



INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA
NATIONAL PANDEMIC ACT 2020

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER
NO.9 NATIONAL MANDATORY MASK WEARING

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:

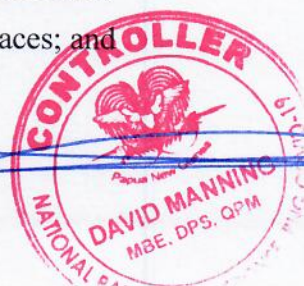
1. All persons should where possible wear masks to protect Papua New Guinea from COVID-19.
2. No person shall be permitted entry into, or otherwise remain within, any market designated in Schedule 1 unless the person is wearing a Mask or Face Covering, in a manner which covers their mouth, nose and chin.
3. No person shall be permitted entry to, or otherwise remain within, any enclosed space within an Establishment unless the person is wearing a Mask or Face Covering, in a manner which covers their mouth, nose and chin.
4. No person shall be permitted entry into or otherwise remain on, public transport unless the person is wearing a Mask or Face Covering, in a manner which covers their mouth, nose and chin.
5. No person shall be permitted entry into an aircraft anywhere in PNG unless the person is wearing a Mask or Face Covering in a manner which covers their mouth, nose and chin.
6. No person shall remove their Mask or Face Covering whilst on an aircraft in PNG in a manner which covers their mouth, nose and chin, except in the case of an emergency.
7. The pilots of the plane are exempt from paragraphs 5 and 6.
8. All persons working in a market, in-door establishment or on public transport in which they interact in person with customers, clients or work in an enclosed space with other colleagues must wear masks at all times.
9. Businesses and government departments and agencies must ensure all employees have Masks or Face Coverings.





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10. The following persons are exempted from these Measures:
- a. Children under 12;
 - b. Persons with underlying medical conditions which inhibit their ability to wear a Mask or Face Covering, including persons with physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability
 - c. Persons who are unable to place or remove a Mask or Face Covering without assistance;
 - d. Persons undergoing dental treatment or other medical care to the extent that the procedure requires that no face covering may be worn;
 - e. Persons within an area of work designated for them and not for public access, and who can work in an environment whereby they are a minimum of 2 meters from any other person;
 - f. Persons participating in sporting activities;
 - g. When directed to remove the face covering to ascertain identity; and
 - h. During emergencies.
11. A person is exempted from these Measures if she or he removes their mask or face covering to eat, drink or take medication.
12. An establishment for the purpose of these measures are:
- a. premises or any portion thereof which are used as a place of business for the sale or offering for sale of goods or services, and includes a mall or similar structure which contains multiple places of business;
 - b. health facilities;
 - c. sporting venues;
 - d. churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, or other places of worship;
 - e. community centres including indoor recreational facilities;
 - f. libraries, art galleries, museums, zoos and other similar facilities;
 - g. convention centres, arenas, stadiums, and other event spaces; and
 - h. government facilities.





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13. Banks are not classified as an Establishment for the purpose of these measures.
14. Transport for the purpose of these Measures are:
- a. Buses;
 - b. Vessels; and
 - c. Taxis.
15. For the purpose of these Measures a Mask or Face Covering must cover the nose, mouth and chin, and includes any article of clothing including any paper or textile covering designed or made to be worn over the nose, mouth and chin to protect the wearer. It does not have to be medical grade, may be handmade and includes scarfs and bandanas.
16. For the purposes of paragraph 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7, a business, organisation or government department or agency who fails to take reasonable steps to ensure adherence to the Measures shall be deemed to have committed an offence under the *National Pandemic Act 2020*.
17. For the purpose of paragraph 15, reasonable steps shall include but are not limited to:
- a. denying entry to persons not wearing a mask or face covering;
 - b. requesting a person to leave an Establishment if they are not wearing a Mask or Face Covering and are not exempted by these Measures from wearing a Mask or Face Covering;
 - c. providing a Mask or Face Covering to employees and making it the company or organisations mandatory policy that Masks and Face Coverings are worn in compliance with these Measures.
18. For the purposes of paragraphs 2 to 8 inclusive, an individual or organisation who fails to adhere to the Measure shall be deemed to have committed an offence under the *National Pandemic Act 2020*.






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19. Non-compliance with this Measure should be reported to an authorised officer or the Provincial Police Commander.
20. Any Authorised Officer(s) appointed by the Controller pursuant to the Act, shall carry out and enforce the measures accordingly.
21. These Measure come into effect on 30 September 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, O.S.M., QPM
CONTROLLER

24th September 2021