



Department of Finance Newsletter



Issue No.2 April, 2021



Meet the First
Female
Certified Fraud
Examiner

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Non-Tax Revenue Bill

The Department of Finance has facilitated a consultative meeting with all Statutory Bodies.

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Secretary's Kona



DR. Ken Ngangan OBE PhD CMA CPA
Secretary

In this second edition, we will highlight few important reforms in the Non-Tax Revenue space as well as the Government's review on GST plus others.

But let me also remind us that Covid 19 is real and we must be safe from it. When you're experiencing flu like symptoms, I encourage you to seek medical advice, stay home until recovered.

We have seen an alarming increase in the number of confirmed Covid-19 cases in the country daily, and to support our Government's stance on the current health protocols in place against the disease, please adhere to the new normal working arrangement that has been provided by our Covid-19 Team in March.

This has also brought new challenges as well as new opportunities. There is much to be positive about in terms of building further on the reforms we have on hand and we can only achieve much by working together.

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GST captured in IFMS

“Do what you can
do for the country
and give what
belongs to Caesar”





First Female Occupational Fraud Examiner



Empowering young women achieving their dreams and be successful in their various careers is a way forward to take back PNG which the Department is keen to support its officers.

One of the officers has set the way forward to be the first Papua New Guinean female officer to qualify as a Certified Occupational Fraud Examiner.

Miss Doris Marasembi is the first female leader in the field of occupational fraud investigation. Her achievement will add value to the work that the Department is doing.

This program is under UNDP Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies in partnership with the UNDP DoF Phone Against Corruption.

It is a registered program under the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners-United States of America.

Miss Marasembi is attached with the Integrated Financial Management System with the Department as a certified accountant.

It took her a year of online study to complete the program.

UNDP PNG working together with government sectors to help in the areas of fraud investigation to allow for transparency and accountability in the course of delivering services to our people.

The DoF P@C campaign aims to promote anti-fraud awareness and education to reduce occupational fraud and corruption to improve public service delivery.

Secretary Dr Ken Ngangan said I am confident that this initiative together with all efforts (audit committee agencies) will help curb corruption and enhance transparency and accountability of public finance management in PNG and delivery of public services to our people.



Miss Doris Marasembi (in yellow shirt) with other officers in a workshop in partnership with UNDP and DoF.

“ My new certification adds more value to the Government systems and business processes, audit investigations, prevention and detections, to more effectively and efficiently eradicate frauds at all levels ”



(L-R) DoF Deputy Secretaries Dominic Ira and Stephen Nukuitu, Secretary Dr Ken Ngangan, Minister for Finance and Rural Development Sir John Pundari, IRC Commissioner General Sam Koim and Commissioner of Taxation Samuel Loi.

The collection of Goods and Services Tax has been configured into the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS).

This was made possible by the launching of the GST Section 65A by the Minister for Finance and Rural Development Sir John Pundari in partnership with the Internal Revenue Commission (IRC) on 12 April, 2021 at the Apec Haus, Port Moresby.

Sir John said this is a very important program in harnessing the financial technology to make our work easier.

"This program going forward will ensure transparency, accountability and honest tax returns back to the Government," he said.

He said the challenge is on everyone to do an honest return and encouraged everyone to do the right thing.

Finance Secretary Dr Ken Ngangan during the launching highlighted a few reforms that the Department have undertaken in the public finance management space.

Ngangan thanked the IRC Commissioner and his team for their involvement in the reforms that the Department is under taking.

"We also look forward to take on the responsibilities of collecting tax from the provinces and districts. The partnership with IRC is important to make our work easier and collect revenue for the State," he said.

Tax report will be also generated by IFMS and together with remittance will be submitted to Internal Revenue Commission (IRC) on a monthly basis.

On behalf of the National Departments, the Department of Finance will do monthly remittance and the report will facilitate a full audit of all suppliers.

'Honest tax returns back to Govt'

The IFMS GST tax roll out to be phased in for the National Departments, Statutory Authorities and the Sub-National Government.

IRC Commissioner General Sam Koim thanked the technical team who have worked very hard to make this event successful as it is a challenging environment to collect taxes in this country.

He thanked Minister for Finance and Rural Development for his receptiveness to explore new ways of revenue collection, Secretary Dr Ken Ngangan and officers to deliver this project.

"The launching brings this arrangement

to a new height and introduces a lot of efficiency and cohesiveness. It sets the tone for the path we want to embark on-to move away from laborious methods of collection by investing in technology," he said.

"We will have 36 National Government Departments that currently use IFMS to participate as part of the phrase 1 next month, followed by Statutory Authorities in the second and Sub-National entities in phrase 3."

The IFMS configuration will be switched on May 1, 2021 and we will be using the balance of this month to carryout awareness and issue appropriate notices.





Non-Tax Revenue Bill meet



Participants listening to the presentation during the consultative meeting.

As part of the process for the presentation of the Non-Tax Revenue Administration Bill at the April Parliament sitting, the Department of Finance has facilitated a consultative meeting with all Statutory Bodies on the 25 February, 2021 at the Apec Haus.

The consultation aims to seek inputs as to whether any of the terms, definitions or process contained in the Bill are of a particular concern to any statutory body.

DoF Deputy Secretary Ms Margaret Tenakanai who chaired the consultative meeting said all statutory bodies will be given enough time after this meeting to make any further comments in writing which will be considered prior to the presentation of the Bill in the National Parliament.

Secretary Dr Ken Ngangan said the Non-Tax Revenue Administration Bill is the replacement to the Public Money Management Regularisation Bill ruled against in court in May 2020.

Ngangan said this bill aims to make sure all Non-Tax Revenue goes into the consolidated revenue funds.

Therefore it is a fundamental requirement that there must be a consultation and Statutory



Treasury Department Deputy Secretary Policy Andrew Oaeke and DoF Acting FAS NTRD Paul Niaga discussing an agenda.

Bodies need to be clear of the understanding of the National Fiscal Policy. This process allows to divert funds into the consolidate revenue fund to support the National Budget. Minister for Finance and Rural Development Sir John Pundari who was there to officiate the consultation meeting said we have to challenge ourselves to do the right thing for

our country and the government. "We have the opportunity to make changes now, let's do it now and never regret in the interest to take back our country," Sir John said. The consultation meeting saw a good turnout and feedback from the statutory body heads and representatives on the Non-Tax Revenue Administration Bill.



Never Ignore Alarm sound!

The recent Fire alert at the Vulupindi Haus has prompted for a call to all tenants to be responsible by adhering to simple safety rules, says DOF Secretary.

Dr Ken Ngangan said when you are in the building and as soon as the Fire Alarm sounds, I urge everyone to act immediately to ensure your safety.

“Some of the officers are being ignorant to the alerts which must stop and let's act responsibly to avoid any incidents,” he said.

The Fire Alarm System is designed and engineered to provide you with an early warning to allow you to safely exit the building during an emergency situation.

Leave immediately when the fire alarm sounds

Take the nearest emergency exit

Do not stop to collect personal belongings

Do not use the lift, Use the stairway

Report to your emergency assembly point soon

Do not return to the building until authorised



Officers adhering to the fire alarm protocol and vacated the building, after the fire alarm sounded for almost 20 minutes earlier this month.



(Left) Secretary Dr Ken Ngangan with other officers standing in front of the building awaiting further notice before returning back to work.



UP COMING EVENTS

■ R & R Exercise

■ Recruitment Exercise for Headquarter, Provincial Finance Office and District Finance Office



Putting together a complete newsletter is a team work. Please if you have upcoming events please include the team for media coverage. See the Communications and Reporting Team at OSD

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Twelve new covid measures issued

Police Commissioner and Controller of the PNG COVID-19 National Pandemic Response David Manning has issued 12 new measures effective as off 13 April, 2021. This will allow for a quick identification of the increasing number of Covid cases. The 12 new measures are as follows:

- Measure 1: Revocation of all previous measures;
- Measure 2: International Travel;
- Measure 3: Domestic Travel;
- Measure 4: Provincial Coordination;
- Measure 5: Burial of Deceased Person;
- Measure 6: Customs duties;
- Measure 7: COVID-19 testing;
- Measure 8: COVID-19 Surveillance and testing
- Measure 9: Business and Social;
- Measure 10: Mandatory Mask wearing
- Measure 11: National Public Transport; and
- Measure 12: COVID-19 vaccination

(Source-EMTV News)

Following that as a Central Government Agency, the Department of Finance is complying to the measures put in place.

The Department has also completed testing for all officers and test have returned negative.

Meanwhile, Secretary Dr Ken Ngangan reminded all officers to practice new normal work arrangement at all time in the course of doing our business; masking, sanitising and social distancing.

Officers are urged to immediately isolate themselves and take COVID test if officers show any signs of fever, cough, headache or symptoms of COVID-19.

Dr Ngangan encouraged everyone to remain vigilant and alert as we all together fight this invisible enemy.

The fight against COVID-19 is far from over. The pandemic hasn't ended yet. Until there's an effective vaccine or treatment, everyone remains at risk of #COVID19.

#StaySafe



World Health Organisation