



MEDIA RELEASE

Dated: Wednesday 4 July 2018

PRIME MINISTER HOSTS SPECIAL APEC PLATINUM SPONSOR DINNER

Prime Minister Peter O'Neill hosted an intimate dinner last night for distinguished guests representing the Knowledge Partner and 9 Platinum sponsors of the APEC CEO Summit 2018.

Held at the Bacchus Restaurant, Airways Hotel, the dinner was an opportunity for the Prime Minister and the APEC Business Advisory Council of Papua New Guinea (ABAC PNG) to thank the platinum sponsors for their generosity and continual support of 2018 APEC and ABAC meetings and initiatives.

ABAC is the private-sector arm of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and members of ABAC are appointed by leaders of the 21 APEC economies.

In his welcome remarks, Prime Minister O'Neill thanked each sponsor and described the tremendous opportunities that APEC will bring to the PNG Economy and the people of Papua New Guinea.

The Prime Minister also presented to each Platinum Sponsor and Knowledge Partner appreciation plaques engraved with the sponsors' names.

Isikeli Taureka, Chairman of the APEC CEO Summit 2018 and ABAC PNG Member, was the master of ceremonies for the night and gave praise to the hard work of the ABAC PNG team. He stated *"it is a mammoth task to ensure the full calendar of ABAC events for 2018 is on schedule and delivered to the highest standards for the world to see"*. He thanked each of the sponsors, PwC (Knowledge Partner), CreditEase, ExxonMobil, Freeport, Newcrest Mining, Oil Search, Puma Energy, Shire, Total and UL, for *"playing their part to ensuring the success of APEC and ABAC events being hosted in Papua New Guinea in 2018"*.

On behalf of the Knowledge Partner and Platinum Sponsors present on the night, Peter Botten, Managing Director of Oil Search, expressed his gratitude to the Prime Minister for hosting the dinner and acknowledging the invaluable contributions of the sponsors. *"As a proud PNG company, we are committed to the success of APEC and ABAC PNG"* Mr Botten said.

Among those who attended the dinner were Minister for APEC Justin Tkatchenko, APEC Director General, Sir Charles Lepani, APEC Ambassador Ivan Pomaleu, CEO of APEC Coordination Authority, Chris Hawkins, and additional ABAC PNG Members David Toua (ABAC Chairman) and Wayne Golding. Senior representatives of PNG's media industry were also present on the night.

*****END*****



Additional Information

If you have any questions regarding this Media Release, please contact the Communications, Media & Events Executive Director Matthew Park on media@abacpng2018.com.

What is ABAC?

The APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) is an independent high-level group of business people who advise leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) on priority issues for business in the region. ABAC was established by regional leaders in 1995 to provide business input into the APEC forum. ABAC is a strong advocate of sustained and inclusive economic growth. ABAC Papua New Guinea (PNG) operates the PNG ABAC Secretariat and is responsible for the implementation of ABAC initiatives in the country. For more information please visit www.abacpng.com.