



PUBLIC NOTICE

I am aware of threats recently made in Social Media against the lives of IRC staff and I strongly condemn this behaviour.

Any threat, fear or intimation tactics made or issued against the IRC or any of its staff is a threat against the Independent State of Papua New Guinea.

Such threats are not taken lightly and the IRC is working with police and NICTA to investigate and identify those responsible. Threats made against an agency of the State in conducting its legally mandated duties are seditious in nature and is a criminal offence under the laws of Papua New Guinea.

It is also an offence under Section 322 of the Income Tax Act to hinder, by threats or any other means, an officer of the IRC in conducting his/her duties.

IRC staff are performing their lawfully mandated duties to collect all taxes and will continue to do so.

Taxes are a crucial form of revenue for developing the country so essential services such as roads, hospitals, schools can be delivered to our people.

When you undertake a business activity you must know about your taxation obligations and comply accordingly. Most businesses make it their business to know about the impact of taxes on their operations and as prudent businessmen and businesswomen know that paying taxes and filing tax returns is an acceptable and normal ordinary part of operating a business.

All individual income earners, businesses and corporate entities irrespective of whether they are large or small which earn income must pay their share of taxes.

The IRC understands that people have a right to freedom of speech but such rights must be exercised responsibly and not used to threaten lives.

I appeal to the public and business owners to co-operate with our staff who are performing their duties and who also pay taxes just like any other law abiding taxpayer of this country.

AUTHORISED BY

**DR. ALOIS DATON
ACTING COMMISSIONER-GENERAL**