

Marea House complete soon

The Marea House in Port Moresby, also referred to as the 'Pineapple Building' because of its shape, is nearing completion and will be ready for occupancy early in the New Year.

Twenty years ago, the building which housed the Office of the Prime Minister and other Government departments was condemned after it fell into a dilapidated state.

Oil Search, who is project managing the refurbishment, maintained Kramer Ausenco as one of the consultants who provided the structural, civil and building services design and engineering for the refurbishment of this twelve storey commercial building.

The firm has re-engineered the existing structure and provided sound and practical solutions for the client that has transformed the Marea House into a functional and modern building.

The renovated building will house the Department of the Prime Minister and National Executive Council.

Chief Secretary to Government, Sir Manasupe Zurecnuoc, said that one of his five rules to successfully run a department is to take stock of your existing assets, repair and use what you have and not be wasteful.

"I used the rules with a lot of success in Morobe Province when I was administrator, ensuring all districts function efficiently in serving the people by utilising existing assets in their locality.

"This rule was applied to the Marea House when I became Chief Secretary under Prime Minister Peter O'Neill.

"It's an important asset that was neglected for years as Government spent hundreds of millions of Kina looking elsewhere for office space.

"During the Leaders' Summit in 2012, I signed the performance agreement to renovate Marea House as a priority project for the department for the period 2012-2015.

"I am happy to deliver this project as scheduled, and want to thank everyone involved, including Kramer Ausenco, Pacific Architects Consortium, Cost Plan Services, L&A Constructions and Oil Search," he said.

Kramer Ausenco will carry out final inspections and certifications on the Building Services systems with the intent to commission and meet practical completion by 18 December 2015.

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