

2010 annual conference participants in Port Vila, Vanuatu

Vanuatu Successfully Hosts 14th Annual Pacific Immigration Directors Conference

Vanuatu Immigration hosted one of the most successful annual conferences in October this year. The 14th Pacific Immigration Directors Conference (PIDC) meeting was convened in Port Vila, Vanuatu on 19th – 20th October 2010. The theme of the conference was “Consolidating PIDC status as a valuable entity”. Forty five delegates from Vanuatu (Chair), Australia, Cook Islands, CNMI, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and representatives from the Oceania Customs Organisation, Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the

International Organization for Migration, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Republic of Maldives Immigration and Emigration Department attended the two day meeting.

Delegates were formally welcomed by Mr Simion Poilapa, the Chief's Representative for Efate Island where the capital Port Vila is located. Opening the Conference, Vanuatu acting Prime Minister and Minister for Internal Affairs Mr Moana Kalosil extended a warm welcome to delegates. He noted the role PIDC continues to play within the membership in strengthening legislation, operations and border

Inside this issue

Vanuatu Successfully Hosts 14th Annual Pacific Immigration Directors Conference	1
Jane Honner joins DIAC's Suva team	2
PNG ICS launches training modules	2
Phase III – Pacific Customs, Immigration and Police Intelligence Officer Programme	3
PIDC Framework for Legislation and Policy	3
Criminal Deportees in Pacific discussed at Brisbane Meet	4
PIDC contributes to PNG anti People Smuggling and Trafficking Bill	4
Work Attachment Secondees to Fiji Immigration Express Appreciation for Valuable Work Experience	5
Former Chair in Japan	5
PIDC Attends UNODC Inter-regional Workshop on Improving Evidence-Based Knowledge on Migrant Smuggling in South-East Asia.	6
PIDC Joins PACRIM	6
Joint PIDC - Bali process people smuggling, human trafficking and irregular migration workshop	7
Pacific Patrol Boat Program About to End	7
Regional DEPA course in Fiji	8
New Zealand Immigration Border Security Engagement Programme in Tonga	8

Calendar of events

1. Border Protection Training in Vanuatu
26th & 27th January 2011
2. First Management Board Meeting for 2011 in Kiribati
18th & 21st February 2011



control systems and he encouraged PIDC to continue to raise awareness on critical immigration issues in addition to capacity building. He encouraged delegates to use the Conference to discuss ways to strengthen Members' ability to better manage their borders.

Members and Observers discussed in open session's immigration issues ranging from immigration policy and legislation development, strengthening of information management and exchange, research and analysis and training and capacity building. Members also had the opportunity to participate in workshop sessions where experiences were shared including exchange of ideas on how to progress immigration work in the region.

The PIDC now looks forward to the next annual conference to be hosted by the Federated State of Micronesia in 2011. It is anticipated that the 2011 conference will see more members participating fully in open and frank discussions and continue to ensure that PIDC is the pre-eminent regional immigration agency in the Pacific region. ■

Jane Honner joins DIAC's Suva team

Jane Honner recently joined DIAC's team in Suva as the Principal Migration Officer, Integrity (PMOI), replacing the outgoing PMOI, Helena Barlow. Since arriving she has been warmly welcomed by many local and regional colleagues and stakeholders. She has also had the opportunity to take over from Helena who did a great job over the past three years. Jane looks forward to advancing projects with members in the coming weeks and months. Jane joined DIAC nine years ago and has worked in various roles and across several locations in that time. Over the years she has worked in the Family Residence, Client Services, General Skilled Migration, Integrity and Student areas of DIAC's South

Australia (SA) state office and in the eVisa and Freedom of Information sections of DIAC's National Office in Canberra. She's also completed a six month stint as an Airline Liaison Officer (ALO) at Changi International Airport in Singapore. Jane is already looking forward to meeting many of you and working closely together with you over the coming three years. ■



(from left) Sam, Helena (DIAC), Mrs Jane Honner and daughter Eloise and Reg Sanday (PIDC Head of Secretariat)

Regional DEPA Course in Fiji

PIDC's annual regional course on Document Examination Principles and Application (DEPA) was held in Nadi, Fiji 22 – 24 September 2010. The course, was held at the Novotel Hotel, Nadi and provided by Australia's Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC). Funding for the course came from DIAC, Immigration New Zealand and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.

The course was first run in Fiji in 2006, in Vanuatu in 2007 & 2008 and in Samoa in 2009. Topics for this year's course included: Forensic decision making, Correct use of document examination equipment; Demonstration of equipment and practical exercises, Identification of equipment and practical exercises, Hands-on examination of documents to detect fraud; and Recording methodology for examination and results. Opening the course, the

Head of the PIDC Secretariat, Mr Reg Sanday reminded participants that it was at training workshops such as this where the Pacific Region's broad aim to guarantee peace and security for all citizens of the region are translated into

practical action. A total of 21 participants from PIDC member states as well as from the PIDC secretariat and a representative of the Law Enforcement Unit of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat participated in the three-day event. ■



Participants at the DEPA course that was recently held in Fiji

Phase III – Pacific Customs, Immigration and Police Intelligence Officer Programme

The first Phase III workshop of the Pacific Customs, Immigration and Police Intelligence Officer Programme was held in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) from 15 to 19 November 2010.

The workshop was attended by the same group of officers from FSM, the Marshall Islands and Palau as attended Phase II although unfortunately one officer was absent due to illness. Shaun, Terry and Cordula once again undertook the long journey from New Zealand to Pohnpei – this time to familiarise participants with the risk management process.

The subject was approached with presentations and scenario based exercises. Once the process was familiar to participants, work was undertaken in country groups on risk assessing flights arriving and departing in participating countries. Connecting flights were taken into consideration, as were flights that are planned to commence in the near future. Participants provided flight schedules in advance, as well as information on passenger numbers and nationalities, which informed the process.

Presentations depicting the results of the work were delivered to the group. The work carried out by this group will be combined with that of the South Pacific group to form a risk assessment of flights for the whole Oceania region.

After a week of listening, thinking, discussion and laughter, the colleagues from the Marshall Islands were seen off late on Friday morning as they would otherwise have had to stay until Monday. The remainder of participants and the facilitators got together for a barbeque at the newly built and not quite finished Oceans restaurant. This was made possible by the good people at Yvonne's Hotel who not only looked after the group very well all week but also organised an outstanding event that included a spit roast pig!

The evening was enjoyed by all, especially by the officer who was surprised to find that the function was also for his birthday. To surprise him even further, his colleagues organised a beautifully iced cake, which all of the facilitators got to taste - after the birthday boy squashed a handful of it in each of their faces! ■



PIDC Framework for Legislation and Policy

The PIDC has produced a new framework for developing immigration legislation and policy. The framework was presented to members at the PIDC annual conference in Vanuatu in October.

The framework has two parts. Part A draws on the experiences of the Cook Islands, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu outlining the challenges they have faced in developing legislation, the ways in which they overcame these challenges and the lessons they have learnt.

Part B sets out the key areas that immigration legislation should cover, the key provisions in those areas and what they do, and provides a commentary on additional considerations.

The framework has been designed to provide a practical starting point for members who are seeking to assess current laws and develop new immigration legislation.

The framework will be available on the new PIDC website alongside examples of members' immigration Acts. The framework is also a living document and will be kept updated with developments and suggestions from members.

The Policy Leader at the PIDC Secretariat is tasked to work with members to develop legislation or policy upon request and can provide more information on both the framework and how it can be used. ■



Phase III Pacific customs, immigration and police intelligence officer training programme participants in the northern Pacific.

Criminal Deportees in Pacific discussed at Brisbane Meet

The 2010 annual Pacific Islands Law Officers Network (PILON) meeting was held in Brisbane, Australia in December. It was hosted by Australia and chaired by the Secretary of the Attorney-General's Department, Mr Roger Wilkins AO, and attended by senior law officers from Pacific Islands countries as well as official and invited observers. The overarching theme of the meeting was Regional Approaches To Combating Crime. The meeting included presentations and panel discussions on improving regional coordination of legal resources, enhancing legal frameworks and building law enforcement and prosecution capacity.



Participants at the 2010 annual Pacific Islands Law Officers Network meeting that was held in Brisbane, Australia.

Presentations on Criminal Deportees in the Region were made by the Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference and the Law Enforcement Unit of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat which has the lead role for this issue amongst Pacific Law Enforcement Agencies. PIDC was invited as an Observer to the meeting. PILON will be establishing a full-time secretariat in Apia, Samoa in 2011. ■

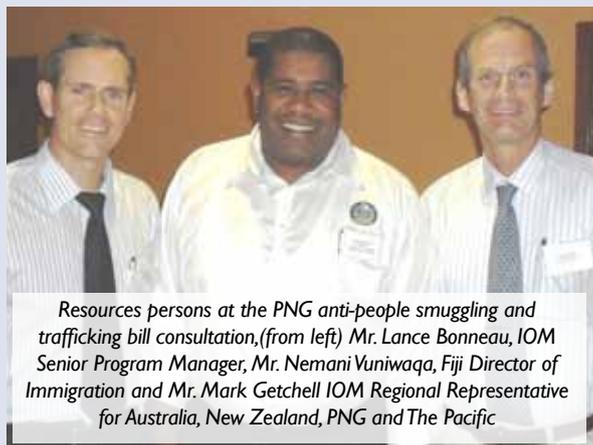
PIDC contributes to PNG anti People Smuggling and Trafficking Bill

Papua New Guinea with its population of six million and its shared border with Asia is a Pacific Island country and PIDC member where people smuggling and human trafficking are of growing concern. In the most recent World Trafficking in Persons Report released from Washington DC, PNG was rated Tier 3 as a country that needs to do more to counter people smuggling and human trafficking. In September 2010 the PNG Department of Justice and Attorney General (DJAG) in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the support of the Papua

New Guinea Immigration and Citizenship Service (PNGICS) hosted a workshop to present a Draft Bill on People Smuggling and Trafficking In Persons and receive constructive feedback and comments from a wide range of government and non-government stakeholders. The Bill is the result of cooperative efforts made by DJAG, IOM and PNGICS, and comments received by the Agencies members of the PNG Anti-Trafficking Committee. Over sixty members of the PNG Government and Non-governmental sector, UN agencies and international guests attended the workshop to hear presentations on people smuggling and trafficking in persons framed in the International, Pacific, and National context, and to discuss the Draft Bill. The workshop was presided over by keynote speaker, Hon. Ano Pala, Minister for Justice & Attorney General, who declared trafficking as "incompatible with the spirit and dignity of a person." Chief Migration Officer, Mr. Joseph Nobetau, also spoke on PNGICS' commitment to actively address people smuggling and trafficking in persons in PNG. Head of PIDC Secretariat, Mr Reg Sanday was among a list of

resource persons who presented on the International and Pacific regional responses to people smuggling and trafficking. Others included, Mr. Lance Bonneau, IOM-Canberra, and Mr. Nemani Vuniwaqa, Fiji Immigration Director. Detailing the complex nature of these offences in PNG, Ms. Raka Raula, of the PNG Constitutional Law Reform Commission, discussed the modern abuse and manipulation of PNG customary practices such as the payment of bride price for the purposes of people smuggling and trafficking in persons. Representatives from Provincial Governments of: Sandaun Province, Mr. Paul Nengai; the Autonomous Bougainville Government, Mr. Patrick Koles; and Western Province, Mr. Willie Kokoba, spoke of the vast challenges faced by border regions in PNG in relation to people smuggling and trafficking in persons. Several challenges resounded throughout all three presentations by Provincial representatives:

- Lack of financial and resource support by the National Government;
- Severely understaffed Border offices;
- Inability due to lack of equipment, manpower and training, to monitor and administer maritime borders and land border with Indonesia; and
- Corrupt law enforcement officials that are not investigated and receive no penalties for their actions. ■



Resource persons at the PNG anti-people smuggling and trafficking bill consultation, (from left) Mr. Lance Bonneau, IOM Senior Program Manager, Mr. Nemani Vuniwaqa, Fiji Director of Immigration and Mr. Mark Getchell IOM Regional Representative for Australia, New Zealand, PNG and The Pacific

Work Attachment Seconddees to Fiji Immigration Express Appreciation for Valuable Work Experience

Fiji's Immigration Department is helping its Pacific neighbors to combat people smuggling and human trafficking in the region by hosting immigration officers from Samoa, Kiribati and Solomon Islands to operational secondment at Nadi International Airport and the Lautoka sea port in December. The secondments were arranged by the secretariat of the Pacific Immigration Directors Conference (PIDC), based in Suva, Fiji. PIDC comprises some 23 member countries and territories from throughout the Pacific Region which has been established in Fiji for the last 14 years. PIDC works to improve the capacity of Pacific Island countries to better manage the movement of people across their borders and ensure security of member countries.

The three secondees worked alongside Fiji Immigration officers at the Nadi International Airport observing work at the busy Nadi airport, at the Denarau Mariner for incoming tourist vessels and the Lautoka Wharf inspecting cargo vessels. Additionally Fiji Immigration also made presentations on the work they were doing on people smuggling and human trafficking and other immigration operational work in Fiji.

The Seconddees expressed their appreciation to Fiji being perfect hosts during their one week programme and recalled how they felt at home the first day they walked into the Nadi International Airport Immigration office. The Fiji Immigration Officers' hospitality, openness and willingness to share their experiences and clarify questions raised reflected the true cooperative values of the PIDC family which they were privileged to be members of.

Lolin Thomas Senior Immigration Officer from Kiribati thanked the Immigration Department of Fiji for hosting the attachment and also extended her gratitude to the PIDC Secretariat for organising this Secondments.

"During my short attachment with Fiji Immigration, I have enjoyed working with the immigration staff observing every aspect of the work being done. I appreciated their assistance throughout my attachment which has led to a successful completion of this training," she said.

"In recent years, the Kiribati Immigration has continually been striving to improve its services. This training will help uplift the quality of its services through the skills and knowledge that I have obtained from the Fiji Immigration Department in this secondment." ■



Mr Poloma Komiti former Chair (from left), the Director General (DG) of the Japan Immigration Bureau (JIB), Ministry of Justice, Masahiro TAUCHI and Mr. Edward Bayron from the US Customs & Border Protection standing in front of the headquarters of the Japan Ministry of Justice, Tokyo, Japan.

Former Chair in Japan

Former Chair, Auseugaefa Poloma Komiti represented PIDC at the 24th Pacific Immigration Control Seminar held in Tokyo, Japan in December 2010.

The two day meeting was attended by Immigration Directors and senior Immigration officials from the Asian Region including Australia. The meeting is organized and hosted on an annual basis by Japan and it discusses immigration-related issues. PIDC was invited as an Observer and at the meeting Mr Komiti was able to extend an invitation to Japan to attend the annual PIDC Conference in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia as an Observer.

Mr Komiti's attendance at the seminar was facilitated by Ed Bayron of the US Border Control Program of the US Embassy, Tokyo. Ed represents the US territories of Guam and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas CNMI at the annual PIC Conference. ■



Mr Edward Brown the Deputy Director for Fiji Immigration welcoming and briefing the seconded officers on the first day of their attachment.

PIDC Attends UNODC Inter-regional Workshop on Improving Evidence-Based Knowledge on Migrant Smuggling in South-East Asia.



Participants at the UNODC workshop that was recently hosted in Bangkok

The PIDC Secretariat was recently invited to present a paper on the PIDCs' Annual Collection Plan and its findings on trends of People Smuggling and Human Trafficking in the Pacific region at a workshop that was organised by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Bangkok in December 2010. Participants at this workshop included representatives from Immigration and Police from Asia, Europe, North America and the Pacific including Australia, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, France, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Maldives, Malaysia, Pakistan, Thailand, UK, USA, Vietnam, Europol, Interpol, UNODC and PIDC.

The objective of the workshop was to improve evidence-based knowledge on migrant smuggling from, through and within South-East Asia. The smuggling of migrants within the region of South East Asia including the Pacific presents a major challenge to states and societies in South-East Asia and other regions around the world. Lately UNODC has identified that evidence-based knowledge on migrants from, through and within South-East

Asia is scattered and incomplete. Improving evidence based knowledge is a challenge but is a crucial pre-requisite to the development of effective policies to address migrant smuggling in a comprehensive way.

The PIDC was recognized as one of the few organizations regionally and internationally that is working towards improving evidence based-knowledge on migrants. The PIDC at this meeting presented its Annual Collection Plan survey which was seen as a model for regional reporting that participants could draw lessons from. This regional survey was noted for its success in the number of respondents participating in it and the important data it continued to produce in creating a better understanding of the issues around People smuggling and human trafficking in the Pacific. The PIDC reaffirmed at this forum its recognition of the surveys success being largely determined by the commitment and support of the PIDC membership. The Secretariat continues to enjoy a strong membership support base with its members since the inception of the annual survey in 2003. ■

PIDC Joins PACRIM

PIDC has been admitted as full member of the PACRIM, the first time a non-state entity has been admitted as a full member. The PACRIM Immigration Intelligence Conference (PACRIM) is an annual meeting of senior managers and analysts in the fields of immigration and border control intelligence collection, collation, analysis and dissemination. Former Chair Poloma Komiti represented PIDC at the 16th PACRIM Immigration Intelligence Conference, hosted by the USA and held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada from 20-24 September 2010. The purpose of the conference was to promote the exchange of strategic and operational immigration intelligence amongst members and to encourage cooperation in international efforts to combat people smuggling.

The Conference was attended by 20 delegates from member countries: Australia, Canada, China, Hong Kong SAR, Republic of Korea, Macau SAR, New Zealand and Singapore; and one organization – PIDC. As host, USA presided over the Conference. Member countries not in attendance were Japan, Malaysia and Mexico.

The 15th PACRIM in Kuala Lumpur last year first noted the possibility of PIDC's admission as a full member but the decision was left for this year's Conference. PACRIM's Charter on membership allows only countries to be members, but PACRIM 16 unanimously voted to admit PIDC as a full member making it the first non-country/organization to be so admitted.

As a result of joining PACRIM PIDC may host the PACRIM 2011 Conference.

In his report, Mr Komiti said the types of issues addressed by PACRIM parallel those of PIDC such as Threats Assessments; Fraudulent Travel Documents (and genuine ones that are fraudulently used - Communications and Awareness Raising; Increased People Smuggling especially in a maritime environment; Mitigation strategies; and an Increased focus on Intelligence and Resourcing for regional engagement, including Capacity Building. ■



Participants at the joint PIDC-Bali Process workshop listen attentively to discussions

JOINT PIDC - BALI PROCESS PEOPLE SMUGGLING, HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION WORKSHOP

The PIDC in conjunction with the Bali Process hosted for the first time a workshop on People Smuggling, Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration in Port Vila on 21 and 22 October 2010. The Workshop was hosted by Vanuatu and facilitated by the PIDC Secretariat. The Workshop was an outcome of the PIDC Management Board meeting in the Cook Islands in February 2010.

The Workshop was attended by 45 delegates, representing the governments of Australia, Cook Islands, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas/Guam, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu

Underlying the objective of the workshop was the need to raise awareness amongst the PIDC membership to establish a common understanding and consistency in addressing issues and processes on people smuggling, human trafficking and irregular migration. This is because protection and settlement issues are matters that individual Pacific States are being required to deal with more frequently.

Participants at the workshop expressed their appreciation on the knowledge they acquired from the workshop. For some, it was an introduction to human trafficking and people smuggling cases while for others, it was an eye opener into the realities and challenges of human trafficking and

people smuggling. Participants realised how vulnerable the Pacific was to the exploitive forces of people smugglers and traffickers. There was a recognition that the Pacific islands needed to become more proactive in these criminal offences and begin taking more concrete steps in addressing people smuggling and human trafficking trade.

All workshop participants recognised that underlying all efforts to address the issues of people smuggling and human trafficking in the region was the need for PIDC Members to begin working together at a regional level on ways to address these criminal offence. In recognising this, the PIDC through its Management Board and the Secretariat have agreed to further pursue options in Regional Consultative Processes, to identify areas of increased cooperation, dialogue and information and intelligence collection and sharing. ■

Pacific Patrol Boat Program About to End

PIDC's Policy Leader, Matt Capper, attended as an Observer at a Joint Pacific Fisheries and Law Enforcement Ministers' meeting, held in Canberra, Australia in July 2010. His participation stemmed from PIDC's membership of Pacific Law Enforcement Agencies of the Pacific Island Forum Regional Security Committee, FRSC. An experts' workshop on maritime security held in conjunction with this meeting was also attended by Matt.

Key points of interest for immigration from the two meetings include:

- Work is underway to develop a subsidiary agreement to the Niue Treaty on Cooperation in Fisheries Surveillance and Law Enforcement. This subsidiary agreement is intended to provide for the exchange of fisheries law enforcement data, the cross-vesting of enforcement powers and the use of fisheries data for other law enforcement activities. This is with the aim of contributing "substantially to combating national and transnational crime and strengthening border protection" (Outcomes 10 and 13).
- Information-sharing nationally and regionally between law enforcement agencies is a key component, with the working group for strengthening information management established by the FRSC taking a lead role. The PIDC Secretariat is part of this working group (Outcome 14).
- The Pacific Patrol Boat Programme is due to reach the end of its supported life by 2018 and options for what will replace this are being explored. It is likely that any new programme will seek to target enforcement issues beyond fisheries, including immigration-related transnational crimes, such as people smuggling and human trafficking. The Pacific Maritime Security Programme, part of Australian Customs will be undertaking consultations in the region over the next 1-2 years as a new strategy is developed (Outcome 20).

For any further information or if you have any queries, please contact Matt. ■



Matthew Capper the PIDC Policy Leader attended the Joint Pacific Fisheries and Law Enforcement Ministers meeting.



PNG ICS launches training modules

Papua New Guinea Immigration and Citizenship Service (PNG ICS) has launched six core competency training modules. The modules cover migration policy and legislation, decision-making, application processing, time management, caseload management and basic record-keeping.

The modules were developed jointly by PNG ICS and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) with funding support and input from the Australian Department for Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC).

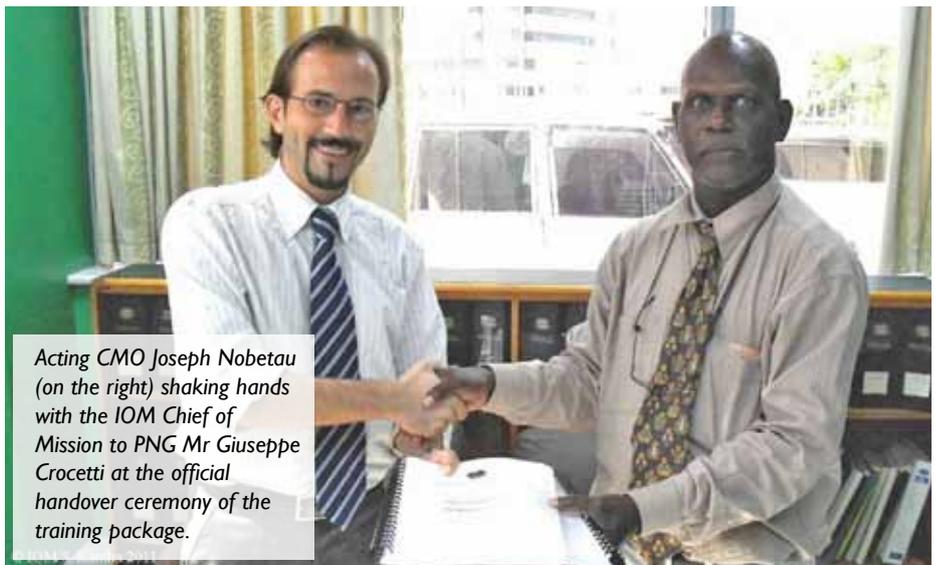
The modules are designed to advance immigration knowledge as well as basic operational skills.

In the spirit of regional cooperation, regional skills development and information sharing PNG ICS is making these materials available to all

PIDC members for their use. While the materials were developed to meet the needs of PNG ICS staff, a number of the modules focus on generic skill sets which also may be of benefit to immigration agency staff across the Pacific.

A participant's guide and

workbook for the modules will be available to members for download from the Members Area of the new PIDC website and can also be provided upon request to the PIDC secretariat. An accompanying trainer's guide is also available from the PIDC secretariat. ■



Acting CMO Joseph Nobetau (on the right) shaking hands with the IOM Chief of Mission to PNG Mr Giuseppe Crocetti at the official handover ceremony of the training package.

New Zealand Immigration Border Security Engagement Programme in Tonga

In September 2010 Shaun Evans and Hannah Malloch from the New Zealand Border Sector Engagements (BSE) Team travelled to Tonga to undertake three key activities to enhance border security for Tonga and its neighbors in the Pacific region, including New Zealand.

Firstly, the Team undertook inter-agency training on document examination and immigration identity frauds. Participants on this course were from Tongan Immigration, Customs, Police and Defence agencies, as well as staff from the Prime Minister's Office. The two day course was held twice due to the high volume of interested participants. The training proved to be very successful, with participants working together across agencies in a collaborative approach. The BSE Team conducted this training in partnership with a representative from the Canada Border Services Agency. The training was reported on

positively in the Matangi Tonga online news paper.

As part of this training to enhance border security in Tonga the team also promoted the CLAG concept to the heads of Tonga's main border agencies, Police, Customs and Immigration. CLAG stands for Combined Law Agency Group. New Zealand and some Pacific Island Countries have been operating the CLAG concept across several government agencies since the 1990s with significant success. CLAG is a regular meeting of border and other agencies to share information and intelligence and to coordinate collaborative investigations into persons of interest to multiple agencies.

The BSE team also took the opportunity to look at ways to further support the Tongan Immigration Division. Following initial support in establishing the Tongan Immigration Management

System (TIMS) the Team are looking at further support in providing remedial and specialist training and upgrading the TIMS. This will be the subject of ongoing discussions with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The trip was a success and New Zealand Immigration look forward to working with the Tongan officials in the future to advance the border security of Tonga, New Zealand and the wider Pacific region. ■



Shaun Evans the Project Manager that led the NZ border security engagement programme in Tonga