



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of the Secretary

SECRETARY'S CIRCULAR INSTRUCTION NO:04 /2021

DATE: 01st MARCH 2021

FILE: CM2-4-2

TO: ALL SCHOOLS PRINCIPALS

ALL PRINCIPALS TEACHER COLLEGES AND TVET INSTITUTIONS

ALL PROVINCIAL EDUCATION ADVISORS

ALL CHURCH EDUCATION SECRETARIES

ALL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION STAFF

SUBJECT: NEC DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HOLIDAYS (2 DAYS ONLY) IN HONOR OF LATE GRAND CHIEF RT. HON. SIR MICHAEL T. SOMARE, GCL, GCMG, CH, CF, SSI, KSG, PC ON MONDAY 1ST MARCH & FRIDAY 12TH MARCH, 2021 AND EVENTS FOR 11TH MARCH 2021.

1. AUTHORITY

This Circular Instruction is issued under Section 28 (a) of the Education Act 1983 (Consolidated to No. 13 of 1995) and is in line with NEC Decision No. 33/2021 of 26th February 2021.

2. PURPOSE

This Circular Instruction is issued to reinforce and add further clarity to the NEC Decisions as a result of the passing of the founding father of this country and the first Prime Minister, Late Grand Chief Rt. Hon. Sir Michael T. Somare GCL, GCMG CH CF SSI KSG PC.

3. APPLICATION

This Circular Instruction applies to all Elementary, Primary, High, Secondary, National High Schools, FODE, Special Education Centres; TVET Institutions and Teacher s'Colleges.

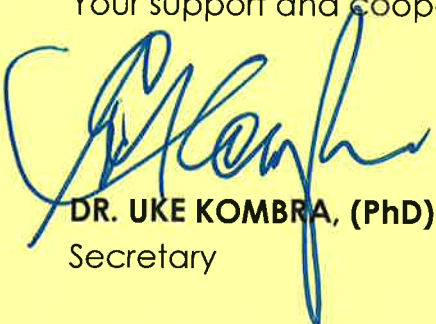
4. CLARIFICATIONS ON NEC DECISIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1. All schools in the national education system and education authorities are to be part of the two weeks of National Mourning – 1st March to 12 March 2021;
- 4.2. During the 2 weeks of mourning, all flags are raised at half-mast;
- 4.3. Public Holidays are on Monday 1st of March 2021 and Friday 12th March, 2021 only. The other days are normal school days, except for 11th March, 2021;
- 4.4. On Thursday 11 March, 2021, schools in the whole country will pay their respects to GC Rt. Hon. Sir Michael T. Somare. Students and teachers will come to school for special events organized by each school; and
- 4.5. On 11th March 2021, amongst other activities, schools are to host tributes in honor of GC Rt. Hon. Sir Michael T. Somare's life and celebrate the life of our nation's hero. At the assembly area of each school, heads of institutions are to set up a table and display a portrait of GC Rt. Hon. Sir Michael T. Somare GCL, GCMG CH CF SSI KSG PC with appropriate decorations and people around the school are to come to lay wreaths and flowers and pay their respects.

5. COMPLIANCE

This is a NEC direction and all our education institutions in the education system are directed to observe and participate during the two weeks of national mourning period and special events.

Your support and cooperation are valued.


DR. UKE KOMBRA, (PhD)
Secretary

