

your guide

The heartbeat of PNG

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Govt teams up with UN to fight floods

BY MEROLYN TEN

THE Government and the United Nations will establish a system that will detect or disseminate early warnings of flood related risks.

A workshop in Port Moresby yesterday detailed that the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the PNG Government would establish this system this year to enable local communities to cope with the floods, and enhance country's capac-

ity to adapt to flood-related risks. This warning system would be set up in five selected areas in East Sepik, New Ireland, Morobe, Madang and Northern provinces.

"By increasing the weather and climate information available, this program will enhance the ability of governments and communities of Papua New Guinea to prepare for extreme climate events, build greater resilience and successfully adapt to changing climate," said Roy Trivedy, UNDP resident

representative in PNG.

He said this project would be implemented by the Office of Climate Change and Development and would be financed by the adaptation fund from the United Nations Development Programme.

"As first phase of the project, an international expert company will conduct comprehensive mapping and analysis of existing mechanisms, identify gaps and opportunities for improvements, and produce report with a set of actions

and resources required for establishing effective early warning systems.

"The system will be placed in the most affected areas such as the inland and coastal flooding areas of the selected provinces," Mr Trivedy said.

He said the four-year project seeks to build community resilience towards occurrences of coastal and inland flooding events through improved awareness, risk management, and institutional capacity.

Taxpayers pay K60,000 for Speaker's trip

FROM PAGE 1

A BIG welcome ceremony, led by Prime Minister Peter O'Neill, is expected at Jackson International Airport when the delegation returns on Monday with the Bible.

It is no ordinary Bible - it is a priceless King James Version (KJV) printed in England in 1611, according to Mr Zurenuoc on the eve of his crusade to the US.

There are plans for the KJV - dubbed The National Treasure - to be part of the

foundation in the Grand Hall to replace the traditional pillar which had been removed, amid outcry from leaders like Sir Michael Somare and the National Museum and Art Gallery.

Mr Zurenuoc's national unity and identity pillar project to "restore, reform and modernise" Parliament was met with mixed reaction when introduced two years ago.

"This is one solid attempt at restoring and reviving flagging moral and spiritual standards. Do not flog it

before it has a chance," a spokesman for the Speaker's Office said yesterday in Port Moresby. "I think this one of most positive initiatives of Parliament."

But he could say how much the round trip had cost the taxpayer - the Post-Courier had been reliably informed Mr Zurenuoc's total travel expense would be more than K100,000.

The airfares figures, per person one way, are based on what travel agents are offering on the internet.

The best, and cheap-

est, connection from Port Moresby would be through Nadi K1378, Nadi-Los Angeles K2728 (US\$996), Los Angeles-Indianapolis K1372 (\$501).

This means the Speaker's delegation of six would cost K32,868 one way, or K67,736 return. The various church congregations would have to fork out a total of K328,680 for their 30 leaders going to bring back the KJV from Indianapolis.

The combined delegation air travel cost would work out to K394,416.

good relationship with Jehovah and then we will enjoy peace in our lives and in Gods new world.