



PACIFIC WOMEN IN MARITIME ASSOCIATION

*Compass of Innovation and Success*

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Press Release 06/2016

## **PACWIMA ATTENDS PAPUA NEW GUINEA WOMEN IN MARITIME ASSOCIATION 3<sup>RD</sup> BI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE, PORT MORESBY 22<sup>ND</sup> – 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016**



Ms. Dinah Inape-Omenefa (sitting center) Vice-Chairperson of PacWIMA at the Papua New Guinea Women In Maritime Association 3<sup>rd</sup> Bi-Annual Conference in Port Moresby, PNG in June 2016.

PNGWiMA hosted its 3rd Bi-Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting from the 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 in Port Moresby, PNG with the theme “**Women In Maritime Are Better Leaders than what they think**”. The Conference aimed to enhance better working strategies to strengthen individual roles and responsibilities and further develop opportunities for individual maritime

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairperson – [mjoseph@msaf.com.fj](mailto:mjoseph@msaf.com.fj) | Vice Chairperson – [domenefa@nmsa.gov.pg](mailto:domenefa@nmsa.gov.pg) | Coordinator – [Sidney.Ikiua@mail.gov.nu](mailto:Sidney.Ikiua@mail.gov.nu) | Public Relations & Communications Officer – [jordanna.mareko@ccsp.gov.ws](mailto:jordanna.mareko@ccsp.gov.ws) | Member – [Antonia.Tanny@gmail.com](mailto:Antonia.Tanny@gmail.com) | Member – [ktonga@infrastructure.gov.to](mailto:ktonga@infrastructure.gov.to)

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women career path and create synergies and partnerships with relevant maritime stakeholders in delivering PNGWIMA focus on maritime and coastal education and awareness and better working relationships and career opportunities in the maritime industry.

Since its inception in 2009, PNGWIMA continues to provide an important role in providing safety at sea awareness, training and coaching programs for women in the PNG maritime community.

Ms. Dinah Inape-Omenefa, Vice Chairperson for PacWIMA (and current Manager – Community Development at the National Maritime Safety Authority, Papua New Guinea) provided the opening remarks at the Bi-Annual Conference –

*“The Honorable Minister for Community Development, Youth and Churches, Hon. Delilah Gore, the Secretary for Department of Transport and Infrastructure, Mr. Roy Mumu, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, PNGWIMA, distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen.*

*It gives me great pleasure to extend to you all a very warm welcome on behalf of the Pacific Women In Maritime Association and to say how grateful we are to the PNG Women in Maritime Association in convening this Conference and the Annual General Meeting here in Port Moresby. In fact, PNGWIMA is the only national women in maritime association in the Pacific Region to have been established soon after the formation of the PACWIMA in 2007 and since its beginning in 2009, PNGWIMA continues to provide an important role in providing safety at sea awareness, training and coaching programs for women in the maritime community.*

*We understand that similar Conferences hosted by the PNGWIMA, have drawn women over the years from the different maritime agencies, the maritime administration, national authorities concerned with ports and harbors management, fisheries and maritime training institutions and interested women in embarking on interactive discussions relevant to the enhancement of women working in different maritime professions in the country. We are thoroughly delighted to see that a few women present today have flown in to participate and this only reminds us of how important these forums are.*

*We believe with certainty that this occasion has presented an opportunity to renew contacts and forge new relationships in order to discuss issues of mutual interest and provide solutions to common challenges.*

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*It is gratifying to note that the agenda for the Conference will cover two very interesting sub-themes relating to Women in Leadership Roles, Mentoring and Coaching and Gender and Climate Change Sustainable Development. We believe that these agenda and the presentations that are to be made will draw favorable discussions and seek out positive and achievable resolutions by which the PNGWIMA can work towards in achieving for women in the maritime profession in PNG.*

*You may be interested to note also, that the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the International Maritime Organization recently convened a Regional Conference for Pacific Women in Maritime in April 2016 in Tonga to re-launch the Pacific Women in Maritime Association which had succumbed to inactivity since 2011. The re-launch this year was necessary as it now maintains a voice for women professionals, working in the maritime industry and sector and that this voice can be represented at regional maritime meetings and conferences hosted by the SPC. The outcome of the Conference produced a number of very important items:*

- (i) the resolutions arising from the Conference;*
- (ii) the PacWIMA Work plan; and*
- (iii) finalizing the Objective and Responsibilities of the PACWIMA, including a motto and slogan that exemplifies what we women in maritime continue to strive to achieve.*

*OUR motto as PACWIMA is “Women – Compass of Innovation and Success” with OUR vision being “To be the leading network for women empowerment and advancement in the Pacific Maritime Sector” and we want to hold true to this motto and vision, but in order to do so, we need all of us to make this work.*

*PacWIMA, since this Conference, has drafted a new Constitution, that we believe will be a workable Constitution for the Region and anticipate a draft template StateWIMA Constitution to be finalized soon for comments by member countries and for adoption in order to maintain consistency of responsibilities if we are to achieve the overall work plan of PacWIMA.*

*The Executive Committee of PACWIMA comprises of Ms. Mavis Joseph of Fiji as Chairperson, I, as the Vice Chairperson, Ms. Sidney Lui-Ikiua of Niue as Coordinator, Ms. Jordanna Mareko of Samoa as Public Relations/Communication Officer and members from Solomon Islands, Ms. Tanny Saepio and Ms. Kelela Tonga of Tonga.*

*PacWIMA’s efforts in raising the profile of women engaged in the maritime industry is not an isolated issue. In fact, the campaign for gender equality and gender equity has been ongoing since the early*

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*twentieth century through early women's movements and it is indeed a global effort. The underlying message still remains the same, in promoting and increasing the participation of women in more responsible and leadership roles. Let us not lose sight of our purpose of being here. Let us arise and put into action our plans in addressing the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 relating to:*

- ✓ *Goal 4 Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all;*
- ✓ *Goal 5 Achieve Gender equality and empower all girls and women;*
  
- ✓ *Goal 10 Reduce inequality within and among countries; and*
- ✓ *Goal 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.*

*There is also one important consideration PacWIMA would like to leave and that is that in the true spirit of cooperation, all State WIMAs must continue to work in consultation with the maritime administration in their respective countries. Such alliances are beneficial to the sustainability of programs devised by respective StateWIMA so to achieve the overall regional work plan.*

*We are aware of the tremendous effort that the Executives of PNGWIMA has put together in getting this Conference underway followed by an AGM and believe that this Conference and the AGM will be a success.*

*On behalf of PacWIMA, we wish you all, fruitful discussions."*

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