14th March 2006

The Secretary,
Department of Foreign Affairs & Migration,
P.O.Box422, Waigani,
National Capital District.

Attention: Mr. Gabriel Pepson,

Subject: EMPLOYMENT OF EXPATRIATES

I am writing to you basically to draw your attention relating to employment of non citizens without proper work permits, particularly in the same company that I work for; namely Parker Drilling Company PNG Inc.

This company has been bringing in expatriates into the country to work as welders, warehouseman, Drillers, Assistant Drillers, mechanics, electricians and other disciplines in the Gobe, Moran, and South East Mananda Oilfields and Iagifu Oilfields.

I have on record almost 150 expatriates working for Parker Drilling alone and out of that 72 are actually working on Business Visas. These expatriates are on a fixed crew work schedule doing 4 weeks on site and 4 weeks off on fieldbreak. Most of them have been here working for over almost 2-3 years on Business Visa. Many others that have come in and worked here on similar arrangement in the past have either quit or resigned and if a proper check is done the number could increase to between 300-400 men that have passed through migration officers without raising the slightest suspicion about their real purpose of entering the country.

As a result of this practice PNG citizens have never been trained to take up jobs that can be localized mainly due to the fact that it was not a condition of entry on these type of visa for these expatriates to train PNG nationals capable of taking over such positions unless if there were coming in on work permits.

Sir I have the following which I am able to produce to support my claim as genuine;

- 1. Business Visa photocopies
- 2. Expatriate crew work schedules
- 3 Employment contracts
- 4. Official letter of invitation from the company to your department
- 5. Official receipts from the Finance department
- 6. Timesheets/overtime claims
- 7. List of names of all expatriates currently employed by the company And working here without work permits (list provided by Parker).
- 8.Copies of exchange of emails between me and Parker Drilling management

I wrote to the company raising these concerns on the 03rd of March 2006 and I was threatened with termination of employment if I were to pursue the matter with the state authorities concerned. I have made a stand in the interest of the state (refer to attachment 8a-8d) and my only hope is that relevant government authorities including your department will investigate this matter to establish the facts surrounding the subject.

Sir please also consider that I have a family to feed and clothe and by taking the position which I already have; I have put state interest before my family's wellbeing. My only hope is that these matters be investigated sooner by all concerned the better it is for me as there is maybe a chance of me to keep my job so I can continue to provide for my family.

I am employed as a Travel Coordinator and my job purpose is to do travel arrangements for all expatriate and PNG citizen travel. I am also responsible for processing expatriate new hires before they enter the country to work.

I can be contacted on phone: 2786235 and do not send anything to me by fax or else I will get into trouble.

I look forward to your cooperation.

Thankyou & Best regards.

John Akar.

Cc: Secretary - Labour & Employment office

Cc: Commissioner General – Internal Revenue Commission

Cc: Station Commander – Moro Police Station Cc: Chairman – Public Accounts Committee