

30th APRIL 2024

Ref: CC- 001: Ja/sl Action Officer: la/Sl Des. Officer: DCC

Mr Kila Gulo Vui Chief Executive Officer NICTA PO Box 8227 BOROKO, 111 National Capital District

My Dear Chief Executive Officer,

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL DIRECTIVE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF NEC DECISION NO. 265/2023: FILTERING OF UNSUITABLE INTERNET CONTENT

I am writing to formally address NEC Decision No. 265/2023, which pertains to the filtration of unsuitable internet content. This directive, dated September 20th 2023, mandates the Office of Censorship to enforce cyber hygiene and filter inappropriate internet content by maintaining and regularly updating a list of websites and IP addresses containing such content.

This directive is aligned with the objectives outlined in the National Censorship Policy II for the period of 2021-2025, emphasizing the critical focus area of Internet Content Filtering. In view of the rapid evolution of technology, governments worldwide encounter challenges in safeguarding citizens from the negative impacts of these changes. Internet Content Filtering serves as a vital mechanism to ensure that users receive a 'clean feed' from the internet, fostering a conducive and healthy online environment by mitigating unsuitable content.

In accordance with Section 11 of the National ICT Act of 2009, which empowers NICTA to ensure compliance with government policies, I am directing your Office to take all necessary measures within your statutory powers to implement the provisions of NEC Decision No. 265/2023. This includes issuing instructions to all registered Internet Service Providers (ISPs) in the country to block access to the listed IP addresses (provided) from public access within Papua New Guinea and providing a monthly report to the Office of Censorship. The list of IP addresses has been identified to have content classified as 'Refused Classification' under the Censorship guidelines and have been rated accordingly. This will be a beginning of a proactive approach in response to the NEC Decision No. 265/2023. The restriction of access to the listed websites will not be lifted unless a written advice is provided by the Office of Censorship.

Furthermore, I expect your office to ensure strict adherence to the guidelines outlined in the National Censorship Policy II while carrying out these responsibilities. Any actions taken must be consistent with the government's policy objectives and must prioritize the safety and security of our citizens in the online space.

I trust that your office will promptly comply with this directive and immediately implement and contribute effectively to the realization of our shared goals in creating a safer online environment for all.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.



Copy : Hon: Prime Minister

- : Minister for Community Development, Religion and Youth
- : Minister for Information and Communication Technology
- : Chief Secretary PM&NEC
- : Secretary Department for ICT