

## **Most logging in PNG illegal**

MOST commercial logging in Papua New Guinea is illegal and ecologically and economically unsustainable, says a report released yesterday by an international forestry organisation. The report by Washington DC-based international forestry organisation Forestry Trends praised the Government and the World Bank for spearheading five reviews of the forestry sector between 2000 and 2005. But it expressed concern about the review's conclusions, saying: "The findings illustrate a fundamental lack of governance and that unless this system is fixed, other schemes, such as the Government's current proposal to sell forest carbon, risk being equally corrupted." Projects reviewed included Wawoi Guavi, Makapa, Turama Extension, Vailala Block 1, Vailala Blocks 2 and 3, Iva Nika, Vanimo, Watut West, Buhem Mongi Busega, Kapuluk, Ania Kapiura, Open Bay, Seraji and Seraji Extension and Manus West Coast. The report said: "None of these 14 projects can be defined as legal and only one project manages to meet more than half of the key criteria set for a lawful logging operation".