

Press statement 18082020

### LDC takes over Maprik Livestock projects



**Caption: LDC Managing Director Terry Koim signs agreement as the MD for MIL looks on.**

The Livestock Development Corporation will now go into partnership with Maprik Investment Limited, the business arm of Maprik DDA to take over management of two major livestock projects in Maprik district.

This follows the signing of an MoU yesterday between Managing Directors of both entities Terry Koim – LDC, Otto Wangilen – MIL and witnessed by Maprik DDA CEO Joshua Himina.

The focus of this agreement is to set up appropriate development plans that will see the two major livestock projects including the Kwimbu cattle ranch and the piggery projects developed and key areas identified to ensure the smooth operation of this revenue generating projects.

These major projects had been set up in 2015 by local MP John Simon with a vision to revive the Livestock industry in East Sepik province; Over 100 cows were part of a shipment of these livestock that arrived in Maprik from Lae.

These projects had been fully funded by Maprik DDA however with limited development avenues the project had somewhat faced difficulties in sustainability.

Local MP John Simon in his capacity as the Minister in charge of Agriculture and livestock still believes that rehabilitating these projects will see his vision goal accomplished with the assistance from the LDC.

One of the major goals for the initiation of these livestock projects will see Maprik become the major beef distributor in East Sepik province and eventually to other provinces throughout PNG.

LDC Managing Director Terry Koim said LDC concurs with the vision of the Minister adding that there is great potential for the Kwimbu Cattle ranch and Piggery in Pachi to become the main distributors in beef

and pork meat in East Sepik province and with more investment and effort into these projects, to PNG as a whole as well.

He said the agreement will now see LDC provide development avenues including skills training for selected locals to manage the major projects adding also that there is an aim to see Kwimbu become the breeding center for cattle in the Central Sepik region.

Mr. Koim also noted that there is a possibility of extending the size of the ranch; he added that LDC will also be looking at bringing in Veteran supplies to ensure that the cattle are in a healthier state to proceed into the next phases of rehabilitating this livestock project.

The agreement states that the cattle still remains the property of MIL but will be managed by LDC with development plan and Key areas to achieve in set period of time.

Meantime, prior to the signing of the MoU Minister Simon accompanied by LDC MD Terry Koim had visited the ranch earlier in the day where Mr. Koim had established that there would be much work needed to be carried out at the ranch but he believes it is attainable and he looks forward to working closely with MIL to revive the Livestock projects in Maprik District.

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