

FOREWORD

The papers contained in this volume constitute the Proceedings of the Policy and Strategy Conference on Reforming and Restructuring the Agriculture Sector at Local Level, held in Lao from 7-8 August 2000.

The PNG Journal of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries took the initiative to publish the Proceedings of this important workshop which is likely to determine the future directions of Agricultural Development in Papua New Guinea. Earlier a similar publication by the Journal in 1994 on Agricultural Reforms and Delivery of Farming Services to PNG Villages was very well received.

As pointed out by the editorial staff, it must be admitted that in view of the variety of subjects discussed ranging from extension at village level to research at the frontiers of science, it was not possible to exercise uniformity in scientific standards and presentation. Attempt has however, been made to bring into focus the current issues facing agriculture in PNG. These issues need to be discussed and debated by all concerned rather than becoming a part of the grey literature.

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