



**INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA**  
**NATIONAL PANDEMIC ACT 2020**

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**OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER**  
**NO.9 BUSINESS AND SOCIAL MEASURES**

I, Commissioner David Manning, Controller, by virtue of the powers conferred by Section 9 of the *National Pandemic Act 2020* and all other enabling powers, hereby issue the following measures:

1. All business, social venues, markets, shopping centers, schools, educational institutions, and places of worship must comply with the Niupela Pasin guidelines for the duration of the Pandemic.
2. An immediate ban is placed on gatherings of over 10 people.
3. Venues or parts of venues must immediately close for the duration of the Pandemic that:
  - a. provide night club and pub activities and services; or
  - b. sell and supply alcohol for consumption on the premises without food, except restaurants.
4. Venues or parts of venues that operate as a restaurant or for food consumption on premises may operate subject to:
  - a. all persons on entry and exist from venues must wash their hands with soap or hand sanitiser; and
  - b. follow all other hygiene standards as issued by the Controller.
5. Venues or parts of venues that provide bookmaker (gambling) activities and services must close until 20 May 2021, at which point they may re-open if they ensure strict adherence to the COVID-19 safety guidelines issued by the Controller in relation to operating a gambling activity and service.





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**NATIONAL PANDEMIC ACT 2020**

---

6. Subject to paragraph 5, all other venues or parts of venues that provide gambling activities and services may re-open if they ensure strict adherence to the COVID-19 safety guidelines issued by the Controller in relation to operating a gambling activity and service.
7. No licensed premises shall sell takeaway alcohol on Friday, Saturday or Sunday, except restaurants who may continue to serve alcohol as regulated by their liquor license.
8. No club, recreational or professional sporting matches shall be allowed to played, except for recreational sporting games of no more than 4 persons, except as exempted by the Controller.
9. All schools, educational institutions, markets and shopping centers must comply with physical distancing requirements and safe and hygienic practices as issued by the Controller, including:
  - a. physical distancing of at least 1.5 meters between each person; and
  - b. all persons on entry and exit the market must wash their hands with soap or hand sanitiser.
10. Religious activities may continue to operate, but must adhere to the follow restrictions:
  - a. congregation size of any religious activity to be at a maximum of 100;
  - b. physical distancing of at least 1.5 meters between each person;
  - c. all persons on entry and exist into the place of worship must wash their hands with soap or hand sanitiser; and
  - d. follow all other hygiene standards as issued by the Controller.





**INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA**  
**NATIONAL PANDEMIC ACT 2020**

---

11. Funerals and haus cries shall be limited to only 100 persons.
12. The Council of Churches in consultation with the National Department of Health and all faith groups in PNG, shall prepare Standard Operating Procedures for all religious activities and gatherings.
13. The respective provincial chamber of commerce or provincial business peak body shall ensure that businesses develop COVID Continuity Plans for operation in each province.
14. All restaurants in every province shall submit to their respective provincial chamber of commerce and industry or provincial business peak body the following information:
  - a. Physical size of restaurant seating area; and
  - b. COVID-19 safe seating plans in accordance with Nuipela Pasin.
15. Respective provincial chamber of commerce and industry or provincial business peak body shall submit the information provided to them under paragraph 14, to the National Control Centre for NCD, or their relevant Provincial Control Centre.
16. A person or organization that fails to comply with a paragraph 14, may be directed to close by the Controller or the relevant provincial administrator.
17. A person or organization may apply in writing to the Controller or the relevant provincial administrator for an exemption for a gathering of over 10 persons, a request for an exemption must include the following steps taken to ensure compliance with Nuipela Pasin and to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19 at the gathering.





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**NATIONAL PANDEMIC ACT 2020**

---

18. Non-compliance with paragraph 1 is not an offence under the Act.
19. Non-compliance with these Measures is unlawful and may be penalised under the Act or other applicable laws.
20. Non-compliance with this measure should be reported to an authorised officer or the Provincial Police Commander.
21. Any Authorised Officer(s) appointed by the Controller pursuant to the Act, shall carry out and enforce the measures accordingly.
22. These Measure come into effect on 13 May 2021, and shall apply until the end of the Declaration of a pandemic under the Act, or as varied or revoked by the Controller.

Signed:

Date:

  
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**DAVID MANNING, MBE, DPS, QPM**  
**CONTROLLER**



*13<sup>th</sup> May 2021*