



13 April, 2010

Director Retirement /Appointment

ASX Code: HIG
PoMSox Code: HIG
Shares on Issue: 661 million
Options on Issue: 82 million

Market Capitalisation A\$200m
Cash on Hand (31/12/09) A\$25m

Directors

Ken MacDonald, *Chairman*
John Gooding, *Managing Director*
Drew Simonsen
Mike Carroll
Rod Mitchell
Fiu Williame-Igara

Management

Craig Lennon, *CFO & Co.Sec*
Larry Queen, *Chief Geologist*
Terry Smith, *GM Mining & BD*
Peter Jolly, *GM Projects*

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Highlands Pacific announces the proposed appointment of Mr Dan Wood as Non-Executive Director to replace Mr Rod Mitchell who is stepping down to concentrate on other work commitments.

Mr Mitchell has been with the Company since March 2001 and will not seek re-election at the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 20 May 2010.

Highlands proposes, subject to receiving written consent, to appoint Mr Dan Wood as an additional director to the existing board of directors, to be effective from 1 June 2010.

Mr Wood is a geologist with a long and distinguished record in the mining industry. Mr Wood retired from Newcrest Mining Limited in late 2008 after almost 42 years working in the mining industry with Newcrest and BHP.

He joined Newcrest at its formation in 1990 and led its highly successful exploration team as Executive General Manager Exploration, with gold, gold-copper and molybdenum discoveries in Australia, Indonesia and Peru. Prior to Newcrest Mr Wood worked for BHP for 24 years during which time he was involved with coal and gold deposit discoveries in Australia.

He has extensive experience and an international reputation in mineral exploration and discovery. Mr Wood is an Advisory Board member of the W H Bryan Mining and Geology Research Centre at the University of Queensland.

Chairman of Highlands Pacific Mr Ken MacDonald said today:

"Rod Mitchell's contribution and support with Highlands has been outstanding. He has played a very important part in the Company's history and we wish him well for the future.

Dan's extensive industry experience will be a valuable addition to the Board as Highlands' Frieda copper gold and Ramu nickel cobalt projects both develop and our exploration program for copper gold deposits at the Nong River tenements gets underway."



About Highlands Pacific Limited:

Highlands Pacific is listed on the ASX and PoMSox exchanges. Its major development assets include the US\$1.4bn Ramu nickel cobalt project, the Frieda copper gold project and exploration on the highly prospective Nong River and Tifalmin licenses approximately 20km north of Ok Tedi. Highlands also holds exploration ground in the Wau/Bulolo close to the new Hidden Valley and Wafi gold projects and has cash reserves of A\$25 million with no debt.

About the Ramu Nickel Cobalt Project:

The Ramu nickel project is located 75 km west of the provincial capital of Madang, PNG and will produce an annual output of 31,150 tonnes of nickel and 3,300 tonnes of cobalt contained in high grade concentrate over a 20 year mine life. The mineral resources at Ramu have the potential to increase the mine life by a further 15-20 years. Highlands 8.56% interest in the Ramu will increase to 11.3% at no cost after repayment of the project debt (estimated to be 8 years). At this time Highlands also has an option to acquire an additional 9.25% at fair market value which could increase its interest to 20.55%. From commissioning, Highlands has access to its pro-rata 8.56% share of Ramu's post-debt servicing net cash flow. Progressive commissioning commenced late in the December quarter 2009 and is expected to continue through the June quarter 2010. Production is expected to commence after that with a staged ramp up through the December quarter 2010 and into 2011.

About the Frieda Copper/Gold Project:

The Frieda copper project is one of the world's largest undeveloped copper/ gold resources. Frieda River is 170 kms NW of the giant Porgera gold mine. The project owners are Xstrata (81.82%), Highlands (18.18%). Highlands has a free-carried interest through to completion of a bankable feasibility study (required by Jan 2012). Xstrata's spend for Frieda in 2009 was US\$38m and in 2010 will be US\$77.5m. An extended scoping study released in early 2009 indicated a 40Mtpa plant with a 27 year mine life averaging 160,000 tpa of copper and 240,000 ozpa of gold (with higher output in the first 10 years). The pre-feasibility study due in the third quarter of 2010 is currently considering larger throughput and production options. Subject to the project continuing to meet its project hurdles, a 12-month feasibility study is planned to commence in 3Q 2010 with possible construction in 2012 and production in 2017.