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Media Release

PNG Ports cautions shipping agents and operators

PNG Ports Corporation Limited (PNGPCL) Chief Executive Officer, Brian Riches has cautioned shipping agents and operators to observe laws governing the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code. (ISPS)

Mr Riches made this remark recently while outlining ISPS Code issues particularly related to access through our ports such as passenger manifest requirements, searches of persons, accompanied baggage, cargo and security level declarations.

He said PNGCPL sees shipping agents and operators as valued business partners in its operations and such issues should be clarified in order to create a conducive business environment for all parties.

Mr Riches said the legality of PNGPCL operations is guided by the *Merchant Shipping Maritime Security Regulations 2005* which was enacted to give effect to the application of the ISPS Code in PNG.

“Security at our ports is governed by the *Merchant Shipping Maritime Security Regulations 2005* which empowers PNGPCL to establish and maintain a Port Facility Security Plan (PFSP) for each port and appoint a Port Facility Security Officer (PFSO) to maintain and administer this Plan,” he said.

Mr Riches further elaborated that the law also requires that any person seeking to enter a port is required to comply with all regulatory provisions brought to their notice by any means of communication including oral messages.

“Under the requirement of the ISPS Code, PNGPCL officials are also obliged to do searches of persons and personal luggage that pass through our ports and person(s) who refuse to comply with this requirement may be refused entry to the port,” he said.

Mr Riches said: “It is also a concern to us that passengers ticketed outside the gates might not have their names on the manifest, thereby making it difficult to confirm their identities and permit them access to a ship through our ports.”

He further reiterated PNGPCL security requirements as not negotiable and the need to observe these requirements to avoid the embarrassment of being denied entry to our ports.

Edited & Endorsed by:


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