

From: George Sikin [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 31 July 2018 6:42 PM
To: asia pacific media review
Subject: MY INPUT ON THE REVIEW

WAKE UP, AUSTRALIA! CHINA IS BULLYING US IN THE PACIFIC! COME TO OUR AID, BIG BROTHER!

My motivation in contributing to this Review stems purely from my independent analysis on the issue in focus drawing from both my Melanesian background and our noble respect of Australia as well as from an academic student background in the field of Strategic Management which involves the management of Strategic Changes. At the outset, I will herein comment more specifically from a Papua New Guinea (PNG) perspective.

It is high time the Australian Government wake up to the realization that its presence hence influence in PNG is declining. The children of this contemporary era will link rapid infrastructure developments in our country to Chinese Government's presence.

Thanks to the upcoming APEC Summit; it is doing favor for and to the Chinese Government as far as PNG average minds (the majority of the population of course) are concerned. Now that leaves Australia out of the picture. Eventually, PNG might as well be considered a colony of the Communist State of China.

PNG has been left vulnerable to China's growing influence in the Pacific all because there is no longer a strong media influence/presence of our 'Big Brother' overprotecting us.

It must be considered on the top-of-the-agenda priority budgetary allocation by the Australian Government to ensure a revitalizing of its presence in the Asia-Pacific Region through its funding of the Australia Broadcasting Services in the region.

The fact O'Neill-Abel Government has of late been interacting diplomatically more with the Chinese Government in matters of improving its Bilateral relations which shall translate into Free Trade Agreements, investment considerations and loan acquisitions are telling signs any reader of strategic thinking must begin to seriously consider.

These developments in PNG must sound an alarm bell ringing through the Canberra corridors.

What better way there is for Australia to regain its 'Big Brother' status in the region than to begin forthright with and through its media revitalization exercise hence presence/influence.

The Australian Broadcasting Services is needed in my country because I believe this is the most effective way to build and instill awareness in Melanesian minds of our cordially traditional bilateral relationship.

As Papua New Guineans, we would relate with comfort to programs aired by Australia Broadcasting Services as most of it are tailor suited to our local context compared to a Chinese or any other foreign media that fails in capturing the essence of our societal geopolitical and socioeconomic context.

To conclude, I strongly recommend that an on-the-ground survey be conducted here in PNG with the basic aim of finding out which content distributions are feasible and viable as far as reaching the information product/service consumers are concerned. These must be done with a clear consideration and selection of relevant cost effective technological tools both to the users and the broadcaster. Without which, I can perceptively assert Australia will lose its dominant geopolitical status in the region; a build-up threat that can be eventually devastating to Australia on many fronts - economically, militarily, etc.

Thank you.

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I give permission for my submission to be made public as per your assessment.