



# LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

## WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

15 February 2013

VOLUME: 06 - 13

### LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

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*Thank you*

### FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

#### ERAP RIVER

A team from National Airports Corporation came over from Headquarters on Tuesday to have a look at the Erap River and the potential danger it poses to the Airport facilities, especially the Navigational Aids facilities. Mainland Holding Limited has put together a proposal to build more levee banks and strengthen the existing ones, and the NAC agreed 100% with the MHL recommendations.

A Dozer will be hired and put in the Erap River to try and stem the flow of water through the airport land and into Duram Farm. It is hoped that by adopting this method the flooded land will dry out a bit to enable machinery to move around safely. NAC will work on continuing there Levy bank through to the River.

The cost for all this work has not yet been assessed, but NAC are no longer government supported and they don't have much funding to deal with this type of disaster. MHL will start ASAP with the corrective work because there have been further heavy flows of water and the danger is still extremely high. NAC and the Morobe Provincial Government will look at funding assistance so that they can complement the work that MHL will be doing.

#### NADZAB AIRPORT – CAPABILITY FOR INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS

As advised late last year, the LCCI has been working on trying to pave the way for the reintroduction of Direct Flights from NADZAB to Cairns again. Before Christmas we visited the NADZAB terminal with Air Niugini Officials to look at a location that would be suitable for a separate Arrivals/Departure Lounge, complete with customs and migrations facilities, toilets and a luggage collection area. A suitable location was identified between the current Air Niugini ticketing area and the Airstrip and a draft plan was completed.

The National Airport Corporation has inspected the area and they are satisfied with the design plans with a few modifications.

Therefore progress continues on the International Facility with full support from NAC, ANG and the MPG for this private sector initiative. The costing for this facility will now be done and then the question of funding will have to be considered by all the stakeholders.

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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



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**FOO NEW ACTING CEO OF AIR NIUGINI**

Chairman of the Air Niugini Board Garth Mcllwain announced that the Board had appointed Simon Foo as the acting Chief Executive of Air Niugini on Wednesday this week. Mr. Foo was a former senior Air Niugini Executive and Board Member of Air Niugini and so brings a significant amount of experience with him.

In an article on page 22 of today's Post Courier, Mr Mcllwain was reported to have ... "issued instructions to the Company's management to improve on their performance and restore the pride of Papua New Guineans through better and improved customer services.

He went on further to say that... "he has come down hard on the management following clear government directives recently for all State owned Enterprises (SOE) to be profitable and pay dividends to the Government and provide quality service to the people."

In a further declaration Mr. Mcllwain said that disruptions had cost the airline an excessive K12 million last year.

These are the very things that we have been trying to get Air Niugini to address for the past few years, especially:

- Stop unnecessary flight delays and cancellations – the situation is now beyond a joke with delays of 5 or 6 hours becoming regular.
- When there are unavoidable delays keep the travelling public aware of the situation. Our patronage keeps the airline going and so we must be treated fairly and truthfully and with respect.

Mr. Foo is highly regarded in the travel game and we have faith in him to bring about the changes as requested by the Board Chairman. We aim to make contact with Mr. Foo when he settles in to reiterate with him our main concerns about the airline.



Cautious optimism feeds business confidence, ICC Secretary General tells CNBC

Paris, 13 February 2013

Speaking live on CNBC's Worldwide Exchange programme this morning, ICC Secretary General Jean-Guy Carrier said that the cautious optimism signalled by experts responding to the latest ICC-Ifo world economic survey was a good harbinger of developments for 2013 and held the promise of leading to investment-led growth.

<http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2013/Cautious-optimism-feeds-business-confidence,-ICC-Secretary-General-tells-CNBC/>

World economic climate improves, ICC-Ifo survey shows

Paris, 13 February 2013

The world economy is showing signs of brightening after six months of stagnation, according to a global survey of economic experts by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the Munich-based Ifo institute for economic research.

<http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2013/World-economic-climate-improves,-ICC-Ifo-survey-shows/>

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Essential PNG Industry News

### **InterOil's March announcement could be a 'big deal'**

Thursday, 14 February 2013

#### **IT SEEMS like the crunch time is coming for InterOil Ltd and its LNG project in Gulf Province. - By Wantok\***

The company has announced its corporate advisers will come up with a shortlist of potential LNG partners and its board will "evaluate" the best candidate(s) early in March.

In many circles there is not much optimism about a favourable outcome because of the many years InterOil, and its friends in government, have been hunting unsuccessfully for such a partner.

Among the reasons for this has been the complex structure proposed for the project with separate corporate entities suggested for upstream, midstream and downstream development. In some government circles this has been viewed as a potential avenue for transfer pricing.

Regardless of these concerns, the latest Antelope-3 drilling results provide a highly favourable backdrop for early development. The 2300-foot column height of the Antelope intersection is the best of the three wells put down at that location and gives some assurance there is more than enough natural gas for the proposed onshore facility to produce 3.8 million tonnes annual LNG capacity.

The facility remains a far cry from the eight million tonne a year facility originally proposed in 2009 that was to have been located near InterOil's Napa Napa refinery within the area of the Port Moresby port.

That has now been abandoned in favour of a smaller, and much cheaper, plant in the Gulf in the vicinity of its Elk and Antelope gas fields. That deal has been concluded with the Australian-listed Energy World Corporation. According to InterOil, the company is in a high state of preparedness for the LNG project. Progress has been made on engineering and design of the LNG plant and preliminary front end engineering and design has progressed on a gas gathering system.

The agreement with Mitsui on funding of a condensate stripping facility is even more advanced. FEED has been completed and bids received in response to a tender. A winning bidder could be named anytime.

FEED has also been completed on the pipeline from Elk-Antelope to the proposed plant site and some bids have been invited. FEED is well advanced on the marine facility but has yet to be conducted on the LNG plant site.

All of this provides a rather rosy picture for any intending partner for the LNG project, including the InterOil assessment that it has 9.4 trillion cubic feet of recoverable gas, as determined by Canadian-based GLJ Petroleum Consultants. This is only a shade below the 10.5Tcf that ExxonMobil and its partners are entitled to use for their 6.9 million tonnes a year PNG LNG Project.

The complicated aspect for any newcomer would be the InterOil proposal that it sell half of its entire gas resource to the PNG government, giving it an additional 27.5% stake along with the 22.5% stake it is entitled to.

Not much has been said on how this might be accomplished and the price the government may have to pay for the additional gas. Presumably, if it was targeted for domestic use, parity with LNG export pricing cannot be made a prerequisite but how this will all work is still something of a mystery to most observers.

If a solid and reputable partner comes into the picture the modular project concept for the Gulf project could take shape rather quickly but, as the saying goes, there is many a slip between cup and the lip!

ExxonMobil's PNG LNG Project is already proving to be a game changer in PNG, transformational being an adjective frequently used to describe it.

The prospect that a second LNG could come along rather quickly after ExxonMobil's 2014 launch is possibly one of the reasons why the current PNG government has revved up government expenditures like a drunken sailor with public sector borrowings of Kina 2.5 billion proposed during the current year.

The countdown to the likely InterOil announcement next month will certainly be awaited with much interest both within PNG and abroad.

\*Disclaimer: Like all stories from Port Moresby-based Wantok, this is an opinion piece.



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Extract from  
**PNGIndustry-  
News.net**

**Appointed by the National Executive Council, the new boards are as follows.**

#### **AIR NIUGINI**

Chairman: Garth McIlwain (former CEO of Bank of South Pacific)  
Deputy Chairman: Sir Frederick Reiher  
Directors: Sir James Tjoeng, Mr Simon Foo, Sir Noel Levi, Luke Minjukili, Capt. Leslie Heyward.

#### **WATER PNG**

Chairman: Bill Sweet  
Deputy Chairman: Peter Pokawin  
Directors: Joseph Karap, Seseka Korona, Jack Baru

#### **TELIKOM PNG**

Chairman: Mahesh Patel (CEO City Pharmacy Ltd)  
Deputy Chairman: Martin Veisame  
Directors: Cedric Rondoke, Avia Koisen, Essau Wareh, David Cox, Malcolm Lewis, Dr Samuel Kopamu.

#### **MVIL**

Chairman: Dr Ken Ngangan  
Deputy Chairman: Eno Daera  
Directors: Janet Sios, Mark Baia, Samson Jubi, Blaise Nangoi and John Chris

#### **PNG Ports**

Chairman: Nathaniel Poya,  
Deputy Chairman: Job Suat  
Directors: Luke Niap, Igo Oala, Harey Nii, Professor John Puma, Patrick Amini and Eddie Hesingut.

#### **EDA RANU**

Chairperson: Mary Karo  
Directors: David Erico, Leslie Hoffman, Vincent Mirupasi, Peter Inara

#### **POST PNG**

Chairman: Reuben Aila  
Deputy Chair Mary Laimo  
Directors: Roddie Wada, Luke Ako, Sam Goia Akmagi, Bungtabu Brown

#### **PNG POWER**

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## **Business Advantage PNG**

YOUR GATEWAY TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND THE REGION

### **What to do if you have a commercial dispute in Papua New Guinea**

12 Feb 2013 by [Business Advantage](#) [Leave a Comment](#)

**Regardless of your field of business in Papua New Guinea, you need to know what to do when there is a dispute over a contract. Veteran commercial disputes lawyer, Erik Andersen, looks at the major avenues for dispute resolution in PNG.**

The rapid increase in economic activity in PNG over the last several years has inevitably resulted in countless contracts, understandings, dealings and agreements, including those strange PNG creatures—the MOU (memorandum of understanding) and MOA (memorandum of agreement).

These contractual dealings could arise in any form, from major project document suites a metre high which have taken armies of lawyers to construct, to the most apparently casual conversation between relatively new acquaintances.

Equally inevitably, a proportion of those dealings will become contentious, and it is probably fair to say the proportion that becomes contentious is likely to be higher in environments such as PNG where getting things can take a degree of persistence and flexibility unfamiliar to people and organisations only recently drawn to the country.

#### **Commercial court**

The National Court is PNG's original court of unlimited jurisdiction and the court's form and format would be familiar to practitioners in Australia.

Two particular aspects of the court process should be noted. The first is that there is a 'Commercial Track', which equates with the Commercial Lists maintained in Australian jurisdictions.

*At present mediation is too often simply another expensive and time-consuming hoop which must be negotiated.*

Unsurprisingly, the judges in this track tend to have both wider and deeper commercial experience than many on the bench (who may have come from a primarily criminal-law background) and generally speaking commercial matters, even quite difficult ones, can be progressed satisfactorily in this track.

PNG court lists contain a larger number of nuisance claims than are likely to be found elsewhere and inevitably some quite fierce contests arise when nuisance claimants desperately seek to avoid this track.

#### **Compulsory mediation**

The second point I would mention is that mediation rules have been introduced prima-facie requiring all matters to go through a mediation process before trial.



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### CONTRACT DISPUTES (business advantage feature continued)

The reasoning behind the introduction of compulsory mediation is not necessarily unsound, and to an extent it reflects a Melanesian dispute resolution methodology. (For anyone interested, there is an excellent exposition of traditional tribal dispute resolution and the differences between common law and customary law in Francis Fukuyama's [The Origins of Political Order](#)).

However, for the National Court in 2013 mediation is very much a work in progress. Judges' attitudes to mediation vary considerably from some who will absolutely insist on it to others who are very happy to bypass it—and everything in between.

Further, there is not yet a reasonable pool of qualified mediators, nor are many practitioners genuinely helpful or practised in guiding their clients through mediation. At present mediation is too often simply another expensive and time-consuming hoop which must be negotiated.

#### Arbitration

Arbitration is the other principal mode of dispute resolution. Domestic arbitration is all but defunct.

The Arbitration Act is of very elderly vintage and while there have been attempts from time to time to develop a stronger local arbitration capacity, those efforts have generally been ineffectual to date.

International arbitrations are preferred and many larger contract documents submit the parties to arbitration under one or other international rules such as [UNCITRAL](#).

The selection of an arbitral body and process at the time of contract negotiation is not necessarily straight-forward as there are some peculiarities in PNG's enforcement regime which need to be understood and appropriately finessed at that time. Failure to do this can lead to considerable difficulties if the parties do become antagonistic.

By way of final observation, effective dispute resolution in PNG depends upon the advisor having a long and deep appreciation of PNG.

*Erik Andersen is a Partner in Gadens Lawyers Litigation Group and has practised in PNG for more than 20 years.*



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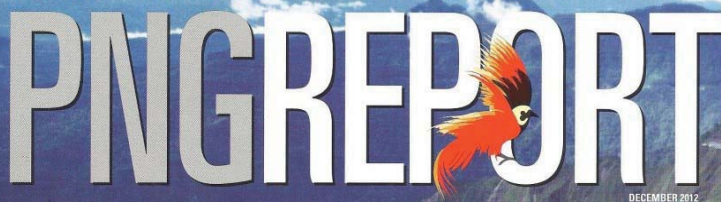
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*Business Advantage*

*Made in PNG 2012*

*Copies of these and other magazines can be obtained from the LCCI Office or reserved by contacting Jenna on - 472 2340 or email [info@lcci.org.pg](mailto:info@lcci.org.pg)*

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### Re Lae City Mission Annual Golf Day Fund Raiser

It is that time of the year when we write seeking the support of your company to sponsor a team in our annual Golf Day Fund Raiser. This is our major fundraiser for the year and the event is scheduled for Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Brian Bell & Co is the major sponsor for this event and cost of entering your team in this year 3 Ball Ambrose is K600 and includes good prizes and good fellowship. Finger food and refreshments will be available during the Presentation after the game. A sausage sizzle will also be available before hit off at 11.30am.

The Mission is now in its eight year of operation in Lae and has grown substantially in this period. From humble beginning with four staff members that transferred from Port Moresby the Mission now employs around 50 staff and security between our four sites in Lae and currently accommodates over 200 young men and up to 20 children on a full time basis.

I would like to say a big thank you to those companies that have offered employment, both permanent and casual for City Mission youth. Ideally we do not like to send them out until they have spent a minimum of three months in the Mission so that we have a chance to discern their character and place some work ethics and standards into their life. Most of the boys that come to the Mission have never worked an eight hour day in their life so by seeing them develop through the various roles and responsibilities on the plantation before they are sent out, we are then able to determine the boys that are willing to work hard and be faithful.

Our Children's Crisis Centre currently has 18 children in residence. We have managed to secure a position in school for most of these children and they are lovingly cared for by the Anglican Sisters. We partner with Anglicare Stop Aids in this project.

Our Mission survives on donations so if you are not available to play on the day then please consider giving a cash donation to this cause. With rising prices in gas, power and food costs we can only continue to provide our services with the generous support of the business community. The mission also runs a Meri Seif Haus and Community Learning Centre in the 2 Mile settlement. Of course all this costs us money and we therefore trust that you will generously support us by attending this golf day fundraiser. Prizes from your companies to be distributed on the day would also be appreciated.

If you are able to support us with prize donations please ensure that it be in sets of three.

Thanking you in anticipation and hoping to see you on the day.

**LAE CITY MISSION**

Lae City Mission

CHARITY  
GOLF  
DAY



## LAE CITY MISSION

*SPREADING THE LOVE OF GOD & MEETING HUMAN NEEDS*

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Mike Herman - 4723551 [mike.herman@gfinternational.com.au](mailto:mike.herman@gfinternational.com.au)  
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## EXPATRIATE MANAGER LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT

We are holding a CV for an expatriate male with over a decade of Management experience in PNG, and 30 years at all levels in the printing field. He believes he will benefit any business with his management skills, and is currently looking for further employment. We are holding his CV and will forward it to anyone interested. Please respond by return email.

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## FACTS THAT YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT CHIKUNGUNYA FEVER

Read the following and display it in a prominent place for your workers to read

Do you know that Chikungunya fever is in PNG

If you think you have the fever here is what you should do!



NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# Chikungunya Fever is in PNG

### What is Chikungunya fever?

Chikungunya fever, is a viral illness transmitted through the bite of infected mosquitoes, commonly known as Aedes mosquitoes. The illness is related to other mosquito borne diseases like dengue fever.

### How can you tell if you have Chikungunya Fever?

The symptoms of chikungunya fever include a sudden onset of fever; severe headache; chills; nausea; vomiting, and joint pain. The disease is characterized by severe, sometimes persistent joint pains, and is generally not fatal. Some patients have reported severe unbearable joint pain or arthritis which may last for weeks or months.

### Incubation period

Time from the infected bite to the onset of illness can be 2-12 days.

### How does Chikungunya Fever spread?

It spreads when Aedes mosquito bites an infected person then goes and bites an uninfected person.

### When does the Aedes mosquitoes bite?

Aedes mosquitoes bite only during the daytime. They are easily recognised by the black and white stripes and spot marking on their bodies and legs.

### Where does Aedes mosquitoes breed?

The Aedes mosquitoes breed easily in any thing that holds clean water including tyres, coconut shells, flower pots, flower vases, empty drums, storage jars, etc. The eggs can become adults within a span of 7 - 10 days. It can rest inside and outside the house and other areas where it is dark, cool and shaded.

### Treatment

If you suspect or feel signs of Chikungunya fever, you must report to the nearest health centre or hospital as soon as possible. Do not wait until it is too late.

Currently there is no specific drug treatment against Chikungunya fever. However proper and early treatment with bed rest and drinking a lot of clean water is highly recommended. Take medicines which are prescribed only by a health worker.

**It is important that a person who is suspected of having Chikungunya Fever must be kept under a mosquito net all times until the fever is over.**

### Prevention

Since specific drug treatment and vaccines are not available, all efforts should be directed at destroying all mosquito breeding sites. It is important to eliminate their breeding grounds in order to control the disease.

To avoid Aedes mosquito bites, you must:

- Clean your backyard including all water log areas
- Use mosquito repellents (aeroguard or coil). Care should be taken in using repellents on small children and elderly people
- Destroy and remove any potential mosquito breeding places

### Prevent breeding of mosquitoes

#### Actions you should take "Every week"

Inspect the inside and outside of the house and its surrounding areas.

- Ensure you remove any access waste water in empty tyres, rubbish drums, flower pot holders, etc.
- Drain tanks, drum and buckets, water storage containers, plastic food containers, used coconut shells, etc, before refilling.
- Change water in flower vases or other containers used for keeping flowers and other plants.
- Put screen cover inlets in water tanks, water drums and any other container holding water for drinking and other household use

#### Actions you should take "Once Every Month"

- Clear away leaves in roof gutters and apron drains where feasible.
- Maintain all the above every month.

#### Actions you should take "At All Times"

- Do not litter. Paper cups, water bottles and empty tins should not be thrown anyhow into the drains, roadsides, grass, vacant land and other areas that can hold rain water and help mosquitoes to breed.

**It is very important that you must maintain all the above activities on a monthly basis.**



For more information contact Department of Health Emergency Control Centre  
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