10:31

Main points of the first round-table meeting between the SIG and resource owners.

Anuha Resort - Central Islands Province

A preliminary meeting to revive the Anuha Resort was held at the SSPM's office on the 30th of August 2006 at 10:30am.

Those who were present were: (1) Mr Mathias Sake (2) Mr Robert Bera (3) Under Secretary - Department of Tourism (3) Mr Robson Tana (PMO) (4) Mr Christopher Waiwori (PMO) (5) Mr Sam Alasia (SSPM) - Chairman

Absentees: Mr Frank Bollen Pule, a Rep from the Dept of Lands and Immigration

DISCUSSION

The PM directed that the revival of the Anuha Resort to proceed, thus resulting in this preliminary meeting taking place. Hence, the GCCG will facilitate the re-development of Anuha Resort. It has been 19 years since the closure of the Anuha Resort and ever since the initiative to restore development for the resort, it did not eventuate as expected by the interested parties.

The problem is that past successive government, for some reasons, did not take the responsibility to settle the issues between Mr John Smith, the land owners, the Central Islands Provincial Government, and SIG. The understanding is that John Smith still holds the two Power of Attorney vested to him by Late Fr Pule, and was witnessed by the land owners, some of whom are still alive (including Mr Mathias Sake). However, later some of the signatories of the Power of Attorney denied the legitimacy of the two Powers of Attorney. Despite this, according to investigations, John Smith is innocent of the allegations made against him.

Today the government still holds the seventy-five years lease for the Anuha Resort for the land owners, but the problem is that John Smith has the Power of Attorney over any development prospects for the Resort.

ANALYSIS

There is a need to firstly settle any differences between SIG and John Smith, because he is part of the problem, therefore he should be part of the solution. The intention is to have John Smith's name cleared off from any wrong doings including the allegations against him of "Contempt of Court."

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It is better to bring John Smith to Honiara for discussion regarding the future of the Anuha Resort. Hence, if the issue is settled, it is likely that John Smith will re-develop the Anuha Resort.

RECOMMENDATION

It was suggested for a government representative(s) to go to Brisbane to meet and discuss with John Smith. The proposed meeting with John Smith would likely be in September 2006.

The SIG rep(s) will then hold another meeting with the parties involve to report their discussion with John Smith and therefore a decision should be made about how to go forward with this on going issue. This second meeting will be held on the 27th of September 2006 in Honiara at a venue yet to be decided.

Thank you

Christopher Waiwori Research Officer (PMO)

Secretary:

for: Chairman (a.i)

cc. Distribution to members