



CENTRAL BANK of SOLOMON ISLANDS

P.O. BOX 634, Honiara, Solomon Islands

Press Release: 03/2016

Friday 11th March, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Honiara 11.03.16 – The Central Bank of Solomon Islands (CBSI) wishes to clarify very serious claims and misleading information recently published by the media, regarding the internal operations of CBSI and its overall responsibilities as an autonomous statutory authority.

This is the official response to several articles published by The Island Sun Newspaper (and its reporters) and in particular from senior journalist Mr. Alfred Sasako, for referencing CBSI on several occasions over issues regarding the operations of the Solomon Islands Ports Authority (SIPA).

The front page Island Sun Article on Wednesday 9th March 2016 (issue No. 2233) by Mr. Alfred Sasako titled ***“Money Laundering not Ruled out in SIPA Rice purchases: CBSI”*** is noted henceforth.

CBSI wish to inform the general public that not only is the article above incorrect in its information about CBSI, it is also very misleading in nature, contains unsubstantiated claims and its aim to depict views coming from an officer to represent CBSI, is false .

The following must be rectified:

- **Information about Money Laundering can only be obtained and clarified from the Solomon Islands Financial Intelligence Unit (SIFIU) and not from any other office department or officer at Central Bank.**
- **The only official spokesman for the Central Bank of Solomon Islands is the Governor.**
- **All public correspondence or views of the Central Bank go through a vetting process and cannot be published, broadcast or announced without the approval of the Governor’s office, or on policy matters, from the Central Bank Board of Directors.**

CBSI has a very strict policy on confidentiality as outlined in the CBSI ACT 2012, and can only produce information through its annual reports and quarterly reports for the public.

CBSI categorically denies any provision of information to this reporter (or any other media groups for that matter) and the views as have been reported in the article(s) do not represent CBSI.

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For more information, please contact:

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