



LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

16 March 2012

VOLUME: 10 - 12

LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

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The newsletter can be located at:
<http://www.lcci.org.pg/resources.html>

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Thank you

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK TIDAL BASIN PROJECT – LAE PORT

China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd has been awarded a contract worth more than K700 million for the major expansion and redevelopment of Lae Port. The contract was approved by the National Executive Council. Public Enterprises Minister, Sir Mekere Morauta said on Thursday that China Harbor Engineering was the lowest bidder for the contract at worth K734, 343,882. The project is being funded 70% by Asian Development Bank and 30% by the PNG National Government

Two years ago we saw the successful removal of 3,000 settlers from the 'Maus Markham' area where this project will take place. This area will be dredged and developed and is the real start to the Tidal Basin Project that will eventually see 250 metres of extra berth space at the Lae Port. The plan is to use some of the better quality dredged material as fill for areas surrounding the new berths, for Port and Port related activities.

In a press release by the Minister for Public Enterprises, Sir Mekere Morauta yesterday, he said:

“K700m CONTRACT AWARDED FOR LAE PORT DEVELOPMENT

March 15 2012

The Minister for Public Enterprises, Sir Mekere Morauta, said today National Executive Council had endorsed the awarding of a contract to China Harbor Engineering Company Limited for a major expansion and redevelopment of Lae Port.

China Harbor Engineering was the lowest bidder for the contract, worth K734,343,882. The project is being funded 70 percent by the Asian Development Bank and 30 percent by the National Government.

“This is a very significant contract for the nation, and especially for the Momase-Highlands region,” Sir Mekere said.

“Lae Port cannot meet current demand, and is becoming an impediment to the economic development of the region.

“Redevelopment and expansion of the port is urgently required so that many large regional projects, including the LNG Project, can be built on time and at a competitive cost.

“It will also spur other economic development in the region, including agriculture, by helping to lower the cost of taking goods to local and international markets as well as reducing the transport costs of inputs.”

Sir Mekere said the NEC decision also requires China Harbor Engineering Company to agree to have a significant proportion of national labour in its workforce and to employ PNG sub-contractors.

The main element of the project is the construction of new port facilities including a tidal basin, a berth and a terminal. Work is expected to start in the middle of this year and finish towards the end of 2015.

“Lae port accounts for more than 60 percent of Papua New Guinea trade, so the completion of this project will have a very beneficial impact on our national competitiveness, and will help to limit increases in the price of goods and services across the Momase-Highlands region,” Sir Mekere said.

“It is one of the most significant national projects to go ahead under the O’Neill-Namah Government.”

Mekere Morauta KCMG MP
Minister for Public Enterprises



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Objectives
of the LCCI

- To promote the business interests of the private sector;
- To further the economic development in Lae;
- To ensure the provision of services and utilities essential to such development;
- To provide a representative body for business people, which government can consult;
- To promote support or oppose legislation; or take any other measures to improve the business community;
- To provide a forum for discussion of private sector goals;
- To pool the strengths of business people so that together, they can accomplish tasks that each one alone cannot achieve;
- To promote the economic viability of the area, so those current businesses will grow and new ones will be developed locally;
- To provide business with a common voice.

LAE ROADS

The funding problem with the Lae Roads continues to be unresolved. The work on the contracts under the Lae City Roads Rehabilitation Project (LCRRP) has all but stalled with some of the contracted sections not complete. Whilst we do benefit from the smoother and safer roads that have been completed, there are congestion problems caused by the roads not yet finished. From our perspective these sections must be completed – they just cannot be left as they are with water filled ponds between completed cemented segments.

It is hoped that Prime Minister Peter O'Neill will make an announcement concerning the commencement of the road project, when he visits Lae this weekend. The very least that we need is to see the unfinished work finished.

There is no doubt that the roads are far easier to negotiate than before the current project was embarked upon. The unfinished roads however add to the congestion as alternative routes must be used, which are now struggling to cope with the sheer volume of vehicles.

We believe that drivers have developed some bad habits, from driving on poor roads over the past few years. No doubt the skills developed of dodging potholes, saw drivers using every inch of the road – on the correct side or the wrong side. There wasn't too much danger as there was only one speed – slow.

Now that traffic is able to travel at reasonable speeds, the bad habits that drivers developed are becoming a danger to other vehicles and cause delays to traffic. Drivers must re-learn to drive on the left hand side of the road, so that faster moving vehicles can pass them with safety. When turning right, the vehicle must move as close to the centre of the road as possible, so through traffic can travel on the inside or left hand of the vehicle. Similarly when turning left, the vehicle should not veer right as occurs all too frequently and is a dangerous practice.



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For more information call us on phone 472 2000.

Australian Government - AusAID Media Release

**RICHARD MARLES, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR PACIFIC ISLAND AFFAIRS,
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND BERNIE RIPOLL, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE TREASURER**

MAKING IT CHEAPER TO SEND MONEY HOME - 16 March 2012

Australia is making it cheaper for people to send money back home to family members living in the Pacific.

Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Bernie Ripoll, said a new PacificMoney Transfer Card would cut the cost of transferring money from Australia to a number of Pacific island countries.

'Financial institutions have responded to Government calls to make it cheaper and easier to send money home,' Mr Ripoll said.

'The PacificMoney Transfer Card, launched by the ANZ, is a two card pre-paid VISA solution which will benefit Australians with family members living in Fiji, PNG, Samoa and Tonga.'

Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs and Foreign Affairs Richard Marles said remittances were important to many Pacific island communities.

'Family members often depend on this money to cover day-to-day living expenses, to provide a cushion against emergencies or even fund small investments,' Mr Marles said.

COMPANY PROFILES

The Lae Chamber of Commerce advises that your company profile can be included in our Weekly News Update, at no charge to you. We encourage you to send the layout with the appropriate phrasing and any graphics or photos (as long as they do not take up big bytes).

This profile will not only reach our 250 Lae members but all Chambers around Papua New Guinea and other associated addressees.

The most recent PNG REPORT is available for collection from the LCCI

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“growing with the tradition”

AusAID Media Release (Cont)

'However it can be expensive to send money back home to loved ones, in some cases costing up to one third of the amount sent.'

Mr Ripoll said ANZ worked with the Australian Government to make banking more accessible.

The Australian Government has engaged in a number of other initiatives at the international level to reduce the cost of sending money overseas, such as:

Monitoring trends in remittance fees and charges since the Pacific Islands Forum of Economic Ministers' Meeting in 2009.

Leading, along with Italy, the G20's work on remittances, which included developing a 'toolbox of policy measures' that G20 members can adopt to improve remittance flows and reduce costs.

Proposing initiatives to reduce remittance costs at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2011. As a result, Commonwealth Heads of Government committed to implement practical measures to reduce the cost of sending money overseas.

The Australian and New Zealand-funded website www.sendmoneypacific.org allows customers to compare the cost of remitting funds by remittance provider and delivery method. It has increased competition amongst remittance providers. Remitters are benefiting from more information, increased choices and lower costs.

Media enquiries – to Parliamentary Secretary's Office (02) 6277 4330

A FOCUS ON THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA RESOURCE SECTOR

PNGREPORT

The latest edition for February 2012 of this magazine is now on display at the Lae Chamber of Commerce. Read the reports on the ROAD WARRIORS (The unforgiving Highlands Highway), MONEY LAUNDERING (looking under the carpet), BLASTING (Orica sets the standard) and LOGISTICS (Shipping on the Fly) when you get your free copy of this February edition, which can be reserved by contacting Wendie on 472 2340 or by emailing us at lcci@global.net.pg

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or
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LAE. 411 Morobe Province
Papua New Guinea

Telephone: 473 1660 /473 1665
Fax: 479 1158
Mobile: 72339674

Chairman- Lae Chamber of Commerce
Morobe Province

Date: 07.03.12

Attention: Mr. Allan Mclay.

Dear Sir

Subject: Supplementary Immunization Activity (SIA) 2012 with Tetanus Toxoid Vaccine for Child Bearing Age Women.

With regards to the above subject this letter serves to formally inform your office that the National Department of Health is carrying out a Supplementary Immunization Activity (SIA) on Measles (a vaccine preventable disease) from the 02nd of April to the 15th of May 2012. This is in line with the Government's regional commitment to declare Papua New Guinea a nation free of Measles by 2012.

Tetanus Toxoid vaccine is part of the Measles 2012 campaign but for all women of Child Bearing Age group from 15-45 years who have not received the vaccine for the past 5 years. Tetanus is an acute disease caused by bacilli which causes painful muscular contractions and commonly affects the newborn babies when unsterile techniques are used in birth. Immunizing women with tetanus toxoid vaccine will protect her and protect her baby if she happens to have a baby in 5 years time.

With the fact that most of the females in this category are employees of companies we are planning to include them in this nationwide program with your approval. Please ensure that all companies in Lae are aware of the event so that special arrangements will be made for them be immunize.

For further information contact our Immunization officer Ms. Kawe on # **73983528/4794867** or **Matron Kawa on 71248446**.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. Yawing- PPA Health

LCCI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Include the **LCCI AGM** as a **MUST ATTEND** function in your diary. With other member company reps attending, it is a great opportunity to network.

Want to be a Councillor? Nomination Forms are available on request.

The Lae Chamber of Commerce Incorporated will hold the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 29th March 2012. The venue will be the **Bulolo room at the Lae International Hotel**, and the function will commence at **5PM sharp**. The agenda for the AGM will be to present the 2011 Annual Report and audited Financial Statements for 2011, as well conducting elections for the 2012 Executive members and Councillors. Drinks and a cheese platter will be provided until **7:30 PM**.

Please contact Wendie at the LCCI Office and notify her of your intention to attend. Nomination forms and Proxy forms for those that cannot attend are attached to this newsletter.

This may be your opportunity to participate in one of the prime private sector organisations in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific.

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"WITH OUR EXTENSIVE REPRESENTATION, WE ARE IN A POSITION TO MEET ALL YOUR CAR HIRE ARRANGEMENTS"

LCCI Nomination Form

Please use this Form when nominating as a councillor to the LCCI. Complete and return to the LCCI Office.

A nominator can be any Company Executive of a Member Organization and anyone can witness



LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

NOMINATION FORM

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS & COUNCILLORS - 2012

I hereby nominate:..... Representing the Industry
(Name of Nominee)
for the position (s) of

- PRESIDENT*
- SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT*
- JUNIOR VICE-PRESIDENT*
- HONORARY TREASURER*
- COUNCILLOR (11 positions)*

At the forthcoming AGM of the Lae Chamber of Commerce Incorporated to be held at 5 PM on Thursday 29th March 2012.

*tick box as required

NOTE: It is recommended that the position of Councillor not be deleted when nominating for a higher position so the nominee can remain nominated for Council should he/she be unsuccessful in the contest for the higher position.

NOMINATOR:..... / ... / 2012
(Print Name) (Signature)

SECONDER:..... / ... / 2012
(Print Name) (Signature)

I signify my willingness to stand as nominated / ... / 2012
(Signature of nominee)

Note:

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF YOU COULD RETURN THE ATTACHED PROXY FORM TO THE LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, PO BOX 265, LAE OR FAX 472 6038 BEFORE THURSDAY 22nd March 2012.



LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

PROXY FORM

PROXY FORM

Please complete and sign and send to the LCCI Office if you are unable to attend the AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 29th March 2012

I, of
(print name) (Name of Company)

Being a fully paid up member of the Lae Chamber of Commerce Incorporated hereby appoint
.....of
(Print name) (Name of Company)

which is also a paid member of the Lae Chamber of Commerce Incorporated,

Or the current President of the Lae Chamber of Commerce Inc *tick*

to be my proxy to vote on our behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Chamber to be held on Thursday 29th March 2012, or at any adjournment thereof.

Signed: thisday of2012

Name of Witness:
(Print name) (Signature)

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