

6. The Provincial Governors and their Provincial Administrators with Provincial Police Commanders with the respective Provincial Health Authorities will be control points in all province.
7. All heads of departments and private companies are to embrace safe work place practise and non essential staff are asked to stay at home for the next 14 days.
8. Education and Higher Education departments are asked to advance first term holiday as of tomorrow 23rd of March and the next 14 days are to be school holidays.
9. All who have come into the country as from the 7th of March 2020 or those who made contact with those who came into the country from that date please report, call or text to the hotline below.
10. No border crossing by foot or canoe and police /army presence in border areas will be stepped up.
11. Banks and financial institutions and super funds will be mobilised to work with Government on economic packages in this down time.
12. The SOE controller through the office of Prime Minister will be the only official point of releasing statements to public.
13. The SOE controller will issue on details on how citizens and our country respond and behalf in this time and breach of those will be punished as offence in times of emergency.

We have now mapped the country into zones to isolate this virus from spreading.

The mid PNG zone from Morobe and Madang Provinces into the entire highlands , the Central Papua (including NCD, Central and Gulf), the Niugini Island Zone, the Sepik Zone, the Western Border Zone and the Bougainville Zone.

The SOE commander will delicate the PPCs to police the zones to ensure lawful abiding to this control measures.

We will get through this phase, we ask from corporation from all citizens, residents and businesses houses.

God bless PNG.

HON. JAMES MARAPE, MP
Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea



**COVID-19 RESPONSE
UNIVERSITY LOCK-DOWN PERIOD
Tuesday 24th March - Tuesday 7th April, 2020**

**INFORMATION FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR**

March 23, 2020

The Prime Minister has announced that the Country will be **LOCK-DOWN** for a period for 14 days. The National Security Council met and decided on the state of emergency declared throughout the country starting tomorrow Tuesday 24th March 2020.

This means that your democratic right to freedom is temporarily taken away from you during the lock-down period. The Police Commissioner will be in control of the state of emergency. **NO ONE** including any student or staff will be transmitting any message from the social media or any other sources except the National Security Council.

ONLY THE UNIVERSITY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM will release any information on COVID-19 during the lock-down period on the University Campus. Any one giving false information causing panic and anxiety within the Campus will be dealt with either by the University or Police.

This announcement is **NECESSARY** to assist the authorities contain any spread of the Coronavirus in PNG. The person tested positive in Lae has been isolated and will be taken to Australia. No one should be panicking at this stage as the Government is taking full control of the situation in the country.

Starting Tuesday 24th March 2020, the LOCK-DOWN period for the University commences. The following measures will be enforced on the University campus-wide for the next 14 days till April 7th 2020:

1. **NO** students will leave the Vudal Campus on Tuesday 24th March 2020.
2. Any students who leave the campus on Tuesday 24th March 2020 will **NOT** be allowed back on Campus until April 7th April 2020.
3. All students must **DISPLAY** their identification cards or some form of identification (e.g. copy of registration form) at all times whilst on campus.

4. **NO** outsiders will be allowed to enter campus by either foot or vehicle including PMVs.
5. Security personnel will **REMOVE** anyone on-campus who is either a non-student, or non-residential student, or not a staff or a dependent or a spouse by Monday 23rd March 2020.
6. Students who keep either non-students or non-residential students **MAY** forfeit their residential status.
7. Staff-owned PMVs will **STOP** operating during the shutdown period.
8. **ALWAYS** wash your hands with soap or clean your hands with sanitizers.
9. **AVOID** touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
10. **AVOID** shaking hands at any time.
11. **WASH** your eating utensils thoroughly with soap.
12. **KEEP** social distance (1.5m), which means there will be no public gathering including sports, church services and fellowships.
13. **REPORT** any case where you suspect someone is coughing, sneezing, have fever, showing shortness of breath to the HEO.
14. The University market, and road-side markets on Campus will **CLOSE** during the lock-down period.
15. Chewing of betelnuts and smoking in public places on campus are **PROHIBITED**.
16. Students are **ENCOURAGED** to stay in their dormitories at all times during this lock-down period.
17. Staff living on University campus will **NOT** be allowed to leave the campus at any time during this lock-down period.
18. Staff who leave the University on Tuesday 24th March 2020 will **NOT** be allowed back on campus until April 7th 2020.
19. Staff are **ENCOURAGED** to work from their homes except the Senior Management, Security Personnel, HEO, Head of PR, Director SSS, and Catering Staff.

I URGE all of us living on the Campus to cooperate with the Senior Management, Security Personnel, Director SSS and the Catering Staff.

A University Covid-19 Response Team is led by the Vice Chancellor to **DEAL** with all issues during this LOCK-DOWN period. The team consists of the SMT, HEO, Chief Security Officer, SSS Director and Head of Public Relations.

For **EMERGENCIES**, please contact this number Vice Chancellor 71483440/ Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) 73847088/Registrar 72641568/Bursar/ 70844073/ HEO 7302003/Security 9871230/ SSS Director 72680076.

We will **ISSUE** further instructions as and when it becomes available from the National Security Council if there will be changes to the above measures.

Anyone who **DEFIES** any of the above measures or instructions will be dealt with severely.

Thank you.



DR. PONGIE KICHAWEN
VICE CHANCELLOR



OFFICIAL STATEMENT

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

Approved for Release: Sunday 22 March 2020

Today based on advise from the Covid 19 National Operation Centre (NOC 19) and National Security Council (NSC) recommendations, the National Executive Council in an emergency meeting has decided on the following measures in light of first positive case of Covid 19 in our country.

This is a national security issue now and not just a health issue but a cross cutting issue including effect on economy, law and order and education of our children amongst other effects. Hence the relevance of the following measures.

So far we have done trace of the person that came into our country and he remains to date our only positive person who is in isolation and recovering but to clearly demarcate our country from spread and for Government to take stock from this bio security breach, we are taking the following measures.

1. Confirm this first case and it's impact to ensure we contain it's impact including treating, curing and sending the victim back to Australia.
2. Taking stock of all entry into PNG after 7th of March to ensure all are checked, tested and status of health affirmed. All who have come in or those that have come in contact with those who came into PNG since 7th of March are to report to the hotline below.
3. Declare a State of Emergency for 30 days in which the Commissioner of Police will assume control assisted by a call out placed on military to ensure lawful order, control and response to to SOE control measures.
4. Following on our stop of incoming international flights, we now stopping all domestic flights for the next 14 days starting on Tuesday this week.
5. We direct that as of Tuesday 24th March 2020, no Public transportation of people and no movement from one province to another for a 14 day period. Only approved cargo and medicine and police /military personal will be moving.