

# t out salaries

Meanwhile, the Minister for Labour and Industrial Relations, Mark Maipakai said his ministry would continue to improve the working conditions and welfare of all workers and employers in the national labor market.

The PNG Trade Union Congress and Public Employees Association president Michael Malabag stressed the theme "Decent Work for All" in recognition of the plight of workers in PNG.

Mr Malabag called on the PNG Employers Federation to advise its members to implement the minimum wage determination as it was legally

binding. He added that the PNG ETUC were not happy with the employers for holding a different view. "We know that certain employers will be using 'exemption' as an escape route," he said.

"We strongly oppose exemption as employers have the capacity to pay after years of denial of proper wage adjustments. They have paid unskilled workers lousy wages purely for profit and have been piggybacking workers for far too long. They must now honour the minimum wage determination given current economic situations," Mr Malabag said.

## PNG hosts

A PROFESSIONAL development workshop for parliamentary officers from Melanesia is being held at the Parliament State Function Room in Port Moresby.

The workshop will focus on developing staff capacity in the core areas of parliamentary work, research and analysis, writing, planning and budgeting and understanding parliament practice.

The workshop is being convened jointly by the Centre for Democratic Institution (CDI) and the National Parliament of PNG.

CDI deputy director Quinton Clement and Deputy Clerk of the National Parliament Simon Ila are conducting the workshop with visiting officers.

## Tatanas oppose Nenehi's call for land compo

By BOLA NOHO

ALL other landowner clans of Tatana apart from Nenehi Dubu Clan outside Port Moresby yesterday opposed Nenehi's call for compensation claims on their land.

The Nenehi Dubu clan led by Tom Belem two weeks ago threatened to close the Porebada Highway after 21 days if the Government and the companies involved in developing Motukea Island did not pay them the compensation they claimed.

The Fairfax Vatabia Group, Koitabuans led by Henry Maiva, last week angrily rejected the claims by Mr Belem and his clan members.

But the spokesman of the Tubumaga, Nenehi Idibana, Nenehi Laurina, Mavara and Nenehi clans of Tatana, Madaha Resena said both groups were not the customary landowners of Motukea Island, Geugeu portion of Idumava, Ranuhedadi, Kau Kabua Marana and Daugo (Fisherman) Island.

He said the Koitabuans were not supposed to say anything and claim those pieces of land because their land was inland.

"I strongly refute both groups on the compensation and responses because this kind of claim will disrupt and turn away the potential

## Unions firm up

PNG and Australian unions must remain in solidarity, PNG Trade Union president Michael Malabag said yesterday.

He made the remarks in his speech at the ACTU (Australian Council of Trade Unions) Tri-Annual conference yesterday in Brisbane.

Mr Malabag said



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