

**BUSINESS COUNCIL OF PNG**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**12<sup>TH</sup> October 2005  
(10/05)**

**HELD AT  
BUSINESS COUNCIL OF PNG'S OFFICE  
DEFENSE HAUS, 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, POM**

- 1. ATTENDANCE:** Winifred Kamit  
Jonathan Seeto  
Mike Manning  
Kee Lim  
David Wong  
Ernie Gangloff  
Gerea Aopi  
Henry Kila  
Andrew Yauieb

- 2. APOLOGIES:** Mel Togolo  
Vincent Bull  
Syd Yates

- 3. OPENING OF THE MEETING:**

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m and was chaired by Winifred Kamit.

- 4. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING:**

The Executive Committee reviewed the minutes of the September Meeting, and being a said and true document were moved by Ernie Gangloff and seconded by Winifred Kamit.

- 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The Executive Officer provided a brief update on the outstanding items that were noted in the September Minutes.

- 5.1 TOURISM WORKSHOP:**

Follow up to take place upon the arrival of the APNGBC Executive in November. BCPNG will explore the possibility of incorporating a Tourism Workshop into the program at the Cairns Business Forum and securing ABV assistance for arranging the logistics. The Executive Officer is to contact TIA and APNGBC and explore proposal.

- 5.2 TELIKOM:**

Prime Minister's Chief of Staff has advised that he is currently waiting on a response from the Prime Minister and was unable to advise of a suitable time

for the discussion. The Executive is to contact Glen Blake and explore a possible commitment for the Prime Minister to meet with the private sector.

### **5.3 PNG INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT:**

It was reported that the NTC had again refused PNGIM's application as a Training Provider, though it would be resubmitted for consideration at the November sitting of the NTC.

It was suggested and agreed that the matter should be raised at the next NWG - Impediments Meeting. Sir Barry Holloway and Mr Peter McCrae to be notified. The Executive will attempt to secure a copy of PNGIM's list of members, current directors and a current copy of the audited reports.

### **5.4 PNGIVET/PNG INSTITUTE OF BANKING & BUSINESS MANAGEMENT.**

It was agreed that there would be no circulation of PNGIVET Training Material until the courses had been certified by NTC and that the Council was satisfied with the professional delivery of courses by certified trainers to the private sector.

It was also noted that the PNG Institute of Banking & Business Management also conduct training courses that would be of interest to BCPNG members. The BCPNG will liaise with the Institute and circulate forthcoming training sessions to members.

### **5.5 CACC - COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN:**

In excess of 15,000 signatures have been registered with TI (PNG) Ltd and the Media Council. BCPNG is to remit a reminder notice to all members.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **6.1 IMF MEETING:**

An IMF Mission meet with the Business Council to obtain a rounded view as to what is currently happening in PNG and what hurdles the business community are facing.

The areas discussed included: the ongoing dialogue between the PNG Government and the Private Sector through the National Working Group; the use of 'slush funds' by Government representatives and how they are used; the ongoing World Bank restraints which affect such industries as forestry; telecommunications; HIV/AIDS; Education; Law & Order and the ECP withdrawal from PNG; delivery of Social Services to the community; the political issues that affect new investment into PNG; the need for Good Governance and the urgent need for resources within the judicial system to be strengthened within the criminal and civil arms of the law.

## **6.2 NATIONAL WORKING GROUP (NWG) - IMPEDIMENTS TO BUSINESS QUARTERLY MEETING.**

A general discussion followed on Professor Robert Scollay's report that was tabled at the meeting. Its purpose is to review the Manufacturers Council's proposal for a temporary suspension of the Tariff Reform Program.

Concern was raised that the document does not provide a comprehensive analysis across all sectors and that a number of private sector organizations had not been consulted by Professor Scollay.

The document has been circulated through the BCPNG and the INA calling for member's response to the proposal. Executive Officer to contact NWG Secretariat and request an extension for private sector comments until the 21<sup>st</sup> October.

It was also noted that the recommendations tabled by the NWG - Fiscal Sub Committee would be put forward by the NWG for consideration in the 2006 Budget. This included an emphasis on the urgent need for IRC to adopt and manage an effective import-monitoring program.

## **6.3 SEFTI PNG - TRADE FAIR 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER:**

The Executive Committee resolved to support Sefti PNG Trade Fair by way of minor sponsorship and annual membership.

## **6.4 MILNE BAY - POTENTIAL MEMBERS:**

Community representative from the region has expressed the business communities' desire for the BCPNG to open an arm of its operations at Alotau. Whilst BCPNG is seeking to secure membership from within the region, the Chamber of Commerce should deal with sectoral matters such as those discussed.

## **6.5 BUSINESS BREAKFAST - NOVEMBER**

It was proposed and supported by the Executive Committee for Telikom to be approached as the next guest speaker at the November Business Breakfast.

## **6.6 WEBSITE DESIGN AND CONTENT:**

A detailed overview for the proposed BCPNG website content and design was presented to the Executive Committee. The current 1997 Constitution has been reviewed and recommendations have been called for to review the structure and term of the Executive Committee, and the membership structure and fees for 2006. Upon the incorporation of all agreed changes, a 'special meeting' will be called to present and put to the vote, the recommended changes.

The 'new look' logo, vision statement and tag line was presented and unanimously agreed upon.

The Executive Committee unanimously agreed upon the following Mission Statement:

The Business Council is the peak body representing the private sector in Papua New Guinea across all sectors, promoting the importance and role of economic growth, freedom and enterprise.

We work with government and other associated bodies to frame policy, take part in debate and support the initiatives that generate economic growth for the well being of Papua New Guinea and its people.

#### 6.7 PROJECTS FOR 2006:

A series of projects were considered for adoption by the BCPNG for implementation in 2006. This included: BCPNG/APNGBC Ministerial and Business Forums; Tourism Workshop; Continuing with dialogue between Government and the Private Sector through the NWG; working alongside the University of PNG to encourage individuals entering the business arena, and the adoption of a National Awards Presentation to encourage confidence and reward individuals for their performance within the business community.

#### 7. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Tabled by Maryanne McDonald.

#### 8. INWARD CORRESPONDENCE:

Duly noted.

#### 9. OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE:

Duly noted.

#### 10. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the BCPNG will be held at BCPNG's office at the POMSOX, Defens Haus, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

#### 11. CLOSURE OF MEETING:

The meeting closed at 10:20 a.m.

Signed as a true and correct document:

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_