

Climate Justice Now

~ Climate Change and Voices from Asia ~

Monday, August 1, 2016 Tokyo



Land grabbing and Land rights in Papua New
Guinea

A presentation by Peter Bosip

CELCOR/Friends of the Earth Papua New Guinea

Background



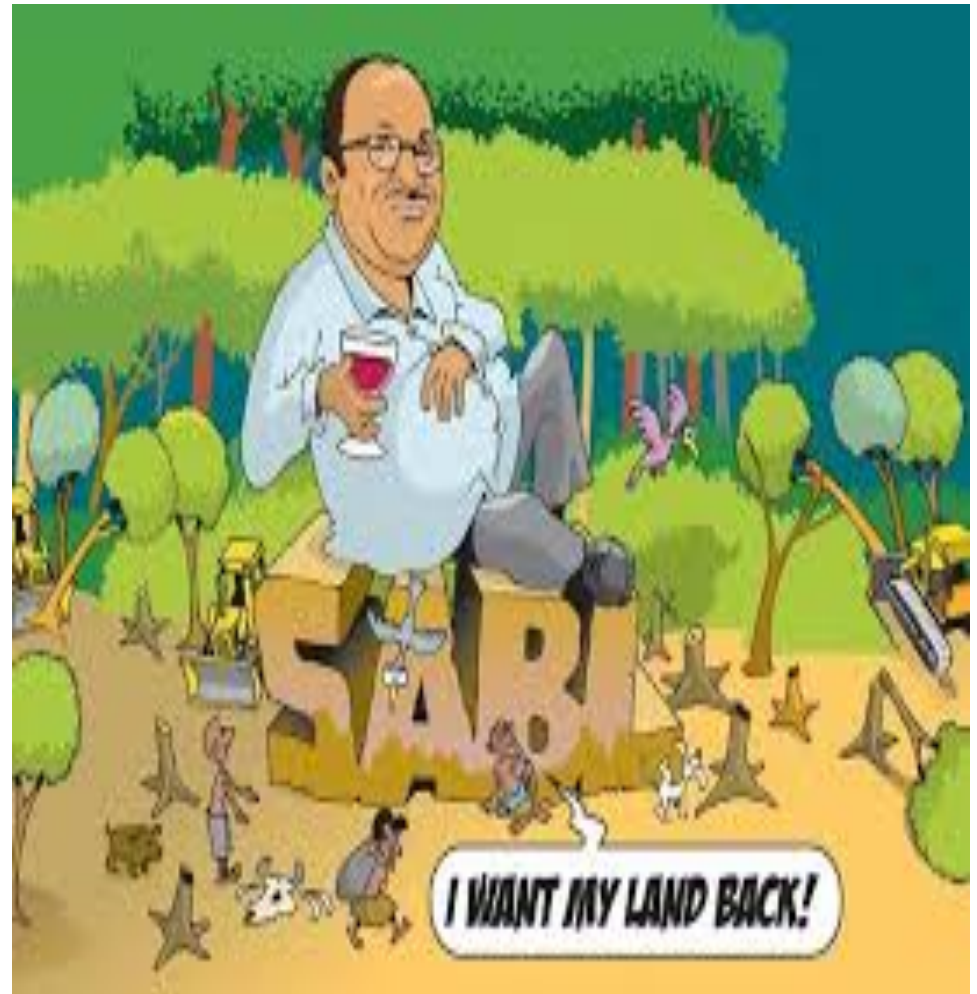
- National Constitution recognizes customary land and resource use right.
- 70% of the land is under customary tenure.
- Member of Global Forest Alliance that led to the push for REDD concept acceptance by COP.
- Set up Climate Change and Development Authority

Contradictions

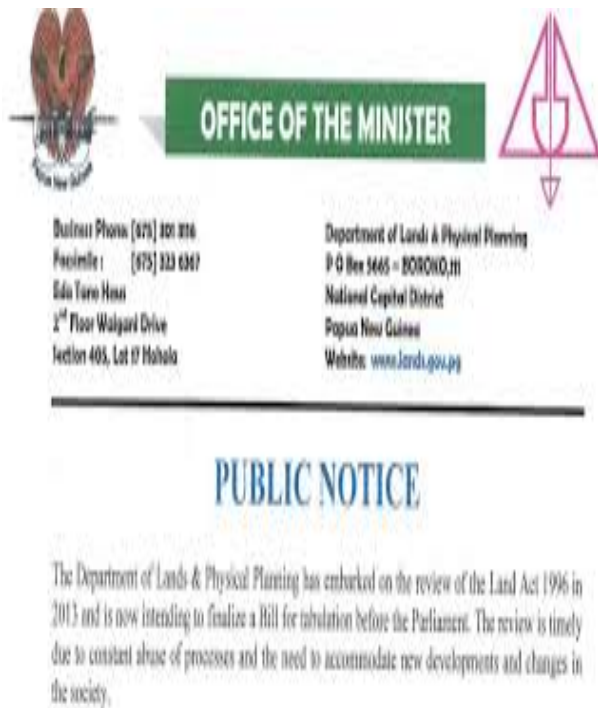


- Promotion of Special Agriculture Business Lease (SABL) under Section 10 and 102 of the Land Act 1996
- Challenged by NGOs and some academic institutions since 2009
- Government instituted a Commission of Inquiry (COI) in 2011
- COI report not completed
- But no progress by the government to stop land grabbing and forest degradation
- CELCOR in collaboration with other like minded NGOs continue to push for retaining of land under customary ownership

Contradictions cont'd



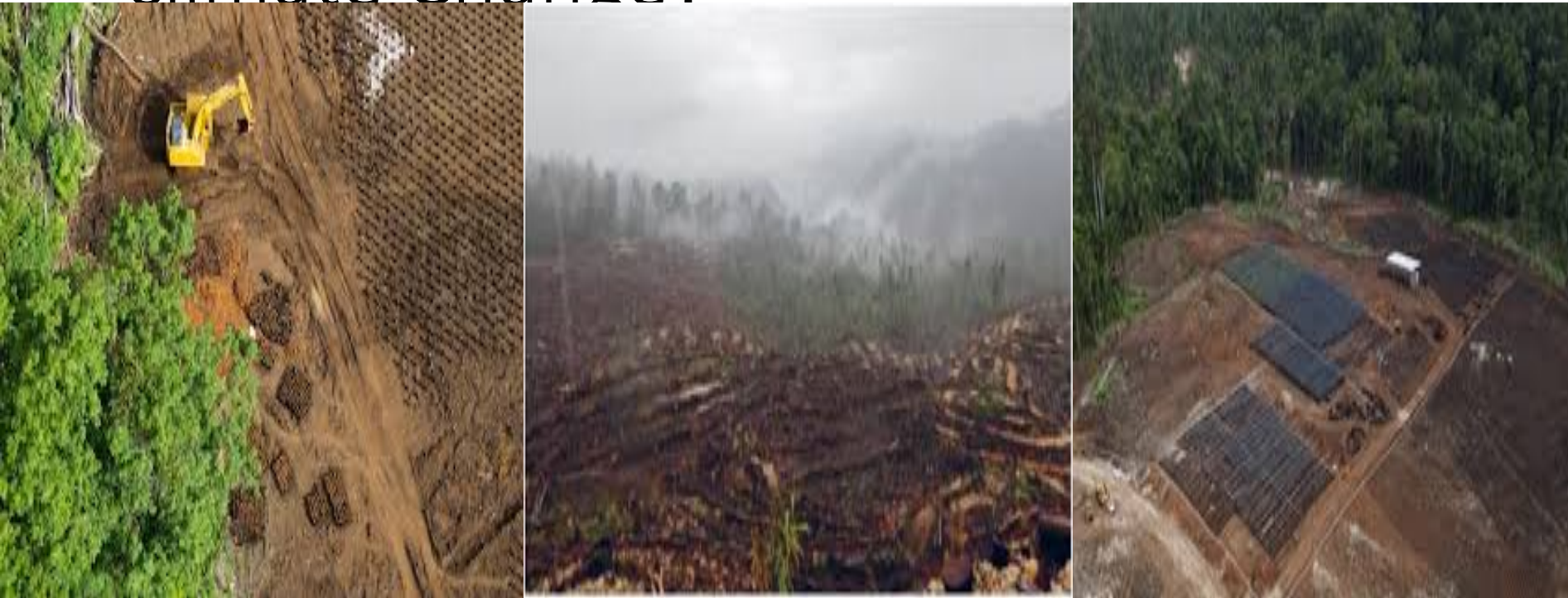
Positive Progress



Notice by the Department of Lands and Physical Planning to review and Amend the Principal Land Act 1996

- Amendment of Land Act in 2013 by the Department of Lands and Physical Planning
- Actual stakeholder consultation happened in May 2016
- CELCOR made a submission as an individual organization as well as a joint submission in partnership with partner NGOs.
- We requested for cancelling/repealing of Section 10 and 102 in its entirety.
- Outcome of our submissions will be made known to us once the Lands Department has compiled all the submissions.

How is land grabbing relates to climate Change?



- 5.5 million hectares of primary forest land are under SABL for oil palm planting (99 year leases)
- Clear felling that leads to deforestation of areas between 20 to 40000 hectares per SABL (Global Witness, 2014)
- Increase CO2 emission, causing water pollution and environmental destruction
- Exacerbate the rising sea level in the Pacific

How is land grabbing relates to climate change? Cont'd



Closing Remarks

- Our effort is to protect customary land owners rights while at the same time trying our best to help reduce the CO2 presence in the atmosphere by keeping these tropical forest standing.