



National Emergency Order No.19

PRICE REGULATION

I, Commissioner David Manning, Emergency Controller, by virtue of the *Emergency (General Provisions) (COVID 19) Regulation 2020* (Regulation) and other Emergency Laws, hereby issue the following emergency orders for immediate implementation:

1. Businesses shall not, at wholesale or retail, increase the prices of goods listed in Schedule 1 in excess of 5% during the National Emergency.
2. A business that increases the prices of goods in excess of what is allowed under Paragraph 1 commits an offence, unless prior approval of the Independent Consumer and Competition Commission (ICCC) has been obtained.
3. Approval under Paragraph 2 may only be given if the business has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the ICCC that the price increase:
 - a. does not reflect the taking of an unfair advantage of the National Emergency;
 - b. does not unconscionably exceed the average price at which the good was offered for sale prior to the National Emergency;
 - c. does not unconscionably exceed the price at which the same or similar goods was readily obtainable in PNG from other competing sellers;
 - d. reasonably reflects additional costs, not within the control of that seller, that were paid, incurred, or reasonably anticipated, or reflects additional risks taken to produce, distribute, obtain, or sell the relevant good under the circumstances; and
 - e. was substantially attributable to local, national or international market conditions.
4. Businesses shall not increase the prices of services listed in Schedule 2 in excess of 5% during the National Emergency.
5. A business that increases the prices of services in excess of what is allowed under Paragraph 4 commits an offence, unless prior approval of the ICCC has been obtained.
6. Approval under Paragraph 5 may only be given if the business has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the ICCC that the price increase:





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- a. does not reflect the taking of an unfair advantage of the National Emergency;
 - b. does not unconscionably exceed the average price at which the service was offered for sale prior to the National Emergency;
 - c. does not unconscionably exceed the price at which the same or similar services was readily obtainable in PNG from other competing service providers;
 - d. reasonably reflects additional costs, not within the control of the service provider, that were paid, incurred, or reasonably anticipated, or reflects additional risks taken to provide the relevant service under the circumstances; and
 - e. was substantially attributable to local, national or international market conditions.
7. A business that commits an offence under paragraphs 2 or 5 shall be fined K5,000.00, and for repeat offenders, an additional fine of K10,000.00 and/or a penalty under the Emergency Laws.
 8. Subject to paragraph 9, this Emergency Order shall be in force for a period of 30 days but may be renewed at the direction of the Emergency Controller for such consecutive periods, each not exceeding 30 days, as the Emergency Controller determines appropriate.
 9. This Emergency Order shall cease upon the end of the National Emergency.
 10. The public is encouraged to report non-compliance with this Emergency Order to the ICCC.
 11. Non-compliance with this Emergency Order is unlawful and may be penalized under the Regulation and Emergency Laws or other applicable laws.
 12. Any Authorised Officer(s) appointed by the Emergency Controller pursuant to the Regulation and other Emergency Laws, shall carry out and enforce the Emergency Orders accordingly.

~~David Manning MBE, DPS, QPM~~
Emergency Controller





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Schedule 1 Goods

- I. Rice
- II. Flour
- III. Sugar
- IV. Fresh produce (animal products, fruits and vegetables both import and local)
- V. Baby Formula
- VI. Milk and milk products
- VII. Soap (both bar and liquid)
- VIII. Fuel (those not price controlled such as, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), zoom, and aviation fuel)
- IX. Household battery
- X. Matches and gas lighters
- XI. Hand sanitizer
- XII. Latex gloves
- XIII. Bottled water
- XIV. Cooking oil
- XV. Tinned Fish
- XVI. Tinned Meat
- XVII. Noodles
- XVIII. Biscuits
- XIX. Tea, coffee
- XX. Household Bleach, disinfectants, and detergents
- XXI. Toilet rolls/tissues
- XXII. Frozen chicken products
- XXIII. Frozen meat products
- XXIV. Frozen sausages
- XXV. Eggs; and
- XXVI. Wipes (both adult and baby wipes, all brands)

Schedule 2 Services

- I. Air fares (domestic and international)
- II. Medical and health services
- III. Telecommunication products
- IV. Water, sewerage and garbage Rates
- V. Electricity Rates
- VI. Banking and Financial Service Fees