



Canada and Papua New Guinea to Work More Closely for Global Solutions to Climate Change

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The Prime Minister, Hon. Peter O'Neill CMG MP, is looking to strengthen co-operation with Canada in finding global solutions to deal with climate change.

This shared commitment was expressed by the Prime Minister when he received the newly appointed non-resident Canadian High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea, H.E. Paul Maddison, in Port Moresby today.

"I extended my appreciation to Canada's Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau, for his contribution where we have worked together on climate change policy including COP-21, the G7 and APEC.

"It is only through a diverse range of countries working together that we will find real and workable solutions to slow down climate change and better protect our communities.

"I know from my experience with Prime Minister Trudeau that he has a true commitment to protecting lives and communities that are affected by extreme weather, particularly in developing countries.

"Prime Minister Trudeau has spoken passionately about working with Island nations and the global community to address climate change issues.

"In fact Prime Minister Trudeau he advised had pledged US\$2.6 Billion over five years to implement strategies to mitigate climate change issues in Small Island States and developing countries.

"Canada is also stepping commitment to the Pacific Island Forum Post Forum Dialogue Process by deploying a Ministerial Delegation to the 47th Pacific Islands Forum that will meet in Pohnpei in September this year.

"Papua New Guinea, like other island nations in the region, is highly vulnerable to the potential threats brought about by climate change and altered weather patterns.

"Just like a war, climate change is starting to force people to migrate to many parts of the world and creating climate refugees.

"We need global solutions to identify risks to countries, establish early warning systems and develop workable defensive measures.

PM O'Neill further expressed Papua New Guinea's appreciation for Canada's support in hosting the APEC in 2018.

"I thank Canada for its ongoing support as we prepare to host APEC, in particularly as we prepare our policy agenda, where the economic impacts of climate change will be an important issue."

High Commissioner Maddison conveyed Prime Minister Trudeau's sentiments that he is looking forward to attending the APEC Papua New Guinea 2018, which will see him become the first Canadian Prime Minister to ever visit Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea and Canada have shared cordial diplomatic relations since 1976.

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