



**INDEPENDENT CONSUMER AND  
COMPETITION COMMISSION**

**CONSUMER PRODUCTS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT**

**OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN**

1st Floor Garden City, Angau Drive,  
P.O. Box 6394, **BOROKO**,  
National Capital District  
Papua New Guinea  
Telephone: (675) 325 2144  
Facsimile: (675) 325 3980  
Toll Free # 180 3333  
Email: [infor@iccc.gov.pg](mailto:infor@iccc.gov.pg)  
Website: [www.iccc.gov.pg](http://www.iccc.gov.pg)

---

---

## **BRIEF ON CPCC MEETING NO. 2/2006 – 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2006**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This is a record of the second *Consumer Product Consultative Committee* (CPCC) meeting held on Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> of June, 2006. This was also the fourth CPCC meeting since it's launching on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 2005.

The attendance and participation was again very encouraging with prominent speakers speaking on issues affecting consumers with regards to product safety and good manufacturing practice. ICCC consultant Mr. Hank Spier (*former CEO of the ACCC*) did a presentation on "*Why it is important to address Product Safety Issues?*" And Mr. Wayne Goulding, the Chairman of the PNG Manufacturers Council gave a presentation on "*Good Manufacturing Practice*".

### **ISSUES RAISED IN THE MEETING**

Below are some of the issues raised from the presentations and in the consultative discussions during the CPCC meeting.

#### **Issues**

- Shipping rates need to be competitive to benefit PNG Industries.
- There may be cartels, influencing shipping schedules thus freight rates in PNG
- Products need to be checked regularly to ensure correct labeling
- More awareness is required for product safety, risks exposure, etc..
- There must be warranty laws to protect consumers
- Importers need to comply with set standards and regulations
- There needs to be a equal playing field for industries in PNG
- Counterfeit and fake products entering the PNG market.
- There should be tougher penalties to those who don't comply to standards and regulations
- Good Manufacturing Practice is required.

There appears to be a need for more awareness to be made by those responsible apart from the CPCC forum in order to address the issues highlighted. The general consensus is that they already in existence mandatory standards and regulations but very little are known about them. There are also concerns of deliberate ignorance of the existing standards and regulations by some traders for instance in the importation of counterfeit, substandard and illegal products into PNG.

---

*" Friend to Businesses, Friend to Consumers"*

**Southern Regional Office**  
1st Floor, Garden City  
P.O. Box 6394, BOROKO  
National Capital District  
Phone: (675) 325 2144  
Fax: (675) 325 3980  
Email: [southern@iccc.gov.pg](mailto:southern@iccc.gov.pg)

**Highlands Regional Office**  
1st Floor, AGC Building  
P.O. Box 1787, **MT. HAGEN**  
Western Highlands Province  
Phone: (675) 542 3001  
Fax: (675) 542 1307  
Email: [highlands@iccc.gov.pg](mailto:highlands@iccc.gov.pg)

**Momase Regional Office**  
1st Floor, Vele Rumana  
P.O. Box 1107, **LAE**  
Morobe Province  
Phone: (675) 472 2859  
(675) 472 6188  
Fax: (675) 472 6122  
Email: [momase@iccc.gov.pg](mailto:momase@iccc.gov.pg)

**Islands Regional Office**  
1st Floor, William Kaputin Building  
P.O. Box 461, **RABAUL**  
East New Britain Province  
Phone: (675) 982 8620  
Fax: (675) 982 8518  
Email: [islands@iccc.gov.pg](mailto:islands@iccc.gov.pg)

## **SOME SUGGESTIONS MADE IN THE MEETING**

- Where there are breaches, tougher penalties should be imposed by the respective enforcing agencies.
- Agreements on shipping schedules should be authorized to avoid cartel arrangement.
- Repeated importers/offenders who don't comply with standards and regulation should have work permits removed.
- Warranty laws should be made if there are non in order to protect the consumers against inferior products at a higher price.
- Regulators should target businesses/industries that do not comply with PNG laws and regulations.

## **SOME PROGRESS MADE FROM THE DATE OF THE LAST MEETING**

### **ICCC**

- Regional Offices stepped up inspections to ensure correct labeling and net weight of products on shelves.
- Developed and distributed Product Safety Brochures with useful product safety information as awareness to all stakeholders.
- Attended the APEC-USPTO Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Border Enforcement in Los Angeles targeting all IPR authorities around the APEC region.

### **PNG MANUFACTURING COUNCIL**

- The PNG Manufacturing Council Regional Offices have organized with IRC, IPA, Treasury, the PNG Manufacturers Council members and other relevant key agencies to discuss and come up with a policy submission to the Government to address the issue of counterfeit products.

### **NISIT**

- NISIT has organized a training on August 21, 2006 on the practical applications of "How to pack and labeled products" targeting PNG Industries and the relevant key agencies in ensuring compliance to proper packaging and labeling standards to the International Standards Organizations (ISO) standards. Further trainings on Standards, Packaging and Labelling will be organized by NISIT going forward.

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

- The department of Health with the Food Sanitation Council is currently organizing training on "How to prepare food" targeting food kai bars, restaurants, and relevant key agencies to ensure the safety of consumers.

### **BUSINESS COUNCIL OF PNG**

- The Business Council of PNG has organized a couple of meetings with IRC, IPO/IPA, ICCC, Attorney General's Office and other relevant key agencies to propose a way forward to address the issue of counterfeit and fake products.

## **GOING FORWARD**

It is encouraging to see a number of initiatives taken up by the relevant key government agencies and regulators including industries to address issues relating to the protection and safety of consumers. This supports the true spirit of cooperation and unity which will otherwise be difficult or burdensome for a few or one organization to achieve alone.

The ICCC will continue to bring together the relevant key stakeholders and players in the industry to share light on issues affecting consumers in accordance with its consumer protection role on a wider context across different jurisdictions and products/services.

The meeting held on Thursday June 29<sup>th</sup> was again a success considering the intensity of the discussions and the follow up work done so far by the responsible organizations with respective to taking up issues, making further awareness and strengthening their consumer protection roles.

---

**THOMAS ABE**  
CPCC Chairman