

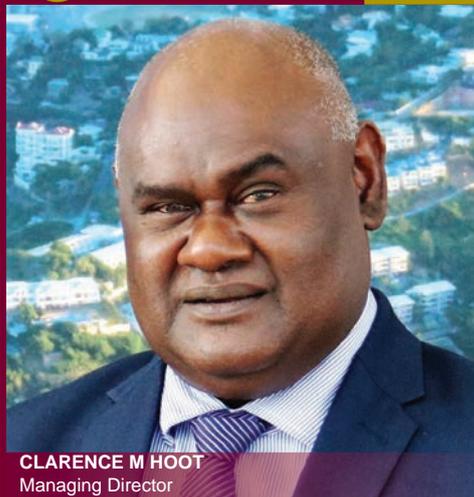


# Opportunity

Issue 11 - November 2019

Business News, reviews and overviews from the IPA

## MD's INBOX



**CLARENCE M HOOT**  
Managing Director

Dear Readers, and welcome to the eleventh (11th) issue of the Opportunity newsletter.

Christmas is just around the corner and as we approach the end of another successful year we would like to acknowledge the support of our stakeholders as always.

The IPA yet again achieved several key milestones last month and this month with the launching of two (2) help desks in New Ireland and Milne Bay Provinces and the roll out

of its de-registration exercise.

In order for us to really clean up our business registry we are adamant that this exercise will be completed in the early part of 2020.

We also successfully hosted the inaugural Business Regulators summit which was hosted on the 19th and 20th of September, 2019 in Port Moresby.

The two days event was hosted under the theme "Efficient Regulations; Productive Economy". A outcome report on that summit containing recommendations to the National Government for intervention have been compiled by IPA.

As we slowly get to the end of the year we look forward to your continued support as we work towards delivering our services for the year.

On that note we hope you enjoy this issue and we look forward to receiving your feedback as usual.

Thank you and happy reading!!!

**Clarence M. Hoot**  
Managing Director

## IN THE NEWS

### IPA TO ROLL OUT DE-REGISTRATION EXERCISE

More than 5,000 companies are on the list to be de-registered if they do not comply by end of November. These 5,000 companies comprise those that have not filed an annual return up to the year 2000.

A copy of the list of companies has also been published on the IPA's website on the Home Page ([www.ipa.gov.pg](http://www.ipa.gov.pg)).

An annual return is a yearly update of public information about a company on the companies register. This information includes companies' addresses and details of directors and shareholders.

It is a requirement by the Companies Act that companies' records are up to date for the purposes of effective correspondences between the Office of the Registrar of Companies and the individual companies.

This is the first batch to undergo a staged compliance exercise planned for the next 6 months.

In 2017, the IPA went out on an awareness campaign in a bid to get companies who had outstanding Annual Returns to submit their Returns to avoid being de-registered when this exercise was finally rolled out.

As part of this exercise, we published on our website a list of companies which had outstanding Annual Returns. The publication of the list of non compliant companies on the website was a goodwill exercise which the IPA undertook as part of its awareness campaign towards getting companies to comply with relevant company laws. The de-registration exercise which we are rolling out now is the next step following the publication of the list and is the official process by law.

Under Section 366 of the Companies Act 1997 (as amended), it states that "a company can be removed from the register of registered companies if its annual return is at least six months late". Prior to enforcing this clause, the Office of the Registrar of Companies is re-

## Tips & Traps

### EXPENSIVE WHEN YOU DON'T LODGE ANNUAL RETURNS ON TIME

It becomes an expensive exercise when you do not lodge your company's Annual Return on time and decide to do so after a while.

Here is an illustration of the above statement. Annual Returns are lodged each year. The fee to lodge an Annual Return is K300 if you lodge it over the counters or K250 if you go online.

If you miss a year of lodging your Returns, you are liable of a fine of K1,000. This means that when you're lodging your late Returns manually, you will pay a total of K1,000 plus the normal lodgment fee of K300, or if you go online it would be K1,000 + K250.

For example, say your last Annual Return was lodged in 2010, and you wish to lodge them manually this year. Technically speaking, you

will be lodging returns for 8 outstanding years. Therefore, your calculations will be;  $K1,000 \times 8 + K300 \times 8 = K10,400.00$ .

Companies can get deregistered if they do not file their Annual Returns as late as 6 months. If the company in the above example is de-registered and wishes to apply for reinstatement then it will need to pay the K10,400 plus a K3,000 administrative fee. The total payable for reinstatement would therefore be **K13,400.00**. This excludes the costs of publishing the reinstatement notice in the media, which is a requirement of the reinstatement process.

It's better to spend money on things that will grow your business than paying fines for avoidable circumstances.

Continue on to next page.....



quired by the same law to publish the "Notice of Intention to Deregister a Company" to notify companies in advance before a company is removed from the companies registry.

Companies have been given one month from the date of publication to comply and submit their Annual Returns. A final list of those who

still fail to comply will be published again in December.

This is to satisfy the statutory requirements of the Registrar to publish the "Notice of Removal of Companies from the Register".

It is also a cost on the IPA to maintain records

which are no longer required as the companies are no longer operating.

Once a company is deregistered, it will need to apply for reinstatement if it still wants to conduct business and the process and costs involved are tedious and expensive.

## IN THE NEWS

# The Investment Promotion Authority launches Help Desk in Milne Bay Province



The IPA's Managing Director, Mr Clarence Hoot (middle), cuts the ribbon to officially launch the Help-Desk in Milne Bay Province as the Director and Advisor for the Commerce and Mines Division, Mr Cedrick Noel and the President for Milne Bay Chamber of Commerce, Mr Jeffery Able stand to witness the launching.

The Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) launched the IPA Help-Desk in Milne Bay Province on Friday 08th of November 2019.

The IPA Help-Desk will help the people in the province in terms of business registrations and the provision of investment promotion and facilitation information.

The Help-Desk launching follows the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Milne Bay Provincial Administration and the IPA in February 2018.

The IPA Managing Director, Mr Clarence M. Hoot when officiating during the launch highlighted that the launching of the IPA/MBPA Help-Desk will make IPA services accessible to the people at the provincial levels and assist our local SMEs prosper in their business endeavours.

The IPA Help-Desk is established within the Commerce and Mines Division of the Milne

Bay Provincial Administration situated within the Delivery Centre, Building Complex in Alotau Town, Milne Bay Province.

Mr Hoot also highlighted that the launch also signifies IPA's efforts to develop a strategic partnership aimed towards meaningfully delivering services to our people.

He said that the strategic partnership with the IPA will also empower the people to formally register their business activities and provide investment opportunities for the province.

Mr Hoot thanked the Milne Bay Provincial Administration for the ongoing support and co-operation since the signing of the MoU back in 2018. He also thanked the Director and Advisor of the Commerce and Mines Division Mr Cedrick Noel and the IPA Management for the tireless efforts towards the success of the official launching of the Help-Desk.

Mr Noel was also grateful to finally have the

Help-Desk launched after the MoU signing back in 2018 given a number of deferral due to various reasons.

He said that the launching was timely in the sense that the local people will now have access to IPA services within the Province.

President of the Milne Bay Chamber of Commerce, Mr Jeffery Able pointed out that running a business in the province was a very difficult task for business houses and commended the IPA and the Provincial Administration for such initiative.

MD Hoot also presented Help-Desk equipment as part of the launching.

## COMPANIES IN ALOTAU GENERALLY COMPLIANT

A team of officials from various regulatory agencies led by the Investment Promotion Authority were in Alotau earlier this month to conduct a spot inspection and provincial database survey exercise.

The exercise coincided with the launching of the IPA's help desk within the Commerce and Mines Division of the Milne Bay Provincial Administration.

A total of 65 business houses altogether were inspected during the exercise and the key factors looked out for were on compliance matters such as whether companies operating in Alotau were complying with relevant business laws administered by different regulatory

agencies. Aside from the IPA, other regulatory agencies that participated in the exercise included the Internal Revenue Commission, ICC, PPL, Customs, (list them in full).

The team noted that majority of companies in Alotau were generally compliant under the Companies laws and regulations. However, there were some that had issues with other business regulations outside of IPA. These included the sale of expired food items and substandard electrical appliances in shops, which were then confiscated and destroyed by the team.



IPA's Research Unit Officer, Russel Pruaitch posing after the confiscated goods were destroyed by the Spot Inspection Team in Alotau



## Intellectual Property Office Of PNG Successfully hosts the National Seminar on Copyright and Related Rights



Seated from left to right: Mr. Samuel Shu Masuyama, Director, Center for Performers' Rights Administration (CPRA/Geidankyo) Japan, Managing Director for the Investment Promotion Authority, Mr Clarence Hoot, Legal Officer for World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Geneva, Mr Paolo Lanteri and Ms Amelia Na'aru, Registrar for the Intellectual Property Office of PNG with (standing) participants of various artists.

The Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) through the Intellectual Property Office of Papua New Guinea (IPOPNG) in partnership with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) on the 11th and 12th of November this year hosted a seminar on Copyright and Related Rights with support from the Japanese Copyright Office.

The seminar was attended by musicians, artists, song writers, film makers, photographers, designers, art/graphic artist, and software developers. The seminar was aimed at educating participants on the basic rights under the Copyright and Related Rights and the connection of Copyright in cultural and economic development.

In opening the seminar, IPA Managing Director Mr. Clarence Hoot informed the participants that the IPOPNG has noticed a growing interest in the creative sector from the queries it received. Apart from music, this included fashion designing, art and craft, visual arts, photography and software development.

Mr. Hoot also said that globally, the copyright legal landscape is changing at a rapid rate given the technology developments. He said this posed a challenge for the IPOPNG in terms of the protection and enforcement of Copyrights. He said however that the IPOPNG is already taking steps to address policy and legal concerns in this area through the National Intellectual Property Strategy and the reviews

of the Copyrights law.

Key issues raised by participants at the seminar were on the lack of awareness on the subject and the rights they have as copyright owners. They were also keen on understanding how they could manage their rights in order to make money from their work.

The Office will continue to carry out more awareness programs to educate the masses on Copy Rights and is further exploring the establishment of Collective Management Organisations with the stakeholders.

# IPA participates in the Public Servants Sports

Staff from the Investment Promotion Authority joined other public servants in this year's Public Service Sports Program which was hosted on the 1st of November, 2019 at the Rita Flynn Sports arena in Port Moresby.

The Public Service Sports program is hosted annually and this year's program was hosted with the theme "Promoting healthy lives and healthy workforce."

The Program saw the participation of public servants from various Government Departments and agencies.

Three (3) sports were hosted including mixed Soccer, mixed volleyball and mixed netball. The IPA staff participated in all the sports and did well in the sports of netball and soccer.

IPA's mixed netball team finished fourth out of eight (8) teams.

IPA's Investment Aftercare Officer, Mr. Henry Bae took out the award for being the best and most goals scorer in the sport of soccer. He scored a total of five goals during the one day games, four of which were scored in a single game.

The Public Service Sports was established purposely to promote healthy lifestyle and active living in the Public Service and to encourage networking and harness working relationships among public servants.

Last year's Public Service Sports program was held on the 12th of October, 2018 at the Sir John Guise stadium in Port Moresby.

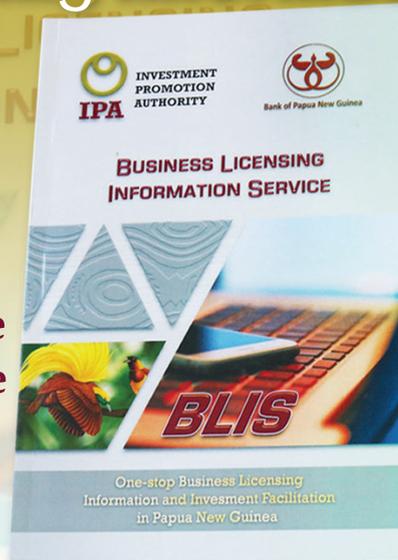




**Investment  
Promotion  
Authority**

# Business Licensing Information Service booklet ON SALE

The Investment Promotion Authority wishes to advise its clients and public on the sale of the Business License Information Service (BLIS) booklet.



The **BLIS** booklet contains a One-Stop-Shop Business Licensing Information comprising various legislative requirements of doing business in Papua New Guinea and the necessary processes or guidelines to obtain the licenses from the relevant statutory license issuing agencies.

The **BLIS** booklet contains the following information:

- CONTACT DETAILS OF OFFICERS (S), DIVISION & AGENCIES WHICH ADMINISTERS EACH LICENSE.
- LICENSE APPLICATION FORM WHERE POSSIBLE.
- APPLICABLE LEGISLATIONS AND PROVISIONS.
- DETAILS OF LICENSE, FEES, DETAILS OF RENEWALS AND TRANSFER.
- TYPE OF BUSINESS THE LICENSE MAY APPLY.
- PLUS OTHER NECESSARY INFORMATION REQUIRED TO ACCOMPANYING THE APPLICATION FOR BUSINESS LICENSE.

The **BLIS** booklet provides one-stop shop business licensing information and helps you to understand various legislative requirements for compliance purposes.

For more information regarding a purchase of a BLIS booklet, please contact:

Jeffrey Hete, Business Information Officer on +675 321 7311/3900/534 or Michael George, Manager Research & Information on +675 321 4509 or email them on [jhete@ipa.gov.pg](mailto:jhete@ipa.gov.pg) or [mgeorge@ipa.gov.pg](mailto:mgeorge@ipa.gov.pg) respectively.

The booklet is on sale for **K200** only and a copy can be purchased at the Investment Promotion Authority office, 1st floor, **IPA Haus**, Munidubu Street (Corner of Lawes Road & Champion Parade) Konedobu, Port Moresby.

# Local SME thrives to promote healthy living through sale of herbal products

**A**mbuat Estate, a 100% nationally owned company is striving to be the best company specialized in producing and selling locally made herbal products in the country.

The local SME was registered with the Investment Promotion Authority on the 19th of November, 2015 and has been in operation since.

AMBUAT Estate currently has its head office located at Gerehu Stage 2 in Port Moresby.

The business was inspired and formed by a group of widows for the purpose of self-sustainability of their livelihood.

These widows have seen the importance of naturally grown herbs which inspired them to be innovative in producing health products made from herbs.

The health products have been on sale and so far, the widows have received testimonials on the effectiveness of the products. Ambuat Estate's Production Manager, Grace Kalau said the knowledge of using these naturally grown herbs have proven to be very effective and so the business has gradually increased its pro-

duction of a variety of natural herbal oils.

The herbal oil products range from Frangipani, Lemon Grass, Virgin Coconut, jasmine and lotus oil.

The oils are made from pure extracts of natural herbs infused with coconut oil and their application poses no threat or side effects.

"The multi-purpose herbal oils we produce are already on the shelves of shops in Port Moresby," said Ms Kalau.

Ambuat was among other SMEs who showcased their products during the Inaugural National Coconut Festival hosted by the Kokonas Industri Koparesen from the 26th to the 28th of September, 2019 in Port Moresby.

Ms Kalau said the Ambuat has plans to expand and export their products overseas.

### AMBUAT HERBAL OILS

**FRANGIPANI-** is best applied on the skin to soothe dry and faded skin. It also relaxes the nerves and muscles and keeps skin soft and beautiful. Frangipani oil also helps reduce

depression with its sweet natural long lasting fragrances of the locally grown frangipani plant.

**LEMON GRASS-** has quick and effective results when applied externally to the body. It helps reduce fever, heals wounds, cures fungal infections on the skin and relieves pain. It also has long lasting fragrances of the natural lemon grass plant that helps to reduce depression as well.

**VIRGIN COCONUT OIL-** is excellent for body massages and good moisturizer for body and hair. It reduces high blood pressure and diabetes and strengthens the immune system of the body. This oil reduces fat and is exceptionally made to be consumed and applied to the body externally.

**JASMINE OIL-** reduces cough and fades scar marks. It also relieves depression and is perfect for skin care with long lasting fragrances.

**LOTUS OIL-** is perfect for anti-aging results and has skin improving texture and condition. When applied to the body, it helps to relax the muscles and nerves. It also removes scars and stretch marks and long lasting fragrances.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact our Head Office on email: [ambuat01@gmail.com](mailto:ambuat01@gmail.com) or contact the Production Manager on mobile number: 739 66 909



A registered landowner company, Louki Resources Development Limited from the Abau District in Central Province is seeking an investor or developer under either a joint venture partnership or as an equity participant to develop an alluvial mine.

**Location:**

Abau District, Central Province

**Project Size/Investment Value:**

US\$1million

Louki Resources Development Limited is a registered landowner company seeking an investor for a joint venture partnership to develop an alluvial mining project in Abau District, Central Province, Papua New Guinea.

Major mineral composition identified at the site includes Gold, Copper and other river deposits. Besides these minerals, samples of Crude Oil have also been identified.

**LOUKI ALLUVIAL MINE  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

Besides the alluvial mining potential, other business opportunities include transport services, saw milling, catering services, security services, building & structural construction, logistics and other capital works and venture capital for specialized projects.

Copies of relevant supporting documents including the proposed project proponent's Certificate of Incorporation, registered Incorporated Land Group notice (Rouki Land group Inc), copies of respective maps outlining the alluvial mining lease area, the Louki Clan land area of 8,863 ha, the Imila Village Clan Boundaries and the Timber resources area are available for perusal upon request.

| Contact | Details  |
|---------|--|
| IPA PNG | <a href="mailto:investment@ipa.gov.pg">investment@ipa.gov.pg</a> |

**Annual Returns**

**Question:**

What happens to my company if I don't file my annual return on time?

**Answer:**

Your company will be de-registered or be removed from the register of registered companies.

Section 366 of the Companies (Amendment) Act 2014 states that *"a company can be removed from the register of registered companies if its annual return is at least six months late"*.

Once your company is de-registered, it will need to apply for reinstatement if it still wants to conduct business and the process and costs involved are tedious and expensive.

Do you have a general question about the regulatory side of running a business or have a query on investment promotion, Intellectual Property rights or wish to know more on Securities? If so, email your question to: [click](mailto:beverlyp@ipa.gov.pg)

[beverlyp@ipa.gov.pg](mailto:beverlyp@ipa.gov.pg)

We will publish a selection of questions and our answers in each issue of Opportunity.

**IPA BRANCHES:**

**Port Moresby, Head Office**

Level 1, IPA HAUS, Munidubu Street  
(Corner of Lawes Rd and Champion Pde)  
Konedobu, Port Moresby

Phone: (675) 308 4400 / (675) 321 7311

Facsimile: (675) 320 2237

Email: [ipa@ipa.gov.pg](mailto:ipa@ipa.gov.pg)

**Lae Regional Office**

Level 1, Nambawan Supa Building,  
P. O. Box 1074, Lae,  
Morobe Province

Phone: (675) 479 2001 / 479 2606

Fax: (675) 479 2001

Email: [ipalae@ipa.gov.pg](mailto:ipalae@ipa.gov.pg)

**Buka Regional Office**

Commerce Office, Haku Street  
P. O. Box 782, Buka  
AROB,

Phone: (675) 973 9344 / 973 9189

Fax: (675) 973 9344

Email: [ipa\\_buka@ipa.gov.pg](mailto:ipa_buka@ipa.gov.pg)

**Mt. Hagen Regional Office**

Level 1, Gapina Building,  
P. O. Box 1834, Mt. Hagen,  
Western Highlands Province,

Phone: (675) 542 0399

Fax: (675) 542 0599

Email: [ipahagen@ipa.gov.pg](mailto:ipahagen@ipa.gov.pg)

**Kokopo Regional Office**

Ground Floor, Marau Haus,  
P. O. Box 870, Kokopo,  
East New Britain Province,

Phone: (675) 982 9460

Fax: (675) 479 2001

Email: [iparabaul@ipa.gov.pg](mailto:iparabaul@ipa.gov.pg)



**IPA**

[www.ipa.gov.pg](http://www.ipa.gov.pg)



[www.ipopng.gov.pg](http://www.ipopng.gov.pg)



[www.facebook.com/InvestmentPromotionAuthority](https://www.facebook.com/InvestmentPromotionAuthority)

**Disclaimer** > Opportunity is intended to provide information of a general nature only. The content of this newsletter is not intended to be advice or recommendation. It is not appropriate for the purposes of carrying out a transaction or making an investment decision. > The IPA takes reasonable steps to ensure the information provided in the newsletter is accurate and up-to-date at the time of issue, as well as to obtain reliable content from third parties. However, the IPA does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of the information or endorse the views or opinions given by any third party provider, nor takes responsibility for any errors made in the process of providing this newsletter.