

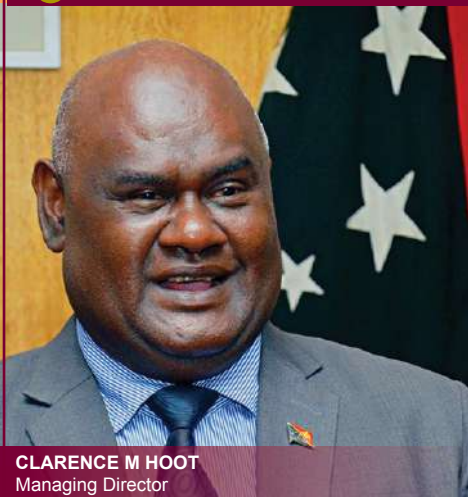


ppportunity

Issue #9 - September 2021

Business News, reviews and overviews from the IPA

MD's INDEPENDENCE MESSAGE



CLARENCE M HOOT
Managing Director

Happy 46th independence and welcome to the 9th issue of the *Opportunity Newsletter*.

The past few months have been very challenging for the authority, however the board and management of the IPA have been happy with our performance in terms of delivering our work programs.

Despite the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic around the country and the downturn in our economy which brought with it unprecedented challenges and pressures, we were able to achieve what is expected of us.

Our management team convened a strategic session at Tuhava, just outside Port Moresby which saw the completion of some of our key strategic documents including the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan, the 2019 Annual Report and the drafting of our 2020 Annual report whilst awaiting the Audited financials from the Auditor General.

With those outcomes, let me also inform you that the IPA board has expressed satisfaction with the submission of two amended IPA policies on training and housing and has pledged its continued support for these initiatives.

Thank you all IPA staff for your efforts and commitments in making sure that all our work programs for the first and second quarter of this year were achieved and I urge all staff to continue the good work.

This year is the first year that the country is celebrating independence without our founding father, the late Grand Chief Sir Michael Thomas Somare. Obviously, the feeling and excitement that we have experienced from past celebrations are different.

While we enjoy the independence celebration, we must also think of those unfortunate ones who are not able to afford to put food on their table.

Finally I urge you all to abide by the pandemic measures by wearing your masks, hand sanitising and practicing social distancing when moving around.

With that, happy reading and we look forward to bringing you more news about IPA.

Thank you.

Clarence M. Hoot
Managing Director



Tips & Traps

Is it possible to merge two Business Names together?

This is not allowed by law. A Business Name allows you to carry out one particular type of business activity. The intention to merge two Business Names means that two different types of business activities will be carried out under one Business Name.

Section 3 (Clause 2) of the Business Name Act states that "A separate certificate of Business Name registration must be obtained for each Business Name used.

On the other hand, a person or persons may conduct business under more than one business name, provided that the use of multiple business names is not calculated to seriously mislead

the public about the business it conducts.

In particular, the business name is merely a trading name of a sole proprietor, a partnership or an incorporated body or firm.

It is therefore advisable that you register a separate Business Name for a separate business activity.

Note that you cannot change a business name as well as per the Business Name Act.



IPA launches Help Desk in West New Britain Province



Caption: Governor for West New Britain Province Sasindra Muthuvel unveils the computer set for the Help Desk as IPA MD, Clarence Hoot and West New Britain Provincial Administrator, Williamson Hosea look on.

The Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) has launched a Help Desk in Kimbe, West New Britain Province that will help the people in the province in terms of business registration and the provision of information on other IPA functions including intellectual property, investment promotion, facilitation and aftercare services.

The launch of the IPA Help Desk follows the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the West New Britain Provincial administration and the Investment Promotion Authority back in 2018.



IPA's Manager for Investor Servicing and Promotion Division, Kamis Yalakun (Right) with Investment After-care Officer, Henry Bae conducting aftercare awareness.

Managing Director of the Investment Promotion Authority, Clarence Hoot when officiating during the launch highlighted that the launching of the IPA/WNBPA Help Desk will bring services closer to the people and assist local SMEs in terms of business registration and the provision of basic compliance advice. The Help Desk is established within the West New Britain Provincial Government's Commerce Office.

Mr Hoot said the launch also signifies IPA's efforts to develop a strategic partnership aimed towards meaningfully delivering IPA services to our people. He said this strategic partnership with IPA will empower the people of West New Britain Province through

the registration of their business activities and provide investment opportunities for the province. He thanked the Governor for West New Britain Province, Honourable Sasindra Muthuvel and the Provincial Administrator Mr Williamson Hosea for their ongoing support and cooperation rendered since 2018.

He further mentioned that the IPA will be ready to provide training for the Commerce Officers to ensure provision of efficient services to clients in West New Britain. Governor for West New Britain Province, Sasindra Muthuvel thanked IPA for recognising the need to have IPA services in the province and urged his people and especially block holders to start-up businesses with the money they earn from oil palm. He said people travelling long distances just to access IPA services will now be a thing of the past.

Similar sentiments were shared by the Provincial Administrator, Williamson Hosea. At the time of the launch, the province also had several visits by a number of national agencies including Small & Medium Enterprise Corporation (SMEC) and Centre for Excellence in Financial Inclusion (CEFI), running small business skills and financial literacy skills, hence IPA's presence in the province also complemented their efforts.

IPA supported the set-up of the Help-Desk for West New Britain Province with a computer/desk-top and an all-in one scanner and a printer.

This is the standard assistance IPA gives to all the Provinces that it signs an MOU with. Other related costs are to be borne by the provincial administrations, in this case the West New Britain Provincial Administration.



The New IPA Helpdesk for West New Britain Province



East New Britain Women Leaders visit IPA



East New Britain women leaders and IPA staff during a meeting held at IPA Head Office in Port Moresby.

A group of women Leaders from East New Britain Province visited the Investment Promotion Authority’s Head office in Port Moresby in September meeting to have an awareness with IPA.

The women’s group comprised of both Government and private sector members who are keen to increase the number of women in the formal business space and wanted to know how IPA can assist them.

The meeting was organized by the Registrar of the Intellectual Property Office, Ms Amelia Na’aru after a request was put forward to IPA by the women leaders.

The IPA team who met with the women leaders included the Director of Corporate Services, Ms Anna Marikawa, Acting Registrar of Companies Ms Harriet Kokiva amongst others.

The women leaders travelled to Port Moresby from East New Britain with the aim of collecting first-hand information on the different mandated roles and responsibilities of IPA.

Discussions held during the meeting included the importance of registering a business, the difference between a Company and a Business Name and the difference between an Association and Cooperative Society.

The team also explained to the women leaders the difference between filing an

Annual Return at the IPA and the payment of Tax Returns at the Internal Revenue Commission. Social Entrepreneur and Owner of DMS Limited, Dorothy Luana who was among the women leaders expressed concern on the lack of information that SMEs get regarding the IPA services.

“We want SMEs to be educated on the importance of registering a business and the different compliance issues and not ONLY on taxation. We want to understand how and where we can work with both IPA and IRC”.

A presentation was also made on the importance of protecting each of the four (4) Intellectual Property rights which include Trademarks, Copy rights, Patents and Industrial Designs, and how these rights apply to business.

At the end of the meeting, the women leaders expressed gratitude for the opportunity to meet with IPA and to be educated about IPA functions.

The women leaders included, Cathy Kunai, NGO Representative to the ENB Provincial Assembly & Chairlady for the Rabaul/ Gazelle Women in SME, Kite-ni Kurika- Executive Manager for ENB Women and Youth in Agriculture Cooperative Society, Geraldine Wambo, GESI Coordinator, ENB Provincial Administration, Grace Abore Burua, Planner for ENB Provincial Administration and Dorothy Luana- Social Entrepreneur and Owner of DMS Ltd.



ENB Women Leaders and IPA staff

IPA conducts awareness on IP and Technology at POMIS

Students of the Port Moresby International School (POMIS) who attended a presentation by IPA's Intellectual Property Office during their school's Technology Day on the 10th of September, 2021 were encouraged to be innovative and creative at a younger age when it comes to the creation of new works involving technology.

The students also had the opportunity to be given first-hand information on the importance of doing business and how it relates to technology in terms of Intellectual Property protection.



Senior Trademark Examiner, De Villiers Korave (Left) doing a virtual presentation on IP

The Intellectual Property Office was in-

visited by the Port Moresby International School to participate in its Technology Day with the Theme: "Learn, Adapt and Move with Technology". The Technology Day is an annual event which is organized and hosted by the School's Technology Department. The aim of the event was to impart new knowledge to the students about the importance of technology in the twenty-first century.

Speakers were invited to talk and motivate students should they want to pursue work in the field of technology in the future.

Officers from the Intellectual Property office who did presentations on that day on Intellectual Property and technology spoke on the importance of the use of Intellectual Property (IP) and how technology creations are protected by IP Rights. They also outlined IPO's main roles and responsibilities and how each of the IP rights relates to technology including Trademarks, Industrial Designs, Patents and Copyrights.

A booth was also set up in the school's display room where students who visit



POMIS students visiting display booths

ed the booth were given explanations on the roles and responsibilities of IPO, and the four IP rights that the IPO office administers. There were also displays of student creations and works such as furniture including tables, shoe racks, cabins, stools, coffee tables, plastic photo holders/ frames, photographs, sown materials including meri blouses, cooking aprons and designed lappaps.

The students also displayed works involving the designs of mini-computer laboratories and internet cafeterias and were tasked to explain their innovations.

The day ended on a high note with the teaching staff of the technology department of POMIS expressing appreciation for IPA's participation in the event.

IPA to set up Help Desk in Namatanai District of New Ireland Province

The people of Namatanai District in New Ireland Province will soon have access to adequate IPA services.

This follows a brief visit to the District by the Managing Director of the Investment Promotion Authority, Mr Clarence Hoot to re-affirm a commitment which was made by the IPA Board Chairman, Mr Leon Buskens to set up the Help Desk.

Mr Buskens, who presided at the inauguration of a Bank South Pacific branch in Namatanai, had publicly announced that IPA would set up a Help Desk in Namatanai to assist the people of Namatanai District in terms of having

access to IPA services.

The commitment was made in light of the struggles that the people of Namatanai are currently enduring in terms of having access to services by IPA, specifically in terms of business registrations.

There is also an increase in business and investment activities in the district.

MD Hoot said the need to establish an IPA Help Desk in Namatanai District was initially noted during IPA's last visits to New Ireland Province including the signing of an MOU with the New Ireland

Provincial Administration in June 2018 and the set-up of an IPA Help Desk in Kavieng in October 2019.

The office space for the IPA Help Desk has been allocated within the Namatanai District Administration and Urban LLG office.

Training and the equipment will be provided for the responsible Commerce Officer to administer the IPA Help Desk within the Namatanai Urban LLG Office.



HELPING HAND HONEY PRODUCER

Helping Hand Honey Producer, a nationally owned Honey Business that produces Mountain Honey in Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province is still striving to achieve some of its goals, among them the move to improve its productivity and to export its products overseas.

With the plans to expand its markets, the business still faces challenges in terms of upgrading its production facility. It also needs technical expertise as well as upgraded technology. The challenges currently faced by the company will be addressed through funding support from donors and partners as the honey business is seen to be a sustainable business that can help rural people to be economically independent.

Owner of Helping Hand Honey Producer (HHHP), Kelly Inae initiated HHHP to help farmers in the rural areas in Eastern Highlands Province venture into the honey business.

HHHP provides training to farmers who are interested to start honey bee farming for the first time and farmers who are already into honey farming but need advance training. Mr Inae said farmers need to know how to work with thousands of stinging bees, identify



the materials needed and the different type of bees. Mr Inae said farmers need to know how to work with thousands of stinging bees, identify the materials needed and the different type of bees. HHHP specializes in conducting training for bee box making. Farmers are taught to build their own bee boxes by using basic carpentry tools and materials. They are also taught to do bee box maintenance as well in the event that the bee boxes get old and rotten.

Among other trainings, farmers are taught special skills for breeding queen bees. HHHP has a queen breeding station to produce quality queen bees. The queen bee is very important in maintaining the bee colony.

HHHP came up with the idea of "Mountain Honey", a honey making business to help farmers in rural areas by training them as beekeepers. Yet, despite the owner, Mr Inae's best intentions, he soon realized it wasn't pos-

sible to do it all for free. NGO, Oxfam's has supported Mountain Honey and business is flourishing. Mr Inae said bee farming is sustainable business that can help more people make a living. He calls the bees the "angels of agriculture". Mr Inae explains that bees are "essential for farming. They do an excellent job of pollinating a lot of plants," which boosts the overall crop production. "Beekeeping is also good for generating household income. Honey is more expensive compared to other commodities and bee keepers are expected to generate more money. The price for honey is much higher than for other commodities." "Mountain Honey's philosophy is based around providing beekeeping training to both the wife and husband in each family. "We call it a family unit project," Kelly says.

Mountain Honey has its small production facility at Gonah in the outskirts of Goroka Town located at a fresh natural habitat conservation environment. The Mountain Honey has its honey farm at Gona-ha Natural Habitat (www.gonaha.com).

Mountain Honey is the sustainable business that source honey from its 3 hector farm and get honey supplies from other honey farmers and process it for domestic markets.

Mountain is the product name produced by Helping Hand Honey Producers. Helping Hand Honey Producers is the second largest honey producer in Papua New Guinea that produces Mountain Honey and it is second to Highlands's Honey (products of Niugini Fruit Company).



Owner of HHHP, Kelly Inae

LET'S HEAR IT!

HELPING HAND HONEY PRODUCER

The business (Helping Hand Honey-Producers) was formally registered with the Investment Promotion Authority in 2013 and is owned by Mr. Kelly Inae. Mr. Inae is an experience honey bee famer, honey producer and honey keeping trainer who started honey business in 2002 and has been in the honey industry for more than 17 years.

Mountain Honey has a vision for growth and sustainable honey the industry and thus his business has taken a proactive approach by conducting honey keeping trainings across the highlands provinces as well other regions.

With the visions and dreams of sustainable industry growth, Mr Inae is the only honey farming trainer that has conducted trainings in the highlands provinces which he has helped trained more 2500 people in rural areas to become honey bee keepers. He has been training the farmers since its inception in 2002 and continues to support honey famers.

He is currently conducting trainings both at Mountain Honey's Training Facility at the farm, its production site and in various provinces.

Helping Hand Honey Producers buys honey from the farmers who have been trained by Mr. Inae and produce Mountain Honey at its mini honey processing plant. His products are packaged or bottled in-house in his own bottling and packaging facilities.

Mountain Honey is seen as a sustainable business and the products are sold domestically in supermarkets in Papua New Guinea. The products are also packed in different volumes and grams and sold to individuals and businesses around the country.



Mountain Honey Products being displayed

Some of his products are also transported from Goroka via road transport to customers in other highlands provinces as well as Madang and Lae.

For outside centers, products are airlifted out from Goroka Airport and Ukarumpa Air Strip in Aiyura to other coastal centers and Port Moresby.

The product is 100% pure organic without the inclusion of artificial additives and its demand is growing rapidly among Papua New Guineans.

CONTACT MOUNTAIN HONEY ON:

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P O Box 1617,
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Papua New Guinea

Phone: (675) 71258799

Website:

Email: helpinghandhoney@gmail.com
or gorokanaturalhabitat@gmail.com

Face Book: Mountain Honey



SIGNS THAT CANNOT BE USED AS TRADEMARKS

What about signs that can't be used as trademarks?

Signs with the following characteristics cannot be protected as trademark:

- Those that mislead the consumer in relation to the geographical origin;
- Those that mislead the consumer in relation to the quality or nature of the product or service which the trademark relates;
- Those that are contrary to moral or public order;
- Those that consist of, or contain reproductions of armorial bearings, flags, and other emblems of States party to the Paris Convention or the World Trade Organization (WTO);
- Those that are official signs and hallmarks indicating control and warranty adopted by them, and any imitation from a heraldic point of view.



In conclusion, there is a wide variety of signs that can be used as trademarks, but in order to be protected as trademarks, the signs must be distinctive, not deceptive and comply with the other protection requirements established by the law of the country where protection is sought.

LEGAL UP-DATE

Investment Promotion Act Review Update

The amendments to the Investment Promotion Act once passed by Parliament is expected to give effect to a number of key changes to how we do business in the country and will greatly support the growth of Micro Small Medium Enterprises in the country.

The process for determining reserved and restricted activities will be clearer and more consultative.

Among these changes is the introduction of a new foreign certification system which will process applications for foreign certificates quicker, and automatically deny applications for reserved activities.

A new position for a Registrar of Foreign Investment will also be created to oversee this foreign certification system with powers to speed up wanted incoming investment, automatically deny unwanted investment and enforce compliance.

The amendment will also require foreign investors wanting to live and work in PNG to demonstrate financial investment capacity threshold of actual investment before

they are granted a business visa.

The minimum investment threshold to live and work in PNG is aimed at deterring non-genuine foreign investors entering into lower-capital activities in direct competition with PNG citizen owned Micro Small Medium Enterprises.

The reserved Activities List will also be reviewed at least every 3 years.

This will further improve IPA's enforcement and compliance, and making better allowances for cross-agency enforcement. There will be an introduction of clearer reporting obligations by foreign investors, and IPA through the Registrar of Foreign Investment will be empowered with powers to cancel certification where key PNG business laws are breached.

There will be time allowed for grandfathering of existing foreign owned businesses currently conducting activities in the new Reserved Activities List.



Usage of IPA Logo as a Trademark

It has come to the attention of the Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) that certain businesses and individuals are using the IPA logo to promote their business services and products.

Please be advised that the IPA logo is a registered trademark and has been in use since its establishment. You can be held liable for the improper use of the logo without the consent of the Authority.

Any usage of the IPA logo must be authorized by the Managing Director of IPA.

We hereby advise businesses and individuals who are currently using the IPA logo to immediately cease and refrain from using it forthwith.

Authorized for release by:

Clarence M Hoot
Managing Director

Alabba Mining Project

Alabba Minerals (PNG) Ltd is a local company seeking an Equity Investment part to continue exploration and mining of minerals.

Project Proponent: Alabba Minerals (PNG) Ltd

Sector: Minera

Location: Angoram, East Sepik Province

Projectsize/Investment Vaue:
US\$111.4m (PGK390.9m)

Description:

The project is located on the northern flanks of the heart of the New Guinea Gold Copper Belt hosting several major world class gold-copper mines and deposits. Alabba seeks investmentpartners to continue exploration including drilling for JORC on the world class mineral region.

The proponent is required to raise AUD\$2.0Million under pre-IPO to continue exploration, drilling and prepare Prospectus (include technical consultants reports) for Initial Public Listing (IPO) on the ASX with the aim to raise a minimum of A\$-10Million.

Already signed a Letter of Intent with

a reputable investment company for A\$30Million Equity Facility in May 2021. The local community will have 51% interest on the Alluvial Mining; 20% interest on EL2421 and has interest also in Alabba Minerals Limited.



Contact	Details
Moses	Alabba Minerals (PNG) Ltd
Mondowa	P.O.BOX 1492, Mount Hagen, 281, WHP/PNG Tel: +(675) 78362164 mmondowa.alabbaminerals@gmail.com
IPA PNG	investment@ipa.gov.pg

Removal of a Local Company from the Registry

QUESTION:

I am the owner of a locally registered company but no longer want my company to operate, therefore want to have it removed from the IPA registry. How do I go about doing that?

ANSWER:

Under the Companies Act you are required by law to complete and lodge **Form 45 'Request to Remove Company from Register'**. The form gives guidance as to who can be authorized to make the application – be it a shareholder, director or a person permitted by the constitution.

Form 45 should be accompanied by two important supporting documents, unless the Registrar agrees otherwise:-

- a.) **Written notice from the Commissioner General of IRC stating that the Commissioner has no objection to the company being removed from the register** and;
- b.) **A copy of the special resolution of shareholders.**

Don't forget that copies of *Notice of Removal* publicized in one of the daily papers and the National Gazette respectively which normally provides a one month objection period should be attached together with the above mentioned.

It is also important to note that any outstanding annual returns must be filed before the company is removed from the register.

The fee for lodging Form 45 is K50 if done online and K100 at the counters.

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:nlurang@ipa.gov.pg)



nlurang@ipa.gov.pg

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

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