



INDEPENDENT CONSUMER & COMPETITION COMMISSION

Office of the CPCC CHAIRMAN & ICCC COMMISSIONER

1st Floor, Garden City Boroko
PO Box 6394
Boroko, NCD

Telephone: (675) 325 2144
Facsimile: (675) 325 3980

REPORT ON CPCC MEETING NO: #2/2007 – 16th AUGUST 2007

INTRODUCTION

The fifth CPCC Meeting No. #2/2007 was held on the 16 August 2007. In that meeting a number of issues and activities were discussed. In that meeting a number of presentations were also made including recent industry reviews undertaken by the ICCC.

The Government Department and Agencies were well represented with representative from NISIT, IPA, IRC, Department of Health, PNG Power Ltd., DAL – CODEX Secretariat and Department of Environment and Conservation. Regular representatives from the Business Council and Industries such as CHM and BAT were present with a notable representation for the first time from the Rural Industries Council.

Guest speakers were invited from IPA who made a presentation on the up coming IPA/IPO APEC Seminar on IPR Enforcement – Preview and the Business Council which was represented by CHM made a presentation on the continuing issue and update on Counterfeit/Fake Product Strategy.

ISSUES DISCUSSED AT CPCC MEETING

The APEC Seminar on IPR Enforcement was the main feature of the meeting as it coincides with the ongoing counterfeit/fake product issues. The APEC Seminar is timely and Papua New Guinea will be well represented by the Government Department and Agencies and the Businesses. There will be participants from 16 APEC Economies and the Pacific Island Countries.

The presentation on the Commercial Advertising (Protection of the Public) Act was well received by the members as it unfolds a new area that ICCC has taken on recently.

The order of presentations during the meeting are as follows:

- Commercial Advertisement (Protection of the Public) Act
- IPA/IPO APEC Seminar on IPR Enforcement Preview
- Business Council Update on Counterfeit/Fake Products Strategy
- Sundry Declared Goods Pricing Review
- Update on Mobile Competition
- Update on other Review by ICCC
 - PMV & Taxi Fares Review
 - General Insurance Industry Review
 - Stevedoring and Handling Review

Issues

The following issues were also raised during the meeting;

- Commercial advertisement;
Screening – whether to include media industry and advertising agencies;
Hidden costs on misleading advertisement (Airfares & Hire Cars);
- Temperature effect in the change in volume of fuel;
- Addressing Force Majeure situation like disaster, industrial strikes, etc., under the Regulatory contracts especially with the recent PPL industrial stand off;
- Adoption of children's toy standards;
- IRC Customs IPR Enforcement;
- New soft drink BU product labeling ;

STATUS

Commercial Advertisement (Protection of the Public) Act

The Commercial Advertisement (Protection of the Public) Act is a new area which ICCC has taken on recently. Previously the Act was administered by the Prime Ministers Department. Implementation and enforcement is in its infancy stage and more awareness need to be conducted among the business houses, media, advertising agencies and stakeholders.

IPA/IPO APEC Seminar on IPR Enforcement Preview

IPA/IPOPNG will be staging the APEC Seminar on IPR Enforcement from the 28 – 29 August 2007. The Seminar will focus on IPR infringement related problems with the exchange of information and sharing of experiences within the APEC Economies and how to address the issues.

Business Council Update on Counterfeit/Fake Products Strategy

CHM on behalf of the Business Council made a presentation on the identification of counterfeit/fake products in the video and music industry. CHM has been leading the way in promoting the awareness and protection of copyright in the video and music industry.

ICCC Reviews

ICCC made several presentations on the Reviews that it has undertaken in the last two years.

- **Sundry Declared goods Pricing Review**

The Sundry Declared Goods Pricing review has been completed and the final the report is has been published.

- **Update on Mobile Competition**

ICCC is awaiting the pending Telikom court case and the settlement of ongoing issues between PANGTEL, Telikom and Digicel.

Meanwhile the arbitration has cleared ICCC on the issuing of the Licenses as required under the ICCC mandate. The Licenses were issued following stringent tender process and evaluation by the Department of Treasury, PANGTEL and ICCC.

- **Update on Other Reviews**

ICCC also has several other Reviews that are ongoing and in its draft stages for the public to comment:

- PMV & Taxi Fares Review;
- General Insurance Industry Review;
- Stevedoring and Handling Review.

GOING FORWARD

The general views of the members were very encouraging especially from the Port Moresby Chamber of Commerce who supported in principle the competition issues and were concerned with the current status of the mobile competition.

It is also encouraging to see the actions taken by the different jurisdictions in addressing the counterfeit/fake issues with the upcoming IPA/IPOPNG APEC Seminar and the IRC Customs implementation of IPR Enforcement on the borders is a positive step forward.

ICCC gave its undertaking to follow up on the issues that were raised and will give a status report in the next CPCC.

THOMAS ABE

Chairman