

PIDC NEWS

Immigration News for the Pacific Region

Edition 3 & 4: April 2003



PACIFIC
IMMIGRATION
DIRECTORS'
CONFERENCE



PIDC WORKING GROUP MEETING 2003



On 31 March and 1 April 2003 the PIDC Working Group Meeting was held at the Forum Secretariat, in Suva, Fiji. Ten delegates, including PIDC members from Australia, the Cook Islands, the Fiji Islands, Niue, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea and representatives from

the Forum Secretariat, Oceania Customs Organisation Secretariat and the PIDC Secretariat, attended the meeting.

During the two-day meeting participants developed a comprehensive PIDC Integrity Programme Proposal, to put to the Annual Conference in September. The programme includes a PIDC Integrity Self Assessment Guide, and will include a model Code of Conduct. The programme itself focuses on diagnostic tools, training and resource requirements, publicity, establishment of a PIDC Integrity Committee and monitoring and evaluation. OCO have had an integrity programme for some time, and the working group was fortunate to have an OCO delegate present to guide and assist PIDC through the process of setting up our own programme.

Participants at the meeting also addressed strategies to encourage information exchange amongst members and endorsed a reporting form for attempted clandestine travel which will be sent to all members. Shaun Evans, from the Forum Secretariat presented a short overview on the CAPERS system and the draft MOU with UNHCR was completed. The Working Group took the opportunity to discuss security issues for immigration to be raised at the pre-FRSC meeting and immigration issues to be presented at the OCO Annual Conference.

EDITORS NOTE

Due to the move of the PIDC Secretariat, we were unable to publish edition 3 of the PIDC News in January, we apologise for the inconvenience. This issue is a double edition.

Delegates also reviewed the draft model legislative provisions for asylum seekers and refugee determination.

The Working Group Meeting was very constructive and a number of the outcomes from the group will be reported on at the Annual Conference.

PIDC Secretariat

CONTENTS

PIDC WG Meeting.....	1
Annual Conference 02.....	2
Secretariat Report.....	3
OCO Secretariat Report.....	3
PIDC CAPERS Trial.....	3
Towards Refugee Law in the Pacific.....	4
In Country Border Control Training.....	4
Border Training Auckland Airport.....	5
Fiji Immigration Induction Course.....	5
SPCPC Annual Conference.....	6
OCO Annual Conference.....	6
OCO A New Secretariat.....	7
Expert Working Group.....	7
New Appointments.....	8
Regional Events.....	9
Pre- FRSC.....	10
\$10,000 Book Donation.....	10

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PIDC ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2002

The Sixth Pacific Immigration Directors Conference (PIDC) was convened in Niue, from 17-19 September 2002. There were twenty-seven participants at the Conference. Delegates from American Samoa, Australia, Fiji Islands, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Kingdom of Tonga (Tonga), Tuvalu and Vanuatu attended the Conference along with observers from Canadian Immigration, East Timor, New Zealand Police, Niue Customs, Niue Police, Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO), South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference (SPCPC)/Australian Federal Police (AFP) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

The 6th PIDC Annual Conference was officially opened by the Hon. Fisa Pihigia, Minister for Police and Immigration and John Tohovaka, Niue's Chief of Police and Principal Immigration Officer. Both spoke of the issues facing the Pacific Region today. In his address, the Hon. Fisa Pihigia highlighted the special significance that the events of 11 September 2001 held for the region and the work required to ensure a coordinated response to address the issue of terrorism. The Chief of Police mirrored these sentiments in his opening address and emphasised that the security of our region and our people is a paramount responsibility that cannot be taken for granted.

Following the opening ceremony Sisilia Talagi, Secretary of Government, Niue was elected to chair the Conference and Edwin Pittman, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Immigration, Cook Islands was elected Vice-Chair.

During the conference there were a number of presentations by members and observers, as a result, the following issues were considered and discussed during the conference:

- A Strategic Plan for PIDC;
- Asylum seekers and refugees, and related contingency planning;
- Combined Law Agency Groups (CLAGs);
- Communicating with the community and business on migration and entry programs;
- Information exchange and communication tools;
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with UNHCR;
- Migration legislation;
- Organisational integrity;
- People smuggling and illegal activities within the region;
- PIDC operational resources;
- Repatriation of illegal immigrants;
- Secretariat structure and support arrangements;
- The UN Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime (TNOC) and UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1373 on Terrorism; and
- Training.



Delegates to the 6th PIDC Annual Conference, Niue 17-19 September 2002

As a result of discussions during the conference an Advisory Committee was established to progress issues between conferences and to provide direction and guidance to the Secretariat on behalf of the PIDC membership. The committee comprises of Australia, Cook Islands (to be confirmed), Niue, PNG, Tonga and Fiji.

The Advisory Committee (and any Working Group it establishes) has been tasked with progressing the following issues:

- MOU with UNHCR
- Developing an Integrity Program for PIDC
- Developing a contingency planning framework for mass arrivals
- Further develop the legislation framework in the area of asylum seekers and refugees



On the Tuesday night of the conference the Government of Niue hosted a function for the conference participants at Parliament house. Two local dance groups from the Premier's and Minister of Immigration's home villages entertained guests on this evening. On the Wednesday night Australia and New Zealand hosted a dinner at the Matavai resort. A dance group from Niue's high school provided the entertainment for that evening.

September 2003. Delegates expressed their gratitude to the Government of Niue, the Hon. Minister for Police and Immigration, and to the Chair, who had been instrumental in making this a most successful and enjoyable Conference. Delegates also acknowledged the valuable contribution the observers made towards the success of the Conference.



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REPORT FROM THE SECRETARIAT



Bula and Happy New Year from the PIDC Secretariat!

As most of you will be aware, the PIDC Secretariat has now relocated to the Fiji Islands. With the move of the OCO Secretariat to New

Caledonia late last year, the PIDC Secretariat also needed to find a new home. Following discussions with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, it was decided to relocate the PIDC Secretariat to the Forum Secretariat Building in Suva Fiji.

2003 looks like it will again be a busy year for PIDC. At present the Secretariat is working on our Annual Report on People Smuggling in the Pacific Region, which will be required for a number of different Forums this year. We have also been tasked with developing an integrity programme for PIDC and working with the other regional law enforcement agencies on developing a contingency plan for mass arrivals, amongst many other tasks.

Fortunately for us, we were able to welcome Tara Savou to the Secretariat in April 2003 to assist with this work. Tara is on secondment from Fiji Immigration and has taken up the role of Research Officer with the Secretariat.

We look forward to working with you all on these topics and more during 2003.

Sue Bodell – PIDC Secretariat

MARC JANNIER – NEW HEAD OF THE OCO SECRETARIAT

Since the 25th November 2002, the new OCO Secretariat located in Nouméa and hosted by the New Caledonian Customs Service (NCCS) has been headed by Marc Jannier, former deputy director of the NCCS.



Marc is married and has two sons studying in France. He was only in the Pacific region for six months before he was offered the opportunity to head the OCO Secretariat. A challenge that he has embraced with the encouragement of all the OCO members that gathered in Wallis & Futuna for the 2002 Annual Conference.

He started his career 1977 as an Officer in the French Customs Investigation Division in Paris and then in Metz, at the German border. Just before leaving Europe for New Caledonia to take on the position of deputy director of Customs, he led a territorial division at the French-German-Swiss border where he dealt with many immigration issues. Notably at that time, Marc was involved with the enforcement of the "Agreement of Schengen" which created a single visa zone and a free travel space within the European Union (EU).

As the new Head of the OCO Secretariat, Marc feels that the first priority of the Noumea team is to maintain the high level of commitment to the work of the OCO to date. He intends to continue the cooperative efforts of the organisation with its members and also its key partners in the region including the Pacific Immigrations Directors' Conference (PIDC).

OCO Secretariat

PIDC CAPERS TRIAL



In our efforts to improve communications and information exchange amongst our members, PIDC had been exploring the possibility of a secure, real time information exchange system. Our members were very impressed with the CAPERS system currently being used by a number of OCO members. Following preliminary discussions with the CAPERS Steering Committee, the Committee made the very generous offer to PIDC to make the CAPERS system available to PIDC members on a trial basis.

Thank you to all PIDC members who have expressed an interest in signing onto to CAPERS for the trial period. I am very pleased to report that we have now signed on and trained four of our members and the Secretariat, with a number of other members ready and waiting to be signed onto the system. We were recently lucky enough to have Peter Shepherd from New Zealand Customs come out to Fiji for the day after our WGM to train all those participants in the WGM who were interested in signing on to CAPERS. Thank you to Shaun Evans from the Forum Secretariat who brought Peter out to Fiji for the training. We now have Australia, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue and the Secretariat all signed up to the system. Norfolk Island, New Zealand and Tonga are also ready to be signed on to the system as well.

We look forward to being able to share and exchange information in this secure environment with our colleagues in Customs and Immigration around the region, and hope this will assist both agencies in identifying and addressing cross border crime in the Pacific Region. Could all administrations who are interested in signing up to CAPERS please notify the Secretariat as soon as possible and I will be able to send you the appropriate forms that will need to be completed. Please note that you will require an internet connection service and a computer with a modem of at least 56k. If you do not currently have this equipment please notify the Secretariat.

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TOWARDS REFUGEE LAW IN THE PACIFIC

From 14 to 16 October 2002 in Fiji, and from 12 to 14 November 2002 in Papua New Guinea, two informal workshops were organised by the UNHCR Regional Office in Canberra. These workshops were entitled "Towards Refugee Law in the Pacific" and the main facilitators were UNHCR staff from the Regional Office in Canberra and Rodger Haines QC, a barrister from New Zealand. Other facilitators invited were the Australian Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, the Australian Refugee Review Tribunal, the New Zealand Immigration Service, the New Zealand Refugee Status Appeals Authority, the Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture, and the International Organisation for Migration. The International Committee for the Red Cross and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat were also invited as observers.

Attendees at the Fiji workshop included representatives of the Department of Immigration, Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney-General, Office of the Prime Minister, Department of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Police, and the Human Rights Commission.

Attendees at the Papua New Guinea workshop included representatives of the Department of the Prime Minister & NEC, Department of Inter-Government Relations, National Intelligence Organisation, Internal Revenue Commission, Department of Internal Security (Police), Department of Justice & Attorney General, and the Department of Foreign Affairs & Immigration. A representative of the Ombudsman Commission of Papua New Guinea also attended as an observer.

The workshops were based around presentations, case studies and discussion groups, and the items covered included the following:

- UNHCR's mandate and role.
- The 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol.
- Local experiences with refugees and asylum seekers.
- Incorporation of the Refugee Convention into domestic law, adopting national refugee laws and refugee status determination (RSD) procedures in the Pacific context.
- The operation of article 1A(2) of the Refugee Convention.
- Communicating with victims of trauma and torture and beyond cultural barriers.
- The importance of having a contingency plan for mass arrival of asylum seekers, and its basic elements.
- The rights and obligations of refugees and asylum seekers.
- Presentation on, and discussion of, different models of refugee law.
- IOM's mandate and role.
- Presentations on, and discussions of, different experiences of first instance decision and appeal procedures.
- Closing remarks and discussion of next steps.

The overall success of the workshops was ensured by the enthusiasm of both participants and facilitators, and the commitment of all involved to work together towards the desired outcomes for each country.

Christina Fordyce - NZIS

IN- COUNTRY BORDER CONTROL TRAINING



Finally Niue participants Gregory Harding and Patricia Rex-Kulatea whom attended the Border Control Workshop in Suva May-June were able to organise and carry out a two-day session on document examination with their colleagues in Customs, Police and Ana Nelisi of Immigration Niue.

Rather than focusing on just teaching from our notes we requested our colleagues to treat the sessions as open discussion forums. Therefore we got to learn their concerns and experiences as some of these officers have already had the benefits of training as well as attachments with Customs NZ.

Our main focus with the sessions was to introduce our colleagues to security features and examination of passports. We would like to thank NZIS at this stage for enabling us to acquire a couple fraudulent passports for these sessions. We hope in future that we will continue to receive this sort of support from both Australia and NZ.

In order to ascertain the reaction of each colleague taking part we issued questionnaires, which will be attached, with our reports to Shaun Evans at Forum and to those who facilitated us from DIMIA.

We did not however receive the training package from DIMIA as originally stated. But as it had been some months, since the workshop, Gregory and I felt that we would like to go ahead and share these important issues with our colleagues in order to prepare everyone before Air Polynesian and a greater influx of visitors were expected

We do not envisage major problems but in saying that we felt that it would have been better to have been prepared then caught unaware by sharing the information to everyone concerned in their role at the frontline.

There were a lot of positive remarks and interest into the topics shared and the majority felt that we continue to run training sessions as an update of information and requests were also stated if the sessions could be organised again at a later date once the training packages arrived.

Gregory and I have thoroughly enjoyed running the sessions and sharing the information and we do look forward to continuing the process.

We look forward to hearing from other regional neighbours concerning their own experiences with their sessions.

**Patricia Rex-Kulatea
Niue Immigration**

BORDER TRAINING AT AUCKLAND AIRPORT



Mr Tasimoni Telefoni from Tongan Immigration was attached to the New Zealand Immigration Service (NZIS) team at Auckland International Airport for a training assignment from Monday 27 February 2003 to Friday 31 February 2003. During his week of training Tasimoni worked five 12 hour shifts and had the opportunity to train in a number of different activities at the border.



Tasimoni Telefoni (Tongan Immigration) and Kevin Browne (NZIS)

During the week Tasimoni was able to observe and be trained in the operational aspects of the NZ Immigration Act and the workings of the NZIS AMS border processing system. He was exposed to passenger processing in the primary line and the referral processing. By the end of his time with the team, Tasimoni had had plenty of experience with asylum seekers, with eight spontaneous claims during the week.

Tasimoni also had the opportunity to discuss Annex 9 and the ICAO convention at length. During his week he was also involved in facilitating departures for removals and refused passengers, profiling for inadmissible passengers and interviewing and processing passengers refused entry to NZ. Tasimoni was able to see how the Edison electronic passport database works and during the week he was also able to see first hand the special working relationship the NZIS have with NZ Customs and Police at the border.

FIJI IMMIGRATION INDUCTION COURSE



New Director of Immigration – Joseph Browne

The Nasau Training Camp was run by the Fiji Immigration Department for their staff, stakeholders and the new recruits who were vying for a post as Immigration Inspectors in the Department from 6-9 March 2003.

Nasau Youth Camp is run by the Ministry of Youth and Sports and is located on the Sigatoka Valley Road on the Western side of Viti Levu and is about 25 minutes drive from the Sigatoka Town.

The training was coordinated by the new Director of Immigration; Mr. Joseph Browne with course participants of about ninety-eight. It was officially opened by Sue Bodell from the PIDC Secretariat. The theme of the camp was "BREAKING THROUGH OUR LIMITATIONS".



The training programme normally started at 5am in the morning with about an hour of Morning Drill, and to those who are new to this type of training, it is something out of a Military Camp!



Classroom sessions touched on Government Machinery, Effects of Drug Abuse, HIV and Reproductive Health and of course, on Immigration Issues. The highlight of the camp was the Life Evacuation Skills whereby course participants had to build their own bilibili or raft to take their casualties and swim across the Sigatoka river. The other was camping out on Saturday night up on the hill or by the riverside.

The last day of the course was on Sunday, when each group presented a skits or song to reflect the theme of the course which was greatly enjoyed

by all course participants before the return to Suva.



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SOUTH PACIFIC CHEIFS OF POLICE CONFERENCE



Canberra), Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO), INTERPOL, Pacific Islands Law Officers Meeting (PILOM) and Pacific Islands Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC). Sue Bodell represented PIDC at the Conference.

7-11 October 2002

The 31st South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference recently took place in Rarotonga, Cook Islands from 7 – 11 October 2002. The theme of the Conference was "Combating Terrorism, Organised Crime, Sex Crimes".

During the opening of the Conference, Commissioner Asi Tuiataga Blakelock, Samoa transferred the chairmanship of SPCPC to Commissioner Pira Wichman, Commissioner of the Cook Islands.

Delegates from American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga attended the Conference. In addition observers attended from the United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA Canberra), South Pacific Islands Criminal Intelligence Network (SPICIN), United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI

OCEANIA CUSTOMS ORGANISATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE



The Cook Islands Customs Administration hosted the 5th Annual Conference of Customs Heads of the Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO) from 7-11 April 2003. Mr Geoff Stoddart, the Treasurer of Cook Islands Customs, chaired the meeting.

This Conference was attended by twenty of the twenty-three member administrations. There were thirty delegates from Australia, the Cook Islands, the Fiji Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, the Republic of Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Norfolk Island, Republic of Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, the Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Wallis & Futuna.

Two staff from the OCO Secretariat attended the Conference along with 11 representatives of the ten invited observer organisations, being the Australian Federal Police (AFP), the Pacific Islands Forum

Secretariat, the Pacific Immigration Directors Conference (PIDC), the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO), the South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference (SPCPC), the US Customs Service (USCS), the Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the World Customs Organisation (WCO). An observer from Digerati, a commercial entity, also attended to make a presentation.

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OCO: A NEW SECRETARIAT IN NOUMÉA



NEW LOCATION

The OCO Secretariat has been hosted by the Australian Customs Service (ACS) for the past three years at their regional headquarters in Brisbane. The offer by the ACS to host the OCO Secretariat

was only for three years and this term ended in November 2002. During 2001 and 2002, the search was on to find a new "Pacific" location for the OCO Secretariat.

Three very strong bids were received from Fiji, Samoa and New Caledonia. At the OCO Annual Conference 2002 held in Wallis & Futuna last year, the OCO members accepted the bid from the New Caledonian Customs Service on behalf of the New Caledonian government.

The official opening of the new OCO secretariat in Noumea occurred on the 25 November 2002.

NEW STAFF

The new Head of the Secretariat is Mr. Marc Jannier, previous deputy director of the NCCS.

He is assisted by two Research Officers:

Malietau Malietao (Tau), seconded from the Samoa Customs Service, to work at the first permanent OCO Secretariat in Brisbane. Tau brings to Nouméa his experience in OCO matters allowing for a smooth transfer between the old and new locations of the OCO Secretariat.

Joselito Filimoehala, young French Customs Officer, who completed his training in France, joined the OCO Secretariat team early in 2003. Due to his good kiwi English skills and great motivation, Joselito should become in a very short term a solid pillar of the new OCO Secretariat.

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EXPERT WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat has hosted the first and second meetings of the Expert Working Group to Coordinate the Development of a Regional Framework, including model legislative provisions, to address terrorism and transnational organised crime. The meetings were held from 24 to 28 February and 5 to 6 May 2003 in Suva, Fiji Islands.

This Working Group consists of 18 members representing various Pacific countries, regional and international organisations. Working Group members include representatives from the Australian Attorney General's Department, the Attorney General's Office in Kiribati, the Banking Commission in Marshall Islands, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade in New Zealand, the Attorney General's Office in Samoa, the Attorney General's Office in Vanuatu, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, regional law enforcement organisations including the Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO), the Pacific Immigration Directors Conference (PIDC) and the South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference (SPCPC). The working group also includes representatives from the Asia Pacific Group (APG) on Money Laundering Secretariat, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Legal Department and two expert legal drafters from the region.

The Group has been tasked with coordinating the development of a regional framework including model legislative provisions to address terrorism and transnational organised crime. The Group continues to be guided by the need to ensure that the provisions are responsive to the specific needs of the Pacific Islands Forum countries, while taking into account the requirements of relevant United Nations Conventions and Security Council Resolutions.

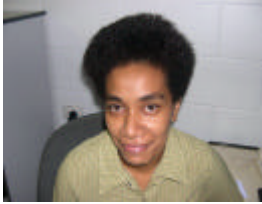
An update on the Groups progress will be made to the FRSC in June, with a final report and the completed provisions being reported to the Forum Leaders in August.



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NEW APPOINTMENTS

NEW RESEARCH OFFICER AT THE PIDC SECRETARIAT



The PIDC News has provided me with an opportunity to introduce myself and bring to your attention the new development at the PIDC Secretariat.

My name is Tara Savou and I have been seconded to the PIDC Secretariat from the Fiji Immigration Department.

I have been in the service for the last 12 years, having spent 7 years at Nadi International Airport doing border control work, clearing inbound and outward passengers and aircraft from foreign countries. I moved on to Suva in 1997 where I worked on different areas within the department, namely the Border Control Section, Work and Student Permit, Passport and lastly the Visa Section.

My being seconded here is a great opportunity for me to learn more about the work done at the Secretariat and also broadens my knowledge on Immigration matters around the Pacific Region. It also gives me an opportunity to learn more about the work of other law enforcement agencies who work closely with the PIDC Secretariat.

NEW DIRECTOR OF FIJI IMMIGRATION

Since late 2002 Mr. Joseph Browne has been the new Director for the Fiji Immigration Department.

Mr. Browne is a career civil servant with a 37 years experience in the public service. He has held many senior positions in the Civil Service, having served as Fiji representative to the UN, Secretary to the Presidents Office and Director of Youth and Sports, before coming over to take his new post with the Immigration Dept.

Apart from being a civil servant, Mr. Browne is also an Army Officer and currently holds the position of Manager for the Fiji Rugby Team.

One of the main tasks that the new Director of Fiji Immigration is undertaking is trying to change the image of the department into a "dynamic image" with trained and motivated staff, for which he has already coordinated and successfully completed a 4 day training camp at the Nasau Youth Camp.



NEW GENERAL MANAGER APPOINTED - NZIS



John Chetwin, Chief Executive, Department of Labour announced on 6 December 2002 the appointment of Andrew Lockhart as General Manager of the New Zealand Immigration Service. Mr Lockhart, 45, replaces Chris Hampton who retired this month.

Mr Lockhart has considerable experience with the New Zealand Immigration Service where he is currently Chief Operating Officer. In this role, Andrew has provided leadership in all operational areas of the New Zealand Immigration Service business. Before that, Mr Lockhart held managerial positions for the New Zealand and Pacific Market and in Border and Investigations, Service Excellence and Appeals. Mr Lockhart has also managed offshore branches in Singapore and Malaysia. He was initially employed in the Department of Labour as an Immigration Officer and with the exception of 2-1/2 years as a Factory Inspector, has been involved with the Immigration Service since 1984.

Mr Chetwin said that the primary role of the new General Manager would be to lead the introductory phases of the Customised Service initiative, which will focus on achieving outcomes. "Mr Lockhart will bring a range of skills and immigration experience to this position that will assist in meeting these challenges. I look forward to working with him in his new role," said Mr Chetwin.

Mr Lockhart will commence the new role on 8 December 2002.

Mr Lockhart said today he welcomed the challenges ahead. "My prime focus will be to continue to build on the excellent platform already laid, and to co-ordinate policy and service contributions in key areas," said Mr Lockhart.

Mr Lockhart has a Diploma of Business Studies from Massey University, plus papers in management. Mr Lockhart lives in Wellington. He was the NZ Immigration Service delegate at PIDC, Norfolk Island, 1999.

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NEW APPOINTMENTS cont.

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING COORDINATOR – FORUM SECRETARIAT



The PIDC has offered me a space in your Quarterly news to introduce my self and bring to your attention a new initiative at the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat.

My name is Mark Whitfeld. I am the newly appointed Law Enforcement Training Coordinator posted to the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat. I have been seconded from the Australian Federal Police to the Forum Secretariat for 2 years. I am a police officer with qualifications and experience in the delivery and development of training. I have previous experience outside the police in the fields of education, agriculture, humanitarian aid and the military. I have previously worked in a number of Pacific Island Countries, the Middle East, Europe and the United States of America. .

My role as the Law Enforcement Training Coordinator is to perform four main functions;

- i) Formulate and implement a regional strategy for transnational law enforcement training
- ii) Develop standardised and accredited transnational law enforcement training for the Pacific Island Forum
- iii) Coordinate law enforcement training relationships between donor agencies and Pacific Island Forum member countries;
- iv) Develop regional capability in the field of law enforcement training.

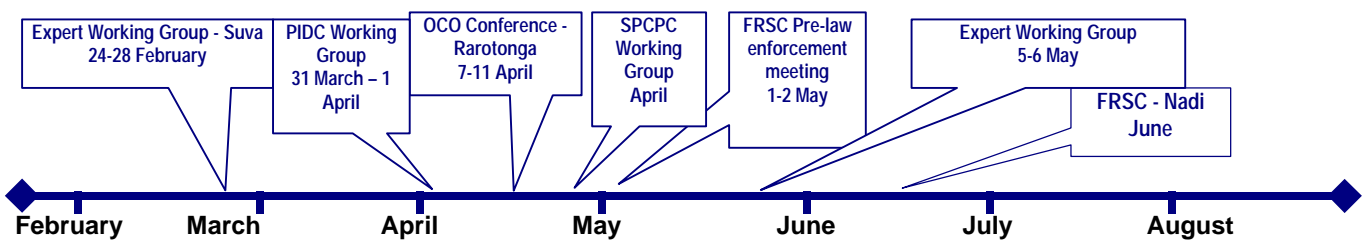
It should be noted that although this task will be aimed at transnational crime, it would also take into account local procedure training and include all departments and agencies within the region that enforce the law, including Customs and Immigration.

We hope that in the future agencies would consider using the Forum Secretariat to seek, develop or coordinate law enforcement training within our region.

Each of the Pacific law enforcement agencies has been invited to nominate a training contact person. These people will be vital in the success of this whole initiative. They will help to connect the Forum Secretariat and your agency on matters of law enforcement training.

We want to assist you to achieve your professional training goals, so please come forward and get involved. The level of your involvement will directly affect the success of this position. I hope that it is high. (Email markw@forumsec.org.fj or contact through PIDC).

REGIONAL EVENTS



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PRE- FORUM REGIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE LAW ENFORCEMENT MEETING



Representatives from the Forum Secretariat, Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO), Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC) and South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference (SPCPC) recently met at the Tanoa International Hotel in Nadi, Fiji from 1-2 May 2003 for the Pre-FRSC Meeting.

This meeting is an opportunity for regional law enforcement agencies to meet and discuss security issues of concern to them in the Pacific Region. From the meeting a number of joint papers on a wide range of issues were drafted for the FRSC meeting, which will take place in June 2003. The papers covered a variety of issues including implementation of the Nasonini Declaration, identity fraud, impact of West African fraud on the Region, people smuggling and trafficking in humans, the illegal trade in endangered species, small arms control, electronic crime and illicit drug issues for the Region.

\$10,000 BOOK DONATION

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat recently received nearly AU\$10,000 worth of new books donated by the Australian Federal Police (AFP) through its Law Enforcement Cooperation program (LECP).

The books provide resource material for law enforcement officials in the region for professional development in law enforcement, management and training. Although law enforcement officials are the primary target group, the books are also available to the general public.

The Forum Secretariat Library offers inter-library loans which allows a book in the Secretariat collection to be ordered through another library in the network. The books are returned the same way. The University of the South Pacific, which operates a number of extension centres in the region, is among those on the inter-library network.

PIDC News is produced by the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference Secretariat.

The next edition of PIDC News is due for publication in July 2003.

Comments and articles (preferably with pictures) for inclusion should be sent by the end of March 2003 to the PIDC Secretariat at:

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A review is planned in six months to assess the value of the book donation and the system put in place to access the material.

Forum Secretariat, Suva



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