

National Public Service

DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT CIRCULAR INSTRUCTION No. 12 OF 2024

DATE: 26th July 2024

FILE: SEC: 4-10

TO: ALL NATIONAL DEPARTMENTAL HEADS

HEADS OF OTHER PUBLIC AUTHORITIES ALL CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICE HOLDERS ALL PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATORS

ALL PUBLIC SERVANTS

SUBJECT: CONSULTATION ON THE NATIONAL HEALTH & LIFE INSURANCE NIUCARE BILL 2024

The purpose of this circular is to inform you all that the National Executive Council in its Decision No.178/2022 on the $4^{\rm th}$ May 2022 approved the National Health and Life Insurance (NHLI) Policy and the establishment of the Public Service Board of Trustees to manage this policy. This is a major policy and is the first ever in the Public Service where we will see the Government/State through the Public servants own this policy and will benefit them in the long run and contribute to a proper welfare system.

The health challenges presented by the Covid-19 and the lifestyle diseases, brought urgency to my department to consider improving the terms and conditions of employment in the Public Service in light of emerging health challenges. These issues and considerations cover Public Servants for the high risk associated with their line of duties and the employment environment within which they work.

It is difficult for Public Servants and their families to sustain an affordable healthcare service or afford a private health and life insurance cover. This results in a costly healthcare for public servants and their families. We have seen a lot of our Public Servants die from preventable diseases on their job as they cannot afford the medication and their health have not been considered whilst considering the time and effort put into their jobs in building this country.

In operationalizing the NHLI Policy under the Public Service Niucare Association (PSNA), work has commenced in parallel to establish the framework of the insurance

concept in law pursuant to NEC Decision No.78/2022. DPM and PSNA will be conducting a consultation workshop on the draft Niucare Bill 2024.

The consultation is scheduled as follows:

Date

: 9th August 2024

Venue

: APEC HAUS, Port Moresby

Time

: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

I encourage all Agency Heads to take heed of this and seek your support in nominating an officer to attend this important consultation workshop.

For further information and clarity, please contact the Office of the Secretary on telephone numbers 327 6379 or 327 6447 or Office of the Deputy Secretary, Policy on telephone number 327 6478.

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Secretary & Chairperson & REST