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# Oil Search committed to supporting PNG's response to COVID-19

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## Media Release

*Tuesday, 14 July 2020*

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Oil Search is supporting the efforts of the Government of Papua New Guinea (PNG) in combating the COVID-19 pandemic within country, by donating critical personal protective equipment to be distributed across hospitals and medical clinics in consultation with the National Department of Health and Provincial Health Authorities in Hela, Southern Highlands and the Gulf Province. This assistance complements the work the Company medical services team and Oil Search Foundation are already providing in these areas.

Dr Keiran Wulff, Oil Search Managing Director, has commended the PNG Government's very disciplined and considered response to protecting the country from the COVID-19 pandemic which has restricted the potential for widespread outbreaks in PNG. The Government's efforts have also enabled PNG's resource companies to work closely with the Government to ensure that the industry continues to operate efficiently under the Government's COVID-19 guidelines during these challenging times.

"Oil Search commends the leadership of the PNG Government and its COVID-19 Response Team in taking proactive and decisive action regarding the global COVID-19 pandemic. To support the Government's initiatives and preparedness, Oil Search will donate much needed personal protective equipment (PPE) to our local Provincial Health Authorities (PHAs). The hospital grade equipment to be distributed includes over 250,000 disposable masks, 100,000 medical hats, 100,000 medical gloves, 10,000 face shields and 5 million millilitres of hand sanitizer."

"We look forward to working in close partnership with the National Department of Health (NDOH) and PHAs to deliver PPE supplies in Hela, Southern Highlands and the Gulf Province and the support provided through the donation of PPE is hoped to play an important role in helping to prevent and minimise any potential spread of COVID-19. We will work with the authorities to ensure that what we have provided is distributed through the PHA's own system, aligned with their COVID-19 emergency plans," Dr Wulff said.

Dr Wulff continued by saying "Oil Search has taken extensive steps to ensure safe and reliable operations in response to COVID-19. Having recognised early the potential for incidences of COVID-19 to escalate globally, the Company formed a dedicated COVID-19 Taskforce charged with taking measures to minimise the potential for the virus to impact our people, operations and the communities in which we operate. These measures include suspending discretionary activity, demobilising non-essential staff from the field, implementing revised field rotations for expatriate staff, establishing quarantine zones in the field and isolating business essential personnel, increasing medical and field supplies and introducing infectious disease protocols."

**Ends.**

**For further information, please contact:**

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**About Oil Search**

Established in January 1929, Oil Search has grown into PNG's largest single investor and most active explorer, operating all the country's producing oil fields and holding an extensive appraisal and exploration portfolio. Its 29 per cent interest in the ExxonMobil-operated PNG LNG Project has transformed Oil Search into a regionally significant oil and gas producer. The Company also hold material interests in the Elk-Antelope and P'nyang gas fields and is undertaking a range of activities to support further LNG expansion in PNG. Oil Search also holds world class oil assets in Alaska's prolific North Slope.

Oil Search operates in a socially responsible manner. Respectful, open relationships with local landowners and government are at the heart of its current and future success. The Company is committed to addressing important social issues and aspires to set the standard for private sector contribution to sustainable development.

Oil Search is listed on the Australian (ASX:OSH) and Papua New Guinea (PNGX:OSH) security exchanges and its ADRs trade on the US Over the Counter market (ADR:OISHY). For more information, please visit [www.oilsearch.com](http://www.oilsearch.com).

**Photos**



Hon. Jelta Wong, MP – Minister for Health & HIV/AIDS (centre) received the essential COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) donation from Oil Search’s Wayne Kasou – Senior Vice President, Government Affairs & PNG Executive Support (second from right), Cornelius Soagai – Senior Government Affairs Manager (right), Oil Search Foundation’s Annie Turi - Contracts Specialist (second from left) and Dr Vincent Pyakalyia – Physician & Public Health Medical Officer (left).



Hon. Jelta Wong, MP – Minister for Health & HIV/AIDS (centre) looking at hand gloves that were part of the COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) donation from Oil Search. Looking on are Oil Search’s Wayne Kasou – Senior Vice President, Government Affairs & PNG Executive Support (right) and Oil Search Foundation’s Annie Turi - Contracts Specialist (left).