



LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

12 October 2012

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LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

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Thank you

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

BUSINESS COSTS SKYROCKETING

The front page of the Post Courier today reported that" the cost of doing business in Papua New Guinea is increasing rapidly and both businesses and consumers are feeling the pinch.

"Businesses are passing on the additional cost burden to consumers, which are reflected in the increasing cost for goods and services being felt by people everywhere."

The article went on to say - "For example PNG Companies are now paying K27, 500 to ship a 20 foot container from the northern coast of PNG to the Highlands. Three years ago they were paying K8, 000 and five years ago they were paying K2, 500 for the same container."

There is great doubt over the accuracy of these highly inflated figures that were presented at a meeting of the "National Working Group on Improving Business and Investment Climate (NWG)", which was also wrongly indicated to be dealing with problems in Port Moresby only which is not the case.

This NWG is the initiative of the current Government although it is an expansion of a similar group that came up with some wonderful results prior to 2002. This time round the NWG have been supported by the ADB. There is a great need for this NWG to look at decreasing the seemingly ever burgeoning bureaucracy and policies of the Government so that the Private Sector gets a fairer deal. All private sector organizations should be supporting this group and using it as a tool to remove a whole range of impediments to business in PNG.

I am sure that the presentation by the Manufacturers Council as reported in today's newspaper, revealing the above exponential increase in the cost of freighting goods from Lae to the Highlands was only using ball park figures rather than actual costs, so as to make a case for the rising cost of goods.

The NWG deals with a lot of sensitive and confidential information, and the LCCI queries the access by the press direct to this information without it first being screened. If we are to take the amazing increase in freight costs as set out in the newspaper this morning on face value, then this could lead to significant price increases as well as inaccurate information to be presented to the Minimum Wages Board which is currently being set up.

Businesses have enough difficulties at the moment coming to grips with the ever frequent power cuts, road deterioration, increasing crime and the current slow speed of Telco's.

It is a fact that not all these costs are passed on to the consumer but are absorbed by the companies. Companies are ever positive and would like to believe that many of these extra costs that we have to wear week in and week out, are temporary and that someday the Government and State owned Enterprises will get it right.

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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.



MOROBE PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF HEALTH

P.O. Box 458
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: 10.10.12

Attention: Mr. Allan McLay.

Dear Sir

Subject: Second dose of Tetanus Toxoid Injection to women of Child Bearing Age from 15-45years.

This letter serves to formally inform your office that the National Department of Health has proposed for second dose of Tetanus Toxoid injection to be given to all women in the child bearing age group from 15-45 years of age in the period of 15th October to 15th November 2012.

The first round of Tetanus Toxoid injection was given during the nationwide supplementary immunization activity in April this year which most of our women in the companies were immunized. We really appreciate those companies who have responded and contributed in one way or the other in the April rounds. As a province we immunized 82% of the women in the target age group with Tetanus vaccine.

We hope to improve our coverage this time and encourage all women in the target age group to receive this life saving vaccine.

Tetanus is an acute disease which is caused by bacilli which causes painful muscular contractions and commonly affects the newborn babies when unsterile techniques are used in birth. The disease is fatal and a chance of survival is limited in most health settings in our country.

Tetanus is however preventable through its vaccine -Tetanus Toxoid. Immunizing women with tetanus toxoid vaccine will protect her and protect her baby if she happens to have a baby in 5 years time.

After many years of giving Tetanus Toxoid vaccine the trend of Tetanus has declined however as part of our regional commitment PNG has pledged to declare that it is free of Tetanus by 2012. Therefore we are taking this initiative to immunize all our women before

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**Tetanus Shots
For Women of
Bearing Age
(2nd round)**

Tetanus Toxoid Injection for Women of Child Bearing Age (Cont)

we say that our country is free of tetanus. We will also notify you when the final round of this injection is going to be rolled out early next year.

Please ensure that all companies who are members of Lae Chamber of commerce are aware of the event so that special arrangements will be made for the women to be immunized.

For further information contact our Family Health Services coordinator Matron Kawa on 71248446/76465892 or our cold chain and logistic officer Sr.Wahasoka on 72030367.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr. Yawing- PPA Health



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**PNG POWER
interruptions**



POWER INTERRUPTIONS

PNG POWER advises that there will be urgent maintenance work causing interruptions to power in the following areas and stated days as follows:

- | | | |
|----|----------------|--|
| 1. | When | Saturday 14 th October 2012. |
| | Affected areas | Butibum Road, Independence Drive, Kamkumung Butibum Village. |
| | Time | 8 am to 12 noon. |
| 2. | When | Wednesday 17 th October |
| | Affected areas | Whole of UNITECH Area |
| | Time | 9 am to 11 am |

GENERAL INFORMATION FROM PNG POWER

The 5 machines at the Ramu 1 Power Station will be coming off at various times for renovation so we expect more disruptions until all 5 machines are done. They have started by taking machine 5 out and this will be brought back into service to give us a full 15MW within two weeks and then machine 4 will be done and so on until all 5 machines are done.

Once all 5 are done we will be able to get 75MW from Ramu 1 to supply a total demand of 60MW. As the works in Ramu progress and we have more machines to produce power then we will have enough to supply Lae.

The new machines at the Yonki Toe Dam will probably come on line by June of 2013 giving us an additional 18MW bringing total Hydro total to 105MW including the current 12MW from Pauanda.

ICC Seminar on procurement and trade

Paris, 11 October 2012

ICC is set to host a half-day seminar to evaluate the potential consequences of proposed European Commission (EC) regulation on the access of third country goods and services to internal procurement markets, made earlier this year.

<http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2012/ICC-seminar-on-procurement-and-trade/>

ICC announces Ulf Pehrsson as Vice-Chair of the Commission on Trade and Investment Policy

Paris, 10 October 2012

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Ulf Pehrsson as incoming Vice-Chair of the ICC Commission on Trade and Investment.

<http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2012/ICC-announces-Ulf-Pehrsson-as-Vice-Chair-of-the-Commission-on-Trade-and-Investment-Policy/>

New ICC tool responds to G20 anti-corruption call

Paris, 10 October 2012

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) today unveiled the latest addition to its suite of tools to help business stamp out corruption: the ICC anti-corruption clause.

<http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2012/New-ICC-tool-responds-to-G20-anti-corruption-call/>

Ten ICC tips for improving Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties

Paris, 9 October 2012

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) has published a proposal for improving Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLATs) that would foster cross-border communications services, protect essential individual rights, reduce conflict of law difficulties and reduce the risk of countries establishing unnecessary local communications infrastructure requirements solely for crime investigation purposes.

<http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2012/Ten-ICC-tips-for-improving-Mutual-Legal-Assistance-Treaties/>

ICC to champion multistakeholder approach to Internet policy at UN-linked Internet Governance Forum

Paris, 9 October 2012

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) will use its presence at the 7th annual Internet Governance Forum (IGF) next month to reinforce the value of a multistakeholder approach to public policy development. As part of its focus on the important role that the Internet plays in job creation and economic growth...

<http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2012/ICC-to-champion-multistakeholder-approach-to-Internet-policy-at-UN-linked-Internet-Governance-Forum/>

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**PACIFIC
BUSINESS
MENTORING
PROGRAMME**

**WHATS
HAPPENING?**

PACIFIC BUSINESS MENTORING PROGRAMME NEW ZEALAND

Wendie has now received a good number of applications from prospective candidates for the Business Mentoring.

The BMNZ team will be in Lae on 29th October 2012, and will make time available during this trip to talk to future potential clients. The date and venue for this discussion will be advertised shortly and will provide a good opportunity for businessmen to see if this program can help them in any way.

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THE MOROBE SHOW MARKHAM BALL 2012 - MASQUERADE

Saturday 20th October at the Morobe Show Hall

- **Tickets are K250 single / K500 double**
- **Tickets include all food and drinks, live music, DJ.**
- **Tickets are limited and available from Brian Bell.**
- **Corporate Tables of 10 are K2500 and can be purchased from Roberta Leo on 7351 5505 or roberta.homeindustries@gmail.com**

All proceeds from this year's Ball go towards a new community library within the Morobe Show Grounds. Please bring a book to the Ball to donate to the library.

Morobe Show Queen

Every year at the Morobe Show one of the premier events is the crowning of The Morobe Show Queen. This is a prestigious award given to the young lady who best represents the culture, heritage and customs of the Province, District and Village from which she originates.

This year the 2012 Morobe Show Queen is again sponsored by Lae Biscuit Company and the "Show Queen" receives a substantial cash prize. All the entrants receive a prize pack from Lae Biscuits plus the wonderful experience of participating in this colourful annual event.

We would like as many entrants as possible to represent a wide cross section of cultures within Papua New Guinea and would encourage businesses to nominate a representative from their staff to participate in this event. We look forward to receiving your nominations.

Nominations need to be lodged at the Show Office along with a K25 nomination fee no later than Thursday 25th October. Attached is a copy of the flyer with full details and the required entry form.

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PNGREPORT

The very latest August/September 2012 edition of this magazine is now on display at the Lae Chamber of Commerce. Read the reports on the BRAIN DRAIN (Poaching PNG Nationals), SELLER'S MARKET (explorers hold the cards), PNG RETREATS (the FIFO tourist dollar), LAST FRONTIER (PNG's unknown biodiversity) and more, when you get your free copy of this August/September edition, which can be reserved by contacting Jenna on 472 2340 or by emailing us at info@lcci.org.pg or just come into the chambers and pick up your copy.

INFLATE YOUR ADVERTISING CAPABILITY



The Morobe Show blimp is a highly visible advertising medium, and will float across the Lae show-grounds for the entire weekend of this year's Morobe Show on the 27th and 28th October. About 100,000 people are expected to descend on the grounds over the two days and you can now take advantage of this captive audience.

Two spaces on the blimp are available for advertising, at a cost of K2, 600 each.

You can either lease:

- The surface area on one side of the blimp OR
- The flag area below the undercarriage of the blimp.

The removable sticker signs suitable for the blimp ARE available locally - details of dimensions/flag weight will be made available to companies who secure advertising space.

This opportunity is available only on a first come, first served basis – so be quick!

Email the Morobe Show secretary on info@morobeshow.org.pg or call 71497619.

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Business Advantage

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- Inaugural PNG 100 CEO Survey
- The rise of the private sector
- PNG: overcoming the challenges
- Mining and LNG updates