

**BUSINESS COUNCIL OF PNG**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**14<sup>th</sup> June 2006 (87/06)**

**HELD AT**

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

1. **ATTENDANCE:** Winifred Kamit  
Jonathan Seeto  
Kee Lim  
Henry Kila  
Vincent Bull  
Maryanne McDonald

**GUESTS:** Ron Barton

2. **APOLOGIES:** David Wong  
Mel Togolo  
Ernie Gangloff  
Mike Manning  
Gerea Aopi  
Syd Yates

3. **OPENING OF THE MEETING:**

The Meeting commenced at 8:40 am and was chaired by Winifred Kamit. Mrs. Kamit welcomed Ron Barton from Prosec Security and Communications Limited and Chairman of the CIMC Law and Order Sectoral Committee.

4. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

The Executive Committee reviewed the minutes of the April Meeting. Being a said and true document, the April Minutes were moved by Jonathan Seeto and seconded by Kee Lim.

5. **UPDATE FROM RON BARTON CHAIRMAN OF THE CIMC LAW & ORDER SECTORAL COMMITTEE.**

Newly appointed Chairman of the CIMC Law & Order Sectoral Committee - Mr. Ron Barton (BCPNG nominee and CTI National Manager of Prosec Security and Communications Ltd was invited to deliver a brief update on the current status of the CIMC Law & Order Sectoral Committee.

The Committee is currently reviewing a number of matters which include:

- o Submission on TIPNG relating to the work on the Parliamentary Committee on the Ombudsmen Committee;
- o Defense Force Retirement Benefit Fund Enquiry Report;
- o Security (Protection) Industry Act 2004 and its implementation;

- Sectoral Budget Analysis (This focuses on the implementation of budgets with emphasis placed on how to address the constraints that hinder the effective flow of funds down to the lower levels)
- Establishing a 'National Registry on Compensation and Claims;
- The implementation of Maritime Safety Legislation;
- Narcotics and
- The establishment of a 2006 work plan for the committee.

The ExCom recognised the enormous task of the Chairman and the Committee and recommended that the CIMC Law & Order Committee should reduce its work plan for 2006 in order to achieve tangible outcomes and to develop a communication channel with the Department of National Planning.

It was further suggested that the Executive Officer obtain a copy of the 2006 Work Plan and seek authorisation from CIMC to circulate an abbreviated version of the minutes to its members.

Mr. John Bonot from Bank of South Pacific Ltd is also representing the BCPNG on the Committee.

## **6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

### **6.1 COUNTERFEIT PRODUCTS:**

The Executive Officer reported that in 2005, ICCC established a "Consumer Product Consultative Committee (CPCC) to discuss consumer related matters with manufacturers, retailers and the community in general. Relevant Government regulators are also invited to participate at these meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled for the 29th June 2006, at which time Mr. David Sode from IRC will deliver a presentation on the importation and sale of counterfeit products.

A formal invitation will be forward to the BCPNG for its participation along with a copy of the CPCC's TOR.

Attempts to contact IRC representatives are on going.

### **6.2 BCPNG Sub Committees:**

To be reviewed after the BCPNG's 2006 AGM.

### **6.3 Meeting with ADB Mission:**

A paper has been prepared by ExCom Members - Ernie Gangloff on the major discussion pints of the meeting.

The Executive Officer is to establish a close working relationship with the ADB over the coming months.

### **6.4 Independent study on the spread of interest and exchange rates:**

It was unanimously agreed to engage the services of Mirel Ltd - Mike to undertake this very important and long overdue study on the spread of interest and exchange rates.

#### **6.5 FIJI Trade Mission to PNG:**

The Executive Officer is to discuss these arrangements with the Fiji High Commissioner. It was also revealed that PNG may be considering a trade mission to FIJI in the later half of the year. The details are to be obtained and circulated to ExCom and members.

#### **7. STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN (SBP) PLAN UPDATE:**

A brief report was delivered by the Executive Officer on the short term objectives that had been identified in the BCPNG's SBP.

Relationships have commenced with the PNG/China Business Council, Indonesian Business Community/Fiji High Commissioner and the New Zealand Pacific Business Council. The Executive Office is to continue to nurture the Private Sector/Government relationships with particular reference to the Department of Trade & Industry and the Department of Industrial Relations.

#### **7. BCPNG FINANCIAL REPORT - 2005:**

The Treasurer - Mr. Jonathan Seeto presented a draft version of the BCPNG's profit and loss statement and balance sheets for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006.

The final copy is to be presented to the BCNG Members at the 2006 AGM on the 28<sup>th</sup> June.

#### **9. JUNE AGM BUSINESS BREAKFAST - GUEST SPEAKER:**

Mr. David Waterhouse -Chief Executive Officer Telikom (PNG) Ltd has been invited to attend the June AGM Business Breakfast. The Executive Officer has circulated the invitation notice to all BCPNG members and various PNG Based Associations. The details have also been posted onto the Council's website.

#### **13. AGM - 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2006:**

The BCPNG's 2006 AGM will be held at the Crown Plaza on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June.

Nomination for election to the Executive Committee and Proxy Votes are being received by the Executive Officer. A review of the Constitution is to be incorporated into the AGM Agenda.

14. UPDATE ON THE 22<sup>ND</sup> AUSTRALIA PAPUA NEW GUINEA BUSIENSS FORUM:

The Executive Officer provided a brief update on the outcome of the Business Forum. Copies of the CD's are to be secured from the APNGBC and will be distributed to all participants.

16. PNG/CHINA BUSINESS COUNCIL:

Reciprocal membership has been secured with the PNG/China Business Council. It was reported that a Chinese Delegation of Business Representatives will visit PNG in the later half of the year. The BCPNG is to work closely with PNG/China Business Council to facilitate appointments etc.

17. PNG TRADE DELEGATION TO NEW ZEALAND:

The Executive Officer reported that representatives from the PNG Government and the PNG Private Sector had travelled to New Zealand to promote the manufacturing and service industry of PNG. The delegation was lead by the Minister of Trade & Industry and was accompanied by representatives from the BCPNG (Gerea Aopi) and the MCPNG (Wayne Golding).

The New Zealand Pacific Business Council (NZPBC) has expressed a very strong interest in developing the relationship between the two countries and to work along side the BCPNG to promote trade and investment opportunities.

The NZPBC is providing a weekly brief on the Pacific Region, which is being circulated by the BCPNG. Members have also been invited to provide updates on projects, trade and investment opportunities for inclusion into the Pacific Region Brief. The briefs are being well received by the business community.

18. NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE AGREEMENT - APPROVAL BY NEC:

The long awaited National Minimum Wage Agreement negotiated between the Employers' Federation of PNG and the PNG Trade Union Congress was finally approved by the NEC and gazetted on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

The Executive Officer is to seek clarification on the 44 hour week that is to apply to the Senior Rate as outlined in the Memorandum by the Employers' Federation.

19. MRA BOARD

Inward correspondence refers. Additional names were required by the Department of Mining to support the BCPNG's two previous nominations of Henry Kila and Mike Manning. The additional names included: Gerea Aopi, Ernie Gangloff and Mel Togolo.

18. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT:

- The financial standing of BCPNG was noted.

- It was reported that the Constitution does not permit BCPNG to invest in the Stock Market. It was agreed that there would be no change to the Constitution to allow for this to take place.
- New Members include: *Colgate Palmolive (PNG) Ltd; Employers' Federation of PNG; Gulf Investment Trust Fund; Mainland Holdings; Niugini Tablebirds Ltd; Pacifica HR and PNG/China Business Council.* Current members stand at 101.
- 2006 Membership fees are currently being collected by the Executive Officer.

19. **AOB:**

19.1 **PNG/INDONESIAN BUSINESS COUNCIL:**

The Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia will be hosting a seminar in Jakarta on the 9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> August. The seminar will provide an opportunity for both countries to review the current and future direction of their relations on various levels including business, economic, education and politics.

Further information is to be circulated upon receipt from the Indonesian Business Council.

19.2 **CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF STAKEHOLDERS TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL WATER AND SANITATION POLICY:**

The National Executive Committee has directed the PNG Waterboard to submit a National Policy on Water and Sanitation. The invitation for the BCPNG was declined due to the late advice of the meeting. PNG Waterboard have been contacted and a copy of the outcome paper will be forwarded and circulated to the ExCom and BCPNG Members for their comments.

19.3 **INVITATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE'S AUDIT COMMITTEE:**

Mrs. Kamit has been extended an invitation to be a member of the Department of Finance's Audit Committee.

Due to extreme work commitments, Mrs. Kamit has declined the position. The TOR is to be forwarded to Mr. Vincent Bull for his perusal and consideration.

19.4 **MIST IN THE MOUNTAINS - FILM ON HIV AIDS:**

It was agreed that the BCPNG, in support of HIV AIDS education within the work place would secure a copy of the above CD for all Members and distribute, free of charge. The Executive Officer is to facilitate.

20. **INWARD CORRESPONDENCE:**

Noted.

21. **OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE:**

Noted.

22. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the ExCom BCPNG monthly meeting, will be held on the 12<sup>h</sup> of July at 8:30 am at the BCPNG Board Room.

23. CLOSURE OF MEETING:

The Meeting was declared closed by Mrs. Winifred Kamit at 10:20 pm.

Signed as true and correct document

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