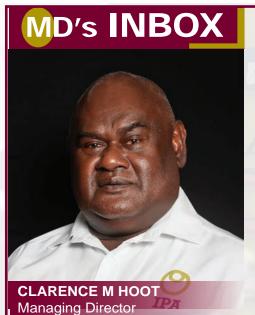


DOCTUNITY Issue #10 October, 2022

Business News, Reviews and Overviews from the IPA



D ear Readers and welcome to the 10th issue of the IPA's "*Opportunity*" Newsletter.

Firstly, let me acknowledge the strong support given by our stakeholders both from the government and private sector over the last 10 months. We have ticked off on most of our priorities for this year, and this is attributed to your continued support.

The IPA this month celebrated a momentous event in its history as an Investment Promotion Authority. The Authority celebrated its 30th anniversary since its establishment in 1992. For us, it was a big event because we used the occasion to take stock of what we have done from 1992 up until today and where we aim to be in the next 10 years.

In my anniversary speech I mentioned that the IPA has embraced ICT over the years and is focused on developing its systems and procedures in the ICT space going forward. That is why the event was themed as "Getting smarter at 30, doing IT better." Read more about this event in our inside story.

The IPA also rolled out its awareness programs this month according to its

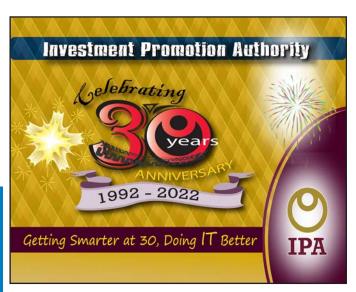
Communications Strategy for this year. Look out for the team when they visit your provinces and attend the sessions which are free of charge. The schedule has been posted in this issue. In this year's nationwide awareness, we are taking the key message that in order for our systems to work we need everybody to be part of the process. That is why we have themed the outreach program as "Connecting everyone and making our systems work."

Hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter.

Cheers.

Clarence M Hoot Managing Director

IPA CELEBRATES 30th ANNIVERSARY



INVESTMENT PROMOTION AUTHORITY TRANSFORMATION OVER THE YEARS

t has been 30 years of actively delivering the Government's mandate to facilitate investment into and out of the couny.

The Investment Promotion Authority of Papua New Guinea was established in 1992 by an Act of Parliament after its transition from what was previously known as the National Investment Development Authority.

The Investment Promotion Act of 1992 gave the mandate for IPA to promote and facilitate investment in the country by citizens and foreign investors through the granting of appropriate certificates.

Another key consideration on the establishment of the IPA was to monitor the impact of investment and the activities of

businesses in the country, in terms of generating wealth and creating employment.

This resulted in the IPA accumulating additional functions from the NIDA roles and also administering other Offices within its structure such as the Intellectual Property Office of PNG, Securities Commission of PNG and the Office of the Registrar of Companies.

In 2020, the Securities Commission of PNG became an independent Office.

The IPA is synonymous to business registrations in the country and is one of the key services of the Authority. This service has also been a key area which has gone through its test of times to what is now one of the best, or if not, the government's key registry services in the country. The evolving of our registration processes and client turn around time has been a yardstick on the progress and development of the Authority.

This is evident from the manual and paper filing processes done by the Office of the Attorney General back in the early independence era, up till the NIDA days. This evolved to a new database system which was created in 1992 when IPA was established.

In 2008, the IPA started the process of paperless registrations when it introduced its Electronic Filing Facility or EFF. The facility allowed clients to email soft copies of their business application forms to the IPA to be processed. Clients, (who were mostly corporate entities back then) who utilised the facility had to sign up and create their accounts with IPA.

Apart from creating the EFF, the IPA signed up an MOU with Post PNG to allow Post offices around the country to accept business applications at their counters and then send them to the IPA Office.

It was also during this time that the IPA started opening up each regional offices to bring its services closer to citizens in the provinces. As of today, the IPA has representations in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Kokopo in East New Britain Province, Lae Morobe Province and in Mt. Hagen.

In fact, the IPA is one of the first Government Agencies that moved into Bougainville following the peace ceremony that was signed after the Civil unrest on the island. This was to show its commitment and support towards rebuilding the region.

As years went by, the IPA signed

MOUs with other provinces and set up Help Desks within the Provincial Commerce Offices to provide IPA services on the ground.

In 2013, after a regulatory simplification project in collaboration with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the IPA brought its registry services online. It was during this time and because of this move, that Papua New Guinea saw an improvement for the first time in the World's Ease of Doing Business Survey. Up till now the system continues to be improved and updated. The latest update is being undertaken and it is expected to go live in December this year.

ICT has been the priority for the IPA over the years and it continues to do so. We are adamant that in the very near future we will go completely paperless.

This is why as the IPA celebrates its 30th anniversary it developed its theme as "Getting smarter at 30, doing IT better".

"At this juncture let me again commend our stakeholders and partners who have been part of our journey over the years. I share the success of the Authority with you all," said Mr Hoot.





Highlights of the IPA 30th anniversary in pictures



ABOVE: Staff group photo



Staff who served the IPA 15 years and above were awarded certificates and plaques in recognition for their service to the IPA.



Past MDs and current Board Members cutting the 30th anniversary cake with Minister for Commerce and Industry Hon. Henry Amuli and SMEC Board Chairman John Pora standing in support of his colleagues.



Past and present board members and Managing Directors of the IPA with the current Minister for Commerce and Industry Hon. Henry Amuli (center with black coat).



Secretary to the Prime Minister and NEC and former and longest serving Managing Director for the IPA Ambassador, Ivan Pomaleu, OBE receiving his commemorative plaque and certificate from the IPA Board Chairman, Leon Buskens



IPA Board Chairman Mr. Leon Buskens presenting a commemorative plaque and certificate to his Deputy, Mr. Phil Franklin in recognition of his service as the longest serving IPA Board Member. Mr Franklin served as IPA Board Member since 1992 when IPA was established.

Tips & Traps

Why it is important to reserve a Company Name.

A name must be reserved before a company can be registered under that name.

Use Form 6 to reserve a name.

Section 23(1) Companies Act 19 Note	servation of company name		
	either typewritten or printed legibly in SLO	CK letters.	Place liarnode frere
1. Proposed company name	Name re	servation nu	nber
		(For off	ice use only)
2. Signature of applicant			
 Signature or approvent certify that the information in this fo 	m is true and correct.		
run againsme or applicant			
tun ngar name or applicant			
Spoter	Email address:		
Signature 3. Email address for applicant this is the address to which	Email address:		
Signature: 3. Email address for applicant this is the address to which communications from the Registrar will be sert. An email or gourzed in			
Signature: 3. Email address for applicant this is the address to which communications from the Registers will be set. As email a recovered in under to use the on-line filings service.			
Signature: 3. Email address for applicant this is the address to which communications from the Registrar will be zero. An email is required in order to use the no fine fillings service is. Lodged by		plicant.	
This is the address to which communications from the Regularian will be sent. An email in <u>required</u> in order to use the on-line fillings service 4. Lodged by Provide this information only if this for		okant.	
Signature: 3. Email address for applicant this is the address to which communications from the Registrar will be sere. An email is required in order to use the on line fillings service 4. Lodged by		okant.	

The reservation of name process is essentially an "approval process". The Registrar of Companies will not approve a name which:

- 1. Would contravene any law
- 2. Is identical or similar to the name of another company, or a re served name;
- 3. Is undesirable, misleading, deceptive or offensive
- 4. The Minister has directed the Registrar not to accept.

The Registrar will not register a Company, nor register a change of name unless the name has been reserved beforehand, or an application for reservation of the name is also attached.

Note: The Registrar can direct a Company to change its registered name if the name is one which should not have been registered in the first place.

The word "Limited" must appear at the end of the company name. The word "Proprietary" and the abbreviations "Pty" and "NL" have been dispensed with.



IPA DELIVERS AWARENESS & TRAINING WORK-SHOP FOR NEW GUINEA ISLANDS REGION IN KOKOPO

The Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) delivered the stakeholder awareness and training workshop for the New Guinea Islands Region in Kokopo from 27th -28th October 2022. The awareness was geared towards training and building the capacity of New Guinea Islands Provincial Commerce Officers and Business Development Officers from the districts by providing awareness on the IPA functions and the key legislative and systems changes and processes. The awareness focused on different Acts administered by the IPA, functional duties of the key Divisions and Units within the Investment Promotion Authority, and current regulatory and legislative reforms that IPA is undertaking. Furthermore, it focussed mostly on the rollout of the Online Registry Service. The overall program was based on the theme: Connecting everyone and making our systems work'.

Provincial commerce officers and BDOs from the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, West New Britain, East New Britain, New Ireland and Manus provinces participated in the two-days training sessions.

The training was officiated by the Managing Director of the Investment Promotion Authority, Mr. Clarence Hoot. Mr. Hoot outlined the

main aim of the training program and challenged the participants to learn as much as they could and be able to deliver the services in their respective provinces for our simple people. Senior Managers and officers from IPA conducted the two days training program. The participants expressed their sincere appreciation and gratitude to IPA for facilitating such a useful training which now empowers them to better serve the people in rural areas. After the training, the commerce officers were awarded with certificates of participation.

There was also notable interest from the general public in East New Britain Province who attended the awareness program. Many expressed their interest indicating IPA should continue to roll out such awareness and training programs annually and empower Papua New Guineans to venture into SME businesses. Some of the general comments received from the participants include awareness on how to assist SMEs to bring their products to the market and opportunities for joint venture (JV) partnerships with foreign investors.

Complementing IPA's awareness program, there were also sessions delivered by other private and government agencies, especially the National Development Bank (NDB) and the Internal Revenue Commission (IRC). The NDB made its presentation on its small business loan (SME) products whilst IRC presented on Small Business Tax Regime.

The IPA team accompanied by some provincial commerce officers also made awareness presentations to the students of the University of Natural Resources and Environment which was well received. The students and lecturers registered their interest for future such events to be delivered as well.

Mr. Hoot has made a call that provincial commerce offices and business development officers within the Region should work more closely with IPA Regional Offices around the country to assist with their roles in ensuring service delivery right down to the people that matter - our rural population. Officers from the Provincial Commerce Divisions should move away from their traditional way of operations and become more supportive to businesses and general clients by providing support services. The IPA online registry platform by now is almost accessible to all which allows people to formalize and operate their businesses.











IPA PENS MOU WITH MANUS PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION

The Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Manus Provincial Administration (MPA).

The MOU paves way for the Manus Provincial Administration to deliver IPA services through the Help Desk which was also launched as part of the week-long IPA outreach program in Manus Province in October.

The MOU was signed by the IPA Managing Director Mr. Clarence Hoot and Manus Acting Provincial Administrator Mr. Oka Nungu.

To kick-start the implementation of the MOU, IPA officers trained Commerce Officers within the Manus Provincial Administration on how to use the IPA's online registry services to lodge business applications. The IPA also donated a computer set including a printer and wifi modem to assist the Commerce Officers' use in providing these services.

In his statement during the MOU signing, Mr. Hoot said he was happy to see that the MOU was finally signed after a while. He reinforced the IPA's commitment in making available its services right down to the district level with the use of information technology. "The IPA over the years has been committed in ensuring that its services trickle down to ordinary citizens," Mr. Hoot said. "That is why we have been investing resources in strengthening partnerships and enhancing collaboration with Provincial Administrations as well as other stakeholders," he added.

Mr Hoot further added that in acknowledging the internet connectivity issues currently being experienced in some parts of the country, that should not stop us from continuing to strive for service delivery using technology as connectivity issues will be addressed in no time into the future.

In response Mr. Nungu expressed satisfaction and gave assurance of his Administration's support towards the IPA's cause saying that the gesture by IPA to purchase the equipment demonstrated that the IPA was serious about how businesses are conducted in Manus. "What IPA did was a symbol of commitment towards making it cheaper for Manusians to do business," Mr. Nungu said.

The signing of the MOU with Manus Provincial Administration now brings the number of MOUs and IPA help desks established with Provincial Administrations to eight provinces.

Others include East New Britain, West New Britain, New Ireland, East Sepik, Milne Bay, Oro, Morobe and Madang.

This is aside from the IPA regional offices which are located in Buka, Kokopo, Lae and Mt. Hagen. IPA also has existing MOUs with its colleague regulatory agencies such as the Internal Revenue Commission, Immigration and Citizenship Services Authority, Customs PNG, Financial Analysis and Supervision Unit (Bank of Papua New Guinea), PNG Fraud Directorate and National Cultural Commission.

Continue on to next page......



Mr. Hoot is calling on other Provincial Administrations and Government Agencies to partner with the IPA so that all government services can be streamlined and delivered to the people in rural communities and provinces so they can equally participate in building the economy of the country.



Manus Acting Provincial Administrator Mr. Oka Nungu and IPA Managing Director Mr. Clarence Hoot proudly showing the signed MOUs after the signing.



IPA help desk launched in Manus.



The IPA team and Manus dignitaries after the MOU signing.



SMEs or businesses must dedicate time and resources to protecting their intellectual property assets.

By doing that, they can increase their competitiveness in a variety of ways.

Intellectual property protection helps

- Preventing competitors from copying or closely imitating a company's products or services.
- Avoiding wasteful investments in research and development and marketing;
- •Creating a corporate identity through a trademark and branding strategy;

Why is it important for SMEs or businesses to protect their Intellectual Property Rights?



- For more Information on Intellectual Property, Contact: Tel: (675) 321 7311/308 4432/321 3900
- Tel: (675) 321 7311/308 4432/321 3

 Email: registrar.ipopng@ipa.gov.pg

 Website: www.ipopng.gov.pg

- Negotiating licensing, franchising or other IP-based contractual agreements;
- Increasing the market value of the company;
- •Acquiring venture capital and enhancing access to finance;
- •Obtaining access to new Markets.

In addition, enterprises which search systematically for conflicting IP rights of others prior to seeking IP protection are able to avoid unnecessary litigation, thereby saving time and resources.



REVISIONS TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA'S RESERVED ACTIVITIES LIST: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

For 29 years, PNG has reserved defined economic activities for citizen enterprises through the Investment Promotion Act 1992 (IP Act).

In 2021, PNG's Reserved Activities List (RAL) was updated for the first time since 2005, with the number of activities reserved for citizen enterprises increased from 32 to 39. The updated RAL came into effect on 3 January 2022 through the Investment Promotion (Amendment) Regulation 2021.

Any foreign investors with existing certification for activities that have been included in the updated RAL may continue to operate in the activity under section 27(5) of the IP Act.

For more information please contact:

INVESTMENT PROMOTION AUTHORITY

First Floor, IPA Haus, Munidubu Street, Lawes Road, Konedobu PO Box 5053, Boroko, NCD

Phone: (675) 308 4454, 308 4435, 308 4420 or 308 4405 Website: www.ipa.gov.pg

Email: online@ipa.gov.pg



THE UPDATED RESERVED ACTIVITIES LIST:

Iten	1 Activity		
1	Growing of non-perennial crops with annual sales of K50,000 or less.		
2	Animal production with annual sales of K50,000 or less.		
3	Hunting, trapping and related service activities.		
4	Gathering of non-wood forest products.		
5	Sawmilling and planing of wood, when conducted using a walkabout (mobile) sawmill.		
6	Marine fishing within three miles of the shoreline, excluding the activities of vessels engaged both in fishing and in processing and preserving of fish.		
7	Freshwater fishing.		
8	Mining of other non-ferrous metal ores in the form of alluvial gold mining.		
9	Restaurants and mobile food service activities when sold from mobile food carts.		
10	Retail sale via stalls and markets of food, beverages, and tobacco products.		
11	Retail sale via stalls and markets of textiles, clothing, and footwear.		
12	Retail sale via stalls and markets of other goods.		
13	Wholesale of textiles, clothing, and footwear in the form of second-hand clothing and footwear.		
14	Retail sale of second-hand goods in the form of clothing and footwear.		
15	Other retail not in stores, stalls or markets when carried out from a motor vehicle or motorcycle.		
16	Other retail sale of new goods in specialised stores in the form of handicrafts and artifacts.		
17	Repair of footwear and leather goods in the form of repair of footwear when not done in combination with manufacture.		
18	Weaving: this activity includes, but not limited to, weaving of cane products, textiles, baskets, nets, dishes, ropes, and bags that are saleable at home, street markets or retail outlets on a fee.		
19	Bilum Making: Making of string bags (bilums) from traditional bush ropes and cottons taking traditional and contemporary designs that are saleable at home, street market or retail outlet on a fee.		
20	Knitting: The activity includes knitting of textiles, wearing apparels, cloth, garment, designs, fabrics, and decorations that are saleable at home, street market or retail outlet on a fee.		
21	Art and craft making: All sorts of handcrafts and artistic designs that are saleable at home, street market or retail outlet on a fee.		
22	Carving: Wood carvings and sculptures on a fee (contract) or assorted carvings that are saleable at home, street market or retail outlet on a fee.		
23	Pottery making: All sorts of pottery products including clay pots, cups, mugs, dishes, plates, sculptures, and other art forms that are saleable at home, street markets or retail outlet on a fee.		
24	Painting: All sorts of paintings in any shape, type and form including portrait paintings, screen paintings, sand paintings, oil paintings, saleable at home, street markets or retail outlet on a fee.		
25	Finishing of textiles in the form of screen printing on textiles and wearing apparel.		
26	Sewing: Sewing of garments, textile materials, wearing apparels, cloths and fabrics that are saleable at home, street market or retail outlet on a fee.		
27	Jewellery making: Making of simple jewellery products including necklaces, ear rings, rings, arm bands, primarily from sea shells, tasks, and beads for sale at home, street markets or retail outlet on a fee.		
28	Baking: Baking of fresh bakery products including bread loaves, cakes, pies, cookies, and scones saleable at home, street market or retail outlet on a fee.		
29	Manufacture of other food products n.e.c., in the form of coffee pulping using a manual pulping machine.		
30	Hunting of crocodiles and processing of skins: Hunting and processing of crocodile skins for sale at established market outlets.		
31	Maintenance and repair of motor vehicles in the form of tyre and tube repair, fitting, or maintenance where not done as incidental to the core business of maintenance and repairs.		
32	Renting and leasing of other machinery, equipment, and tangible goods in the form of vending and amusement machines.		
33	Advertising, when conducted as sign writing.		
34	Child day care service activities, excluding those provided by schools or other educational institutions.		
35	Wholesale of waste and scrap and other products n.e.c.		
36	Retail sale of books, newspapers, and stationery in specialized stores, in the form of specialised retail sale of newspaper and magazines.		
37	Repair of consumer electronics goods when not done in combination with manufacture or wholesale or retail sale of these goods.		
38	Repair of household appliances and home and garden equipment when not done in combination with manufacture or wholesale or retail sale of these goods.		

The Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) is working to promote entrepreneurship and foreign investment in Papua New Guinea, and foster simpler processes for small businesses.

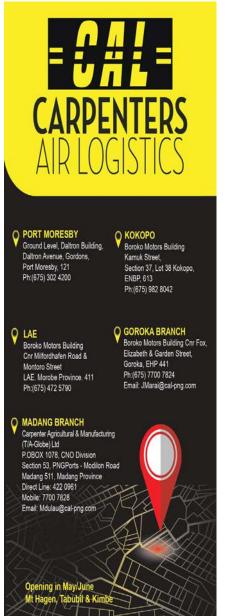
Repair of other personal and household goods, in the form of repair of watches, clocks and their parts, and the repair and alteration of jewellery when not done in combination with manufacture or wholesale or retail of these goods.

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New air freight and logistics company enters domestic market



Papua New Guineans, especially small businesses who wish to have their products air freighted and delivered to their clients on time have been given another option to consider with the introduction of a new player in the air freight and logistics industry.

Carpenters Air Logistics (CAL) is a subsidiary of W.R Carpenters and is a new cargo and freighting company currently operating in six major cities in the country. The company came into operation since June 2021 and has been expanding its services since then. The company became fully operational this year.

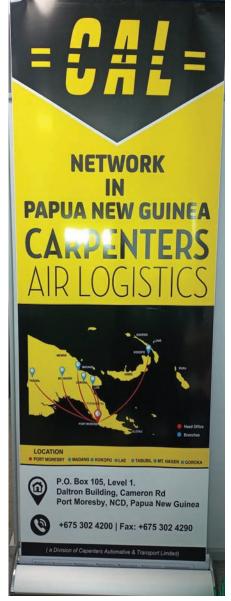
The company has its head office in Port Moresby with branches in Lae, Rabaul, Mt. Hagen, Goroka and Madang. CAL uses Air Niugini and PNG Air as its carriers for door-to-door shipments from major airports in Tabubil, Mt. Hagen, Goroka, Madang, Lae, Rabaul and Port Moresby.

PNG currently has three major freighting companies including DHL, Express Freight Management and FedEx.

Contact CAL for more information on Larissa Lee on <u>LLee@cal-png.com</u>.









KAJAMA INVESTMENT

(CROCODILE & COW HIDE TANNING PROJECT)

The proponents of the above Company are looking for a potential investor to partner in downstream processing and marketing of tanned crocodile and cow hides.

Project Proponent: KAJAMA INVESTMENT

Sector: Animal Products- Skin and Hides

tanning

Location: Pagwi Government Station. Gawi Local

Level Government, Wosera-Gawi

District, East Sepik Province

Projectsize/Investment Vaue: US \$ 20,000

Description:

The project involves crocodile and cow hide tanning. It is a rural based operation which started in 1999.

The project site is located in the Pagwi Government Station area of Wosera-Gawi District, East Sepik Province. This site is within the Sepik River riverine. The Sepik River is the longest river on the island of New Guinea. The Sepik River is home to some of the world's largest fresh crocodile populations.

The project began after the realization of the value from leather products that can be made from crocodile skins. There is huge opportunity in this venture given the population size of the crocodiles and the farming and conservative avenues that can be explored.

At this stage, the project owner is seeking partnership arrangements with investor partners to build the capacity of the tannery processing facilities and to bring necessary skills and equipment in downstream processing of crocodile leather products for the local market. He is looking at the local market in the short to medium term and the export market in the long term.

The project site is located on State land and the project owner has traditional rights to the riverine as well as access to the villages and the local population.

He has the capacity to produce more than 50 tanned crocodile skins in a year at his facility. However, he seeks to increase that output and to use the skins for production at the site.

Necessary information and documents such as business plan, company profile as well as IPA and IRC certificate's concerning the project are available upon request.

Contact	Details
Mr. Rodney Awai	KAJAMA INVESTMENT
·	(675) 7271 0354
IPA PNG	PO Box 5053, BOROKO, 111, NCD PNG investment@ipa.gov.pg







Karamui show - November (TPA)

IPA 4th Quarterly Board Meeting - November 30th

Soft Launch of upgraded IPA Online Registry System - December 1

IPA outreach program- July - December (IPA)

Kimbe - 5th - 9th December and Alotau 13th - 17th December

PNG Mining and Petroleum Investment Conference and Exhibition,

Sydney - December 5-7

AWARENESS PROGRAMS FROM SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER





Obligations of a company

Question:

What are the obligations of a company after registration?

Answer:

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 agencies and professional independent advice must be sought.

Do you have a general question about the regulatory side of running a business or have a query on investment promotion or Intellectual Property rights?

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

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

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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"Your business,
Your Investment,
Our advice"

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