies received the Outstanding Landowner Company Shared Value Performance. NKW is one of the only few success stories of landowner companies that have developed significantly from a small start-up to a nationally recognised company with operations around the country and in Australia. The company has also invested in a wide range of community projects and has notable
investments in agriculture through its subsidiary NKW Fresh which has employed field extension officers to roll out farmer training to nearly 700 farmers.

4. Ok Tedi Mining Ltd received the Outstanding PNG Local Content or Training Champion award for taking the lead in assisting the National Apprentices and Trade Testing Board recognise Belt Splicing as a trade. This was a significant improvement for the mining industry, and the hundreds of PNG nationals that work in this industry who can now have their belt splicing skills being certified.

5. ExxonMobil PNG received the award for Outstanding Environmental Initiative for publishing two books summarizing scientific information about PNG’s biodiversity in areas where it operates in which one of the books was a report from the biodiversity surveys completed at Wau Creek, Uro Creek, and Lake Kutubu.

6. Wafi Golpu Joint Venture received the award for Outstanding Humanitarian Initiative for its 'Mining Chocolate Program’ which is an epitome of a successful program and partnership with local communities in which local farmers were able to rehabilitate their cocoa plantations which are now producing high quality beans that are being exported internationally and also domestically where chocolates are now being manufactured from these beans.

The Chamber congratulated the winners, and thanked organisations who sent their entries for the Awards.

“There is huge potential for further development opportunities in the resources industry over the next three to five years which will bring further development in terms of key infrastructure and community contributions,” it stated.

The Awards was first launched in 2018 in Sydney, Australia during the Chamber Mining and Petroleum Investment Conference.

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Oil Search Foundation Family and Sexual Violence Manager Josephine Yos receiving the award for Outstanding Women’s Contribution in the Resource Industry from National Planning Minister Hon. Sam Basil.
International SOS Training Manager and Senior Medical Officer Dr Vivienne Kuma and Group Operations Project Director Mark Jackson receiving the award for Outstanding Health and Safety Initiatives from National Planning Minister Hon. Sam Basil.

NKW Group of Companies Chief Executive Officer Marlen Brunskill receiving the award for Outstanding Landowner Company Shared Value Performance

Ok Tedi Mining Ltd’s, Kiunga Operations Manager Hillary Turnamur receiving the award for Outstanding PNG Local Content or Training Champion.
ExxonMobil PNG Environmental Advisor Colman Otmar receiving the award for Outstanding Environmental Initiative

Wafi Golpu Joint Venture Head of External Affairs David Wissink receiving the award for Outstanding Humanitarian Initiative.

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