

30 March 2020

CIRCULAR NO.15/2020


TO : ALL MEMBERS

FORWARDING PEAK BUSINESS BODIES CIRCULAR #004.

For your continued update and information on the COVID-19 State of Emergency, we forward the attached Circular #004 by Peak Business Bodies Group.

The Federation will continue to keep the membership informed of essential information as it becomes available.

Yours Sincerely,



Florence Willie
Executive Director

PNG PEAK BODIES COVID-19 CIRCULAR

CIRCULAR#	004	DATE:	26 March 2020
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DAY 3 SOE MEETING WITH POLICE MINISTER AND HEALTH MINISTER

Background

Business representatives met with Police Minister. Since the issuance of our Circular 003, there have been a total of 10 queries from businesses right across the country. Several were duplicates and we will answer them collectively for the purposes of this circular. Nonetheless, our staff will respond to all queries via email.

Queries to, and Responses from Minister of Police

MOVEMENT OF PERSONS FROM INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS AND PROVINCES		
Query	Response	Action Item
Passes for staff conducting essential services.	Passes are been developed for issuance. These passes will be bright orange and must be shown at police at all times.	Businesses are now asked to submit number of passes for essential persons required as well as number of essential vehicles to the Business Reps As Soon As Possible. Businesses are required to justify essential persons and essential vehicles.
Plan for Red Escalation	Where a confirmation of COVID 19 infection is established, Code Red will be applied. Whereby the entire locality and province will be on complete lock down and a curfew will be in place for 24-48 hours. In this period, no business or persons will be permitted to move. Those that are will be arrested. THIS HAS NOT OCCURRED AND PNG IS CURRENTLY ON ORANGE STATUS.	Businesses are encouraged to plan for Red Status. Exceptions to movements will only be issued by State Controller if we move to Red Status.

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RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY OFFICIALS AND MPS ON THE MOVEMENT OF CARGO DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY		
Query	Response	Action Item
NAQIA, MVIL and Lands Department has sent notices of 14 day closure and therefore causing business restrictions.	All these organizations and others that are not mentioned are not authorised to close. State Controller engaging with them to have a presence in NOC 19 to facilitate urgent approvals.	Businesses are requested to supply all information of officers that have issued NAQIA, Lands Department and MVIL closure so they may be contacted directly by State Controller to resume operations.
Liquor Ban and other business operations banned in several provinces	Restrictions on businesses is not authorised by the State Controller. State Controller will dispatch units of PNGDF and police officers to meet with officials to resolve the matter.	Businesses are requested to supply all information of officials that have issued this ban so they may be contacted directly by State Controller to resume operations. These include name of officers, location and what government agency they are from.
Restriction on the movement of cargos from provinces by police.	Restrictions on businesses is not authorised by the State Controller. State Controller will dispatch units of PNGDF and police officers to meet with officials to resolve the matter.	Businesses are requested to supply all information of officials that have issued this ban so they may be contacted directly by State Controller. These include name of officers, location and what government agency they are from.
Restrictions imposed by provincial, district or local government officials on air freight services.	Restrictions on businesses is not authorised by the State Controller. Regulatory bodies responsible for approving air freight services will be in NOC 19 and all approvals will be screened there.	Business Reps will identify relevant regulators in NOC 19 so that operators may liaise directly with them. In the meantime, please supply all information to business reps so we may relay to them.
Restrictions imposed by provincial, district and local governments officials on operations of sea freight services.	Restrictions on businesses is not authorised by the State Controller. State Controller will dispatch units of PNGDF and police officers to meet with	Business Reps will identify relevant regulators in NOC 19 so that operators may liaise directly with them.

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	officials to resolve matter. Regulatory bodies responsible for approving sea freight services will be in NOC 19 and all approvals will be screened there.	In the meantime, please supply all information to business reps so we may relay to them.
Restrictions imposed by provinces, districts and local governments on operations of land freight services.	Restrictions on businesses is not authorised by the State Controller. State Controller will dispatch units of PNGDF and police officers to meet with officials to remove restrictions.	Businesses are requested to supply all information of officials that have issued this ban so they may be contacted directly by State Controller to resume operations. These include name of officers, location and what government agency they are from. If it is a road block, please identify precise location and lead police officer send to business reps.
OTHER QUERIES		
Query	Response	Action Item
Foreign workers work permits, and visas are expiring soon and require advise on next steps.	Regulatory bodies responsible for approving work permits and visas will be in NOC 19 and all approvals will be screened there.	Business Reps will identify relevant regulators in NOC 19 so that operators may liaise directly with them. In the meantime, please supply all information to business reps so we may relay to them.



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Executive Director



Materua Tamarua
CEO



Stacey O'Nea
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