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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dame Meg, positive role model

Dame Meg Taylor's presentation at a seminar last Tuesday night was both illuminating and inspirational for all Papua New Guineans searching for positive role models of leadership and integrity.

The seminar which was held in Port Moresby was organised by Kumul Foundation Inc., a non-profit, non-political organisation which aims to provide a voice and gathering point for young professional Papua New Guineans who care about the future of their country.

Dame Meg, a founding director of Transparency International PNG (TI PNG), stressed the importance of the United Nations human development index in measuring PNG's development.

This is a timely issue for PNG. With the current debate surrounding Live 8 and the chances of an increased flow of aid from the rich to the poor world, as well as the potential flow of revenue to government through the PNG gas project, it is critical that the PNG government works with civil society to bring greater transparency to the budgetary and expenditure processes. An increased flow of funds to the PNG government will do nothing to address human development in PNG unless it is accompanied by good governance, accountability and transparency.

TI PNG thanks Dame Meg for her enormous contribution to the people of PNG, wishes her all the best in her continuing role as Ombudsman at the World Bank, and looks forward to a better future for her and her fellow citizens as PNG approaches its 30 year anniversary.

William Natera Communications Officer Transparency International PNG

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