

Man call to be part of solution

MEN must acknowledge their responsibility to be part of the solution to ending violence against women.

This was the main message of the "Men ending sexism and male domination" parallel event attended by PNG delegation at the 59th Commission on the Status of Women at the UN headquarters in New York.

While it is necessary to continue working on women-specific programmes to end violence, part of the solution lies in engaging men in this work. This is fundamental because the behavior of some men is part of the problem and therefore changing that must be part of the solution.

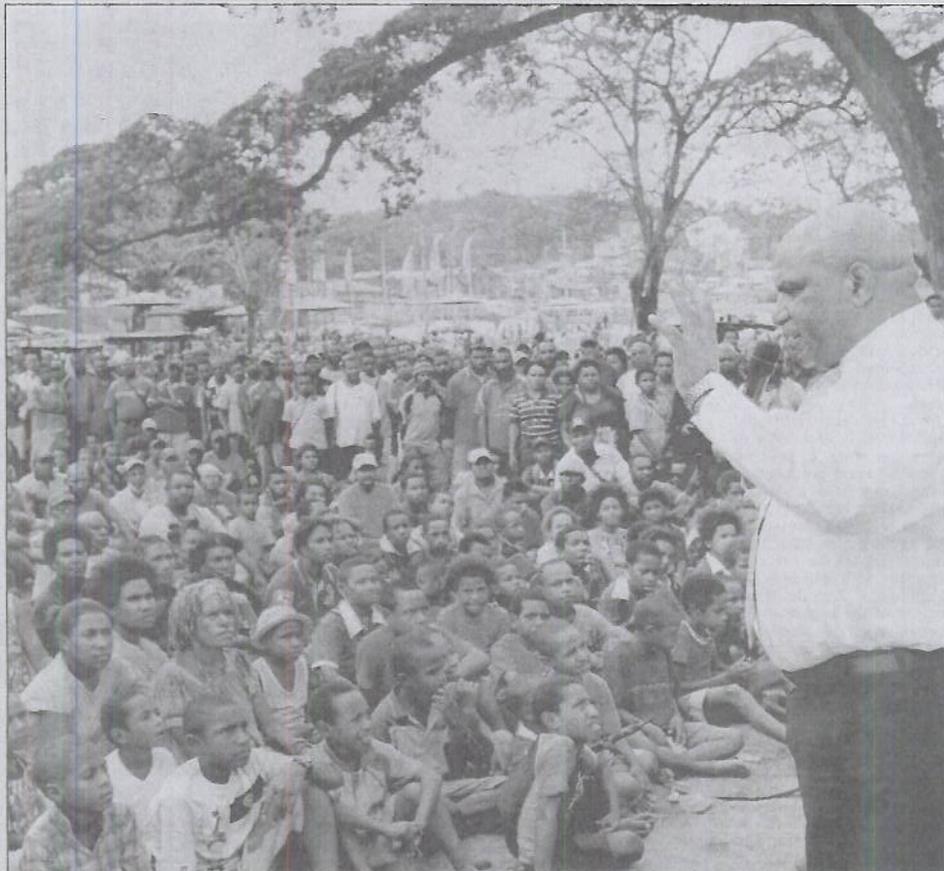
There is a "silent" majority of men who clearly oppose violence against women. Partnering with men and boys will help to identify male allies and engage them as advocates, role models, change agents and champions.

The need for engaging male advocates has also been discussed during 2015 Women's Forum, which concluded on Wednesday in Port Moresby.

"We know that no single institution, discipline or group can achieve equality for women in society. We have to work together - women and men, boys and girls - to achieve the changes that we all want to see," said Roy Trivedy, UN resident coordinator.

"The responsibility sits with every one of us, in every part of our life. Through mentoring, coaching, supporting and creating opportunities, all of us can contribute to strengthening women's empowerment and leadership in Papua New Guinea," Mr Trivedy said.

The PNG delegation, headed by John Kali, Secretary of Personnel Management, is currently visiting New York for the 59th Commission on the Status of Women, where it will present PNG's innovative work on gender-based violence.



PAUL Paraka addressing a crowd at Six Mile market

Firm defends settlers

BY SAMUEL RAITANO

PAPUA New Guinea's largest law firm, Paraka Lawyers, has assured settlers and small people in Port Moresby it will fight "tooth and nail" for their rights and legal assistance to them will be "free of charge".

Principal Paul Paraka announced this at Six Mile market in Port Moresby yesterday when addressing them on the issue of forceful evictions being carried out by the State and business entities.

Mr Paraka said eviction of settlers without any proper resettlement plans by the State and developers and through dubious deals with

some "corrupt officers" in the Lands Department would be challenged in court.

"We will use the power of the court system. Nobody is above the law," Mr Paraka said.

He said he had been observing eviction of settlers as if they were animals, ultimately damaging their livelihood without due regard to their dignity as human beings.

"Papua New Guineans are being chased around like animals. We are not pigs or dogs. If we can not reach a common understanding through discussions, we will find another way to force this to stop. And that is the court system," he said.

There are three types of forced eviction taking place in the city - eviction of settlements and residents on state owned land, eviction on customary land and eviction on customary land, which have been subsequently taken over by private interests and turned into freehold lands through registration in the Lands Department.

"There are certain forceful evictions carried out by National Capital District Commission and the State for development purposes," Mr Paraka said.

"These evictions and reclaiming of land must be done humanely with due regards to basic rights of settlers, who

are Papua New Guineans."

He said proper housing facilities, roads, water, electricity, sanitation, schools and health services should be provided on alternative lands for relocation.

He added that titles should be offered to settlers on these new locations.

"Evictions done without first according the residents and settlers an alternative land are inhuman and illegal and settlers can sue NCDC and the State," the lawyer said.

He called on settlers who are being threatened with eviction from their homes to contact his office for possible assistance.

Settlers face eviction challenge

BY SAMUEL RAITANO

CHIMBU and Kerema communities in Moresby North-east have indicated that they will challenge builder Fletcher Morobe Constructions in court on its claims that they were illegally occupying allotment 28, section 35 at Boroko.

On Tuesday, they obtained a temporary stay order from the district court through Paraka Lawyers, preventing the warrant of eviction issued against them.

The communities had raised issues that the S35 L28 Boroko land did not exist at all and even if it did, it did not cover the portion of land that they occupied over the years.

They claimed that it was a customary land but somehow got included in S35 L28, Boroko.

They now challenge Fletcher Morobe that the inclusion of that land was done illegally and without compliance with relevant laws at the time the land was purportedly subdivided from S35 L4, Boroko, to S35 L27 and subsequently consolidated into S35 L28.

The communities have advised lawyer Rex Kasito to institute appropriate proceedings at the National Court to challenge Fletcher Morobe's title to the portion of land that they settle on.

They said both parties should agree that an independent surveyor be engaged to determine the land mapping and to establish if the land portion they occupied was covered by the property.

The surveyor would also be expected to confirm if the land was indeed customary and if the sections and allotments were made lawfully.

“
We advised our lawyer to institute appropriate proceedings ...
SETTLERS
 Port Moresby

The bottom line Settlers in Erima-Wild Life junction were evicted last year without any prior relocation plan for their resettlement.

UNLIMITED FREE CALLING
Between Brimobile-Vodafone numbers

30 MIN Call only, excludes 112

30 SMS Text only

30 MB Internet only

Dial 1250 to ACTIVATE your SIM

Get a free SIM now

With Unlimited K15 bundle.

brimobile | vodafone
Power to you

Contact us now
 ☎ Customer Care: 05003133
 📧 sales@brimobile.com.pg
 🌐 brimobile.com.pg | www.vodafone.com.pg
 📍 www.brimobile.com.pg

*Unlimited free calls on Brimobile-Vodafone numbers only. 30 minutes call & 30 sms trans per min in PNG for any K15.