

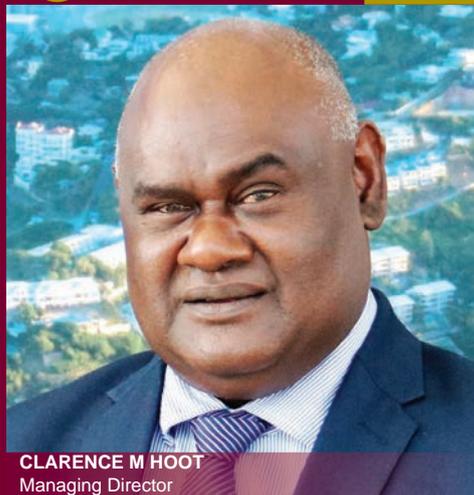


Opportunity

Issue #4 - April 2020

Business News, reviews and overviews from the IPA

MD's INBOX



CLARENCE M HOOT
Managing Director

Hello Readers and welcome to the 4th edition of the IPA's *Opportunity Newsletter*.

April was a challenging month for us at the IPA due to COVID-19. We had to close offices and allowed only for a skeletal staff to deliver our essential services such as the businesses and Intellectual Property Rights registrations.

Our regional offices remained closed for the whole month.

Given the challenges by businesses brought about by the restrictions on movement of people and the lockdown of services, the IPA provided certain relief assistance to business-

es in terms of compliance requirements. Read more about this in our inside story.

Given the current scenario, we encourage clients to utilize our online registry system to lodge applications.

In order for you to be able to use the online registry system or lodge applications online, you firstly need to create an online account.

Do this by going to www.ipa.gov.pg and select "Do it Online" and under the "Tools" section, select "Register Account". Once you have a user account, your dashboard will now have the features to register businesses.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also been a blessing in disguise allowing the IPA to further explore the use of ICT in the delivery of our services. Our intellectual property lodgments are now only accepted via email and no paper lodgments. Furthermore, a part of our new normal will see our processing officers alternate between working from home by processing lodgments online easing pressure on operational costs. We are excited about these new developments going forward!

As is our usual invitation, contact us if you want your business to be featured in our newsletter.

Thank you and happy reading!!

Clarence M. Hoot
Managing Director

IN THE NEWS



Acting Registrar of Companies uses powers to waive certain company obligations

The Investment Promotion Authority through the Office of the Registrar of Companies has waived certain company obligations as part of its relief assistance to all business houses and companies during the COVID 19 State of Emergency.

Under Sections 101 (3) and 179 (2) of the Companies Act 1997 the Acting Registrar of Companies, Ms. Harriet Kokiva used her powers to exempt all companies are from strict compliance of Annual General Meetings,

Preparation and submission of Annual Returns and Financial Statements requirements until the SOE ends. This now paves way for the following;

- Waiver of time limitations in holding Annual General Meetings.
- Waiver of Penalty Fees for companies submitting late or outstanding Annual Returns using the Online Registry System. Companies are expected to pay only the online lodgement fee of K250 per lodgement.
- Waiver of penalty fees for late or outstanding financial statements.

Companies have been encouraged to take advantage of the notice and lodge their outstanding annual returns through the online registry system.

Tips & Traps

Creating a Prepaid Account with IPA

A Deposit Account is another method of payment that a registered user of the IPA Online Registry System (ORS) can use to lodge applications online apart from using a credit or debit card. This is a prepaid account solely maintained by the IPA. Therefore any payment made online by a registered user using this account will be automatically deducted from your prepaid account balance.

Who is Eligible?

Any registered user who has authority over a business entity and who wishes to use this method of payment to pay for business services using the ORS.

If a registered user has registered as an individual then he will be the only user linked to his prepaid account. Alternatively, if a registered user has registered as an Organization then all users under the organization will be linked to the Deposit Account.

Follow these steps to create your account.

1. Fill out the Prepaid Account form.
2. Deposit a minimum amount of PGK500 or more, into the IPA Bank Accounts. You can contact 308 4494 to get the account details.
3. IPA does not accept cash, hence fees can be paid via bank cheque, Eftpos on site, direct deposit using the IPA's customized deposit form or internet bank transfer.

4. If you're using the normal bank deposit form, the IPA customized deposit form or bank cheque, the original deposit payment must be attached to the prepaid account application form and immediately submitted to IPA via post if you are outside of Port Moresby or at our front counter at Konedobu.

We only accept internet bank transfer transaction receipt via email which must be emailed together with the prepaid account form to ipaonline@ipa.gov.pg.

5. A Prepaid Account will be created for you with a starting balance given according to the amount you have deposited.

As long as you have a Prepaid Account you will see this as an option in the payment method section when lodging an application on the IPA ORS.

How do I top up my Deposit Account?

To top up your Deposit Account balance, follow step 1 & 2 above. An IPA officer responsible for Deposit accounts will update your balance accordingly. An email notification will be sent to you informing you of your new balance.

How do I check and receive updated balance of my Deposit Account?

Only an IPA user responsible for maintaining your prepaid account can be able to update and notify you of the status of your transactions and your "as at" balance.

Email ipaonline@ipa.gov.pg for more information.

GROW PNG DOING SOIL SAMPLING WORK IN MARKHAM

Grow PNG's Data Collection and modeling work has begun for the Markham Valley agriculture corridor.

In late 2019, Papua New Guinea University of Technology was engaged to collect 80 soil samples along the Markham region and to conduct soil chemical content analysis. The soil chemical content analysis was for nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus content as

well as soil density and some hydrology indicators.

These data will be available online on the Grow PNG website once all work is complete.

Mapping of Morobe Province

Investigation into the existence of basic data for the Markham found that very little data exists and whatever data exists is outdated.

Publish dataset online

In October 2019, Enveritas was engaged to analyze satellite data in the Markham area.

The information captured includes slope, elevation, settlements and settlement density and some other variables.

Source: Grow PNG Newsletter

NEW CHICKEN MEAT PRODUCT ENTERS MARKET



While uncertainty hangs and businesses try to keep afloat in this economic downturn, a local entrepreneur has produced and is now supplying the local market with chicken meat.

Mande Chicken has now entered the market to give a third option to chicken meat consumers in PNG apart from Zenag and Niugini Tablebirds.

Located in Nadzab, Lae, Mande Chicken has a poultry farm where they grow their own chicken and a slaughtering and processing plant where they produce their own fresh frozen chicken meat products.

Tim Numileng who owns the business has been supplying Niugini Tablebirds as an Outgrower for the last seven years.

"I have a semi-permanent shed which holds up to 6,000 birds and Table Birds used to pay us as an outgrower only 86 toea per live bird after harvesting," Tim says. He further explained that when they managed their feed conversion ration then they attracted a bonus. "My shed is always the best performing because I give good weights to Table Birds after 5 weeks."

Given the quality of Tim's products, his chickens were used by Niugini Tablebirds to produce the whole chicken products which are common in supermarkets around the country. It is not surprising to see the quality in

Tim's products as he is a Food Technologist by profession.

As an outgrower, Tim says he saw the return as "very low" for the efforts he put. This gave him the idea to produce his own.

In 2016, when the country was under threat of the bird flu and the Government issued a ban on the import of livestock, the two local chicken meat suppliers Niugini Tablebirds and Zenag were challenged to produce and supply the high demand for chicken meat in the domestic market.

This was the turning point for Tim. He started planning for a new factory for himself.

"These two situations have made me to rethink and it took me 5 years to plan and slowly build myself up to where I am today," he said. "I have the business idea and being a food technologist, it helps me with the technical know-how," he added.

Tim says that what he lacked was the financial capacity to get the project off the ground quickly.

"Five years later I see my dreams come into fruition. Many times I am faced with financial constraints but my spouse is always there to support me. I cannot do this alone without the support of my wife and my three children. These are the four that stood by me during my lows and highs."

Mande Chicken currently employs 30 work-

ers who live around the vicinity of the factory in Nadzab.

Asked if the COVID-19 lockdown affected his business, Tim says "Not really because I got my equipment, machineries and supplies in time before the lockdown. Furthermore, I'm employing people living within the vicinity of the project so I have no problem with that.

The only problem will be people's affordability as many have been laid off from work and will not have the disposable income same as its affecting other business houses. However, with my low overhead cost my products will be affordable to the low-income earners. My business model is to support the local income earners, providing premium fine quality products at an affordable price."

Mande Chicken officially started commercial production on 15 April 2020 although trials and commissioning of its equipment and machineries were done in September 2019. Due to financial hiccups he couldn't start operations until this month (April) after he obtained a loan through BSP's SME package.

Tim says poultry is good businesses if people tapped into it as it benefits simple people. He's encouraging the government to consider investing in the industry as it directly impacts on livelihoods just like any other agriculture products.



Trademarks as collective marks and certification marks

Trademarks typically identify individual enterprises as the origin of marked goods or services. Some countries unlike PNG provide for the registration of collective and certification marks, which are used to indicate the affiliation of enterprises using the mark, or which refer to identifiable standards met by the products for which a mark is used.

Collective marks usually belong to a group or association of enterprises. Their use is reserved to the members of the group or association. A collective mark therefore distinguishes the goods or services of members of the

association from those of other undertakings.

The function of the collective mark is to inform the public about certain particular features of the product for which the collective mark is used. An enterprise which uses the collective mark may, in addition, use its own trademark. Example: in an association of architects or engineers, a member may use the logo of the association as well as the logo of the enterprise.

A certificate mark is a mark indicating the goods or services in connection with which it is used are certified by the proprietor of the

mark in respect of the origin, mode of manufacture of goods, quality or other characteristics. The certification mark may only be used in accordance with the defined standards. Example: ISO 9000.

The main difference between collective marks and certification marks is that the former may be used only by particular enterprises, for example, members of the association which owns the collective mark, while the latter may be used by anybody who meets the defined standards.



To enquire for more information on Trade Mark protection, please visit our PNG IPO Office ,1st floor, at the IPA Haus, Konedobu, Munidubu Street, Corner of Lawes Road & Champion Parade or you can contact the Registrar of IPO on the contact details below:

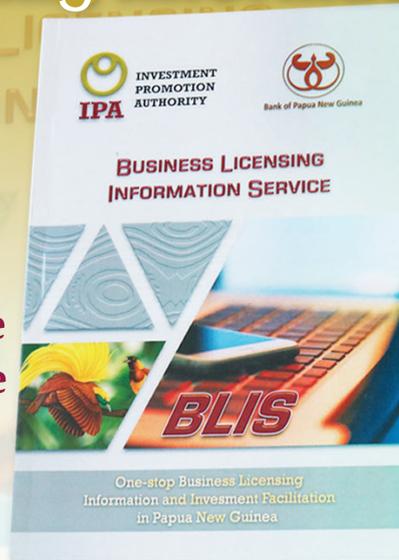
Telephone: (675) 321 7311/308 4432/321 3900 | Fax: (675) 321 5155 | E-mail: registrar.ipopng@ipa.gov.pg | Web-site: www.ipopng.gov.pg



**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 or 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.

IPA WAIVES STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The Office of the Registrar of Companies wishes to advise all business houses and companies that in response to directives declared in the COVID19 State of Emergency (SOE), the Office has undertaken certain measures to assist companies in their compliance duties by exercising the Powers of the Registrar of Companies. The Acting Registrar of Companies has therefore taken the following measures;

Under **Sections 101 (3) and 179 (2) of the Companies Act 1997** all companies are exempted from strict compliance of Annual General Meetings, Preparation and submission of Annual Returns and Financial Statements requirements until the SOE ends. This now paves way for the following;

- Waiver of time limitations in holding Annual General Meetings.
- Waiver of Penalty Fees for companies with late or outstanding Annual Returns. Companies are expected to pay only the online lodgement fee of K250 per lodgement.
- Waiver of penalty fees for late or outstanding financial statements.

Note that our front counters will remain closed during the SOE period.

Further note that we expect all lodgements to be done online ONLY.
Call the following numbers or email for more information:

Team Leader Companies: 308 4443/belindak@ipa.gov.pg
 Team Leader Non Companies: 308 449/kilai@ipa.gov.pg
 Team Leader Customer Services: 308 4495/maryp@ipa.gov.pg or ipaonline@ipa.gov.pg

HARRIET KOKIVA (Ms)
Acting Registrar of Companies

SOCIAL DISTANCING What does it mean?

Social distancing is the practice of reducing close contact between people to slow the spread of infections or diseases.

Social distancing measures include limiting large groups of people coming together, closing buildings and canceling events.

AVOID

- Group gatherings
- Sleepovers
- Playdates
- Concerts
- Theater outings
- Traveling
- Athletic events
- Crowded retail stores

- Malls
- Workouts in gyms
- Church Services
- Visitors in your house
- Non-essential workers in your house
- Mass transit systems



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

- Visit a local restaurant to get take out
- Visit grocery store

- Pick up medications
- Play tennis in a park

Keep at least 6' - 8' between yourself and others



SAFE TO DO

- Take a walk
- Go for a hike
- Yard work
- Play in your yard

- Clean out a closet
- Read a good book
- Listen to music
- Cook a meal

- Family game night
- Go for a drive
- Stream a favorite show

- Call or email a friend or elderly neighbor to check in
- Group video chats





NEWCREST MINING LIMITED

Newcrest establishes K20 million PNG Community Support Fund

Newcrest Mining Limited has established a Community Support Fund of K20 million to assist Papua New Guinea in its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Newcrest's K20 million Community Support Fund will initially be directed towards increasing the availability of medical care and equipment to cope with the crisis, as well as assisting in the provision of other essential goods and services in communities that host the Company's activities.

Newcrest Managing Director and CEO, Sandeep Biswas, said Newcrest had always taken its responsibilities as a corporate leader in Papua

New Guinea seriously and the Company was committed to supporting the government and the community in managing this crisis.

Mr Biswas commented: "Newcrest stands with the people of Papua New Guinea in this most difficult of times.

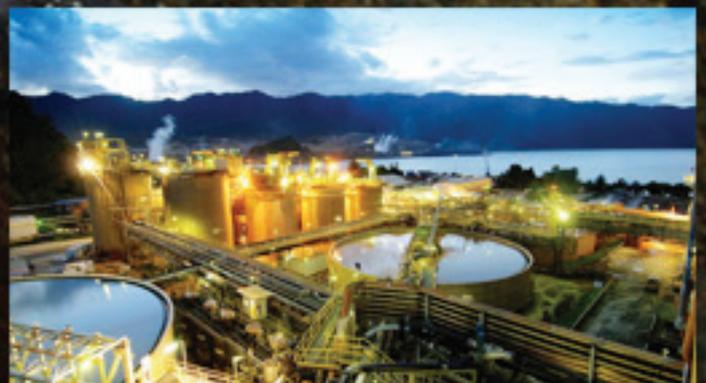
"The PNG Community Support Fund demonstrates Newcrest's long-term commitment to our host communities and to the nation of Papua New Guinea. This, along with the other measures we are already undertaking, will actively contribute to the management of this pandemic."

Newcrest Chief Operating Officer (PNG),

Craig Jones, noted the importance of partnering to maximise the impact of funding initiatives.

"We will continue to work very closely with all stakeholders including the National and Provincial Governments, local communities, industry peers and other organisations to ensure the Fund is applied effectively, aligns with Papua New Guinea's overall response priorities, and reaches those most in need," Mr Jones commented.

Source: Newcrest Press Release



Potential Agriculture investment project

A local company is seeking a joint venture partner to develop Agriculture, Livestock and/or Aquaculture project, or alternatively offering outright purchase of 1,261.53 hectares of land.

Sector:
Agriculture

Location:
Talasea, Kimbe, West New Britain Province

Project Size/Investment Value:
US\$25 million

Project Description:

The proposed project proponent (KO & PA Limited) has secured and made available 1,261.53 hectares of land in Talasea, Kimbe, West New Britain Province. The subject property is zoned under a Business Lease.

The project proponent is now seeking a joint venture partner to develop the land for either agriculture development (oil palm, rice or other cash crop), livestock farming or aquaculture (prawn/fisheries farming).

The project proponent is also considering two

(2) options regarding the subject Business Lease land.

1. Outright sale of the subject land to an investor/developer for US\$45 million (negotiable); or
2. Establish either an agriculture, livestock or aquaculture project with the investor/developer to own 70% equity and have total control/management of the operations while 30% to be held by the project proponent.

Contact	Details
Mr. John Kawa	Email: johnkawa06@gmail.com
IPA PNG	investment@ipa.gov.pg



Annual Returns

Question:

What are the obligations of a company after registration?

Answer:

Straight after receiving the IPA certificate, the company needs to apply for a Tax Identification Number or TIN with the Internal Revenue Commission or IRC. Under the IPA requirements, a company has an obligation to report its activities annually. It does this by submitting an Annual Return to the Office of the Registrar of Companies.

It must also lodge with this Office, information concerning any changes in directors, secretaries and number of shares on issue and other matters.

In addition, there are other legislative requirements by other sectoral agencies and professional independent advice must be sought from them.

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

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

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(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

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

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

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

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



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