

PIDC NEWS



PACIFIC
IMMIGRATION
DIRECTORS'
CONFERENCE

PIDC Review Workshop in Brisbane



The PIDC Review participants. Back row left to right: Ulamanaia Sialoa (Samoa), Joseph Giramur (Palau), Matthew Gibbs (PIDC), Tui Koroiveibau (Fiji), Andrew McIntyre (Facilitator). Front row: Rosemary Greaves (Australia), Mataio Rabura (PNG), Lorraine Tomlinson (New Zealand), Peter Watters (Australia).

Following on from the January Review Workshop in Nadi, participants from the PIDC Advisory Committee including: Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Palau, PNG, Samoa and Tonga, met in Brisbane during March to finalise the development of the PIDC strategic plan.

The Workshop was again facilitated by Andrew McIntyre from MPC Group International in order to continue and build on the momentum generated from the Nadi Workshop. The focus of the Brisbane Workshop was to be the development of the strategic plan towards completion. During the two days of the Workshop, participants worked on refining and adding detail to the basic framework formulated in Nadi. Also included in the discussions were issues of membership, organisational structure and meeting protocols. The meeting closed on Friday the 18th; participants agreed that the Workshop had covered significant ground and the PIDC was that much closer to a new strategic plan and direction.

The Secretariat, along with MPC Group, was tasked by the participants to complete a draft of the Strategic plan and work plan to be referred back to

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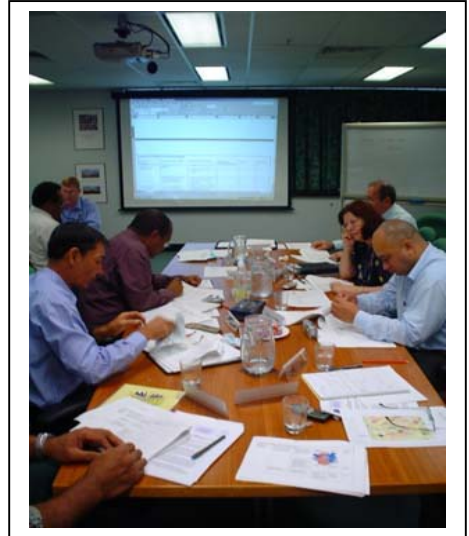
PIDC Review Workshop (continued)



Working on the future of the PIDC

the Advisory Committee for comment. Participants expressed their thanks to Australia and New Zealand for their financial support and appreciation to the staff of DIMIA's Brisbane office for their efforts in organising the meeting. Workshop participants also wished to express their thanks to Andrew McIntyre (Facilitator) for guiding discussions. Further updates on the continuing progress of the strategic plan will be made in the coming

weeks and months. It is expected that a final draft of the PIDC Strategic Plan and work plan will be circulated to the membership toward the end of June this year – *PIDC Secretariat*.



Immigration at the heart of the Pacific Plan



Core Group Leaders (left to right) Papua New Guinea Prime Minister, Sir Michael Somare, Samoa Prime Minister (Forum Chair), Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi; New Zealand Prime Minister, Helen Clark; Forum Secretary General, Greg Urwin; and President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Kessai Note.

In 2004 the Forum leaders called for the development of a Pacific Plan in order to create stronger and deeper links among Forum Island Countries; and to identify where the region can gain the most from sharing resources of governance and aligning policies.

An extensive round of national consultations is currently underway, part of the road map set out by Leaders at their meeting in Apia last year. In his address to Pacific Island NGOs held in Nadi, Fiji in April, Greg Urwin said "We are seeking to ensure that these consultations provide a real opportunity for the citizens of the region to contribute. We want this to be an ongoing process, almost an outcome of the Plan process itself".

Strengthening regional cooperation and integration is a growing trend. It has brought nearly every nation into some form of 'regionalism' alliance – just as the PIDC has done for immigration agencies in the Pacific.

With such cooperation, there are the intangibles and the invisibles. One of the visible manifestations of strengthened regional cooperation in the Pacific, which is reflected in the draft Working Pacific Plan, has to do with immigration issues. The Plan proposes actions in four key areas: Economic growth; Sustainable development; Good governance; and Security.

In discussing the balance between border security and facilitating the controlled movement of people, Greg Urwin said: "We agree to say that the security of the border and the facilitation of travel and transportation are crucial and requires careful balance. During the national consultations that have been held, this point has been raised. There seems to be general agreement that, while we want to make sure that the Pacific is not seen to be a weak-link in the global action against transnational crimes, it is also custodian of the large part of the world's oceans used for trade and travel; tourism is an economic growth area in many of the Pacific Island States. Permitting people to enter countries with a relative ease is of course a pivotal expression of a

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borderless Pacific; however, it is also the most politically challenging undertaking as it has complex practical implications. These, it seems to us, are not, however, unfathomable.”

The Pacific Plan envisions specific “early practical benefits” to be implemented both for their own sake and as a means of maintaining momentum of the Plan. Early practical benefits will show that countries can gain more from regional cooperation and integration. Some are policies and programs that are already underway but need to be re-invigorated, and others are new.

When asked how the PIDC might better contribute to the realisation of the Pacific Plan’s “early wins”, Greg Urwin said: “From my experience, immigration issues such as visas, asylum seekers, immigration crime, identity fraud, and border security are central to two of the Pacific Plan’s goals on good governance and security. Given the PIDC’s extensive work in these areas, it is well placed to give valuable policy input. PIDC’s strategies would give practical realisation to strengthen regional cooperation and integration. Especially implementation, by sharing knowledge, aligning policies, and developing common procedures amongst Forum members.”



Greg Urwin, Secretary General for the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat (right).

In a final comment, Greg Urwin said: “The Pacific Plan is not a one-shot exercise. It is meant to be a living document. It needs to develop and the leaders share this view, hence the proposals which will go to them will include ideas about how this might be achieved. One other area that the PIDC ought to take into account is the views being expressed at the national consultations on the issue of labour mobility and the longer term issue of trade in services in the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA)”.

In aligning the PIDC more closely with the Forum Secretariat and the objectives of the Pacific Plan, the PIDC aims to be the pre-eminent organisation on migration issues in the region. In doing so, the PIDC will be better placed to advocate the interests of member immigration agencies in both regional and international forums.

- Adam Vai Delaney – International Issues Advisor, PIF Secretariat; Matthew Gibbs – PIDC Secretariat.

Bali Process Workshop on Enabling Electronic Exchange of Lost and Stolen Travel Document Information



(left to right) Police Lieutenant General Amarin Niemskul, Arron Baker and Police Major General Krerkphong Pukprayura

The Bali Process Workshop on Enabling Electronic Exchange of Lost and Stolen Travel Document Information was convened in Bangkok on 20-22 April 2005. The Workshop was hosted by the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand with the Government of New Zealand providing technical content and resources.

The Workshop was attended by 93 delegates representing the Countries/Economies of Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, China – Hong Kong SAR, Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Myanmar, Nauru, New Caledonia (France), New Zealand, Pakistan, Palau, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri

Lanka, Syria, Thailand, Tonga, Vanuatu, Vietnam and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Representatives of the Bangkok Immigration Control Experts (ICE) team, Belgium, Canada, Cook Islands, Foreign Anti-Narcotics Community (FANC) Thailand, Interpol, Niue, Pacific Island Forum Secretariat, Pacific Immigration Directors’ Conference (PIDC) and Tuvalu also participated in the workshop as observers.

On day one delegates received a number of presentations including a combined Pacific Initiatives presentation from the PIDC, Samoa, Fiji and the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat. This session was an opportunity for both

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Bali Process Workshop on Enabling Electronic Exchange of Lost and Stolen Travel Document Information (Continued)



(left to right) Bali Process Co-Chairs left to right: Arron Baker (NZ), Police Major General Police Major General Krerkphong Pukprayura (Thailand), and Lance Bonneau (IOM)

the PIDC Secretariat and members to provide an insight into the work in the Pacific Islands in terms of border management and on going initiatives within the region. Of particular interest to the Workshop is the initiation of a feasibility study into the development of an electronic regional movement alert list. Loosely termed the “Pacific Security Alert System”, PSAS is intended to provide PIDC members with a means to collect, compile and analyse information pertaining to irregular/illegal migration in the region. The system could also be easily adapted to collect information on lost and stolen passports from within the region – which was particularly relevant to the substantive discussions of the Workshop.

The Pacific Initiatives session was warmly received by participants at the Workshop. PIDC members present at the Workshop expressed positive sentiments about how the PIDC was perceived at the conference and the work being undertaken by the organisation. The Workshop has proven to be an excellent means of informing other immigration agencies in the wider Asia Pacific region of the ongoing and successful work of the PIDC.

On day two of the Workshop participants divided into smaller groups to discuss: Barriers and issues for Countries/Economies on developing frameworks to support the effective electronic exchange of information on lost, stolen, invalid and non-genuine travel documents; and Action objectives for Countries/Economies to progress work towards improved regional electronic exchange of lost and stolen passport information consistent with developments with other fora.

On the final day, the Workshop recommended a number of actions to under the wider headings of: National Coordination; IT Systems and Security; International Agreements and Arrangements; and operational Arrangements. It was felt that such actions would support, facilitate and progress the development of effective regional arrangements for secure electronic sharing and accessing of information on lost, stolen and non-genuine travel documents, and complement relevant work being done in other for a – *Bali Process*

Pre-Forum Regional Security Committee Meeting in Suva



Dr. Lesi Korovavala, CEO Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration Fiji and Di Miller from DIMIA in Suva (right).

The Pre-FRSC Law Enforcement meeting was held at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat in Suva, Fiji from 13-14 April 2005. Participants from the Specialised Law Enforcement Agencies from the region, the Forum Secretariat, and liaison officers from the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and NZ Police attended as observers.

During the two days, participants discussed trends in transnational and national organised crime in the region and possible responses to combat these crimes; the development and implementation of the Advance Passenger Information System (API) in the region; the half day Counter Terrorism Working Group to be held before FRSC and the two day

Counter Terrorism Planning exercise to be held following the FRSC; the Pacific Islands Regional Security Technical Cooperation Strategy, including discussion on anti-money laundering activities;

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Pre-FRSC Meeting in Suva (Continued)



(left to right) Cam Ronald SPCPC, Sinilau Kolokihakufisi Commissioner of Police for Tonga and Chris Barnes SPCPC

the status of the Pacific Regional Identity Protection Project; the Pacific Region Border Management issues paper including an in-depth discussion on the background and purpose; and procedural issues for future Pre-FRSC Law Enforcement meetings. The Pacific Region Border Management issues paper involved some debate on the scope and activities at border control. This paper originated from the SPCPC Secretariat late last year. The basis of the paper is drawn from common themes of the strategic plans for the SPCPC, OCO, PIDC and the Forum Secretariat. It was felt that a common thread linking the work of all the Secretariats was the emphasis of the borders within the Pacific and across the region in general. Based on this, it was felt that there would be potential

benefits in devising an overall plan for border management in the region. The paper proposes the establishment of an Informal Working Group on Border Management Issues (IWGBMI) be established with the purpose of: serving as an “issues and awareness group” to identify, discuss and advance proposals for improvement or change in a collaborative manner undertaking a stock take of the issues and risks impacting on the management of the borders identifying areas of existing best practice and programs which might be further advanced or applied as standards

Key issues identified during the meeting included: the need for the enactment and implementation of model legislation to allow for a strong basis for capacity building and development; identity fraud and document fraud particularly the provision of false or altered documentation in order to obtain citizenship and passports; people smuggling and human trafficking; movement of illegal migrants on board vessels; facilitation and security of trade; implementation of the regional trade facilitation programme; harmonisation of customs standards across the region; enhancing interagency cooperation and intelligence sharing; intelligence led law enforcement; and community policing development.

The provision of training for border management in the region was a particular focus of the meeting and it was agreed that any training should include the following activities where possible: Profiling; Identifying indicators – such as ticketing, clothing, and travel itineraries, etc; Investigative interviewing techniques – in order to assist in the identification of travellers that have received coaching on border control processes and requirements; Note taking; Searching; Exhibit handling; Document examination; Border clearances for vessels; drug dog training programme; Drug awareness including educational programmes for both law enforcement agencies and the community (including schools) – beginning with ATS awareness programmes; and intellectual property rights and copyright issues.

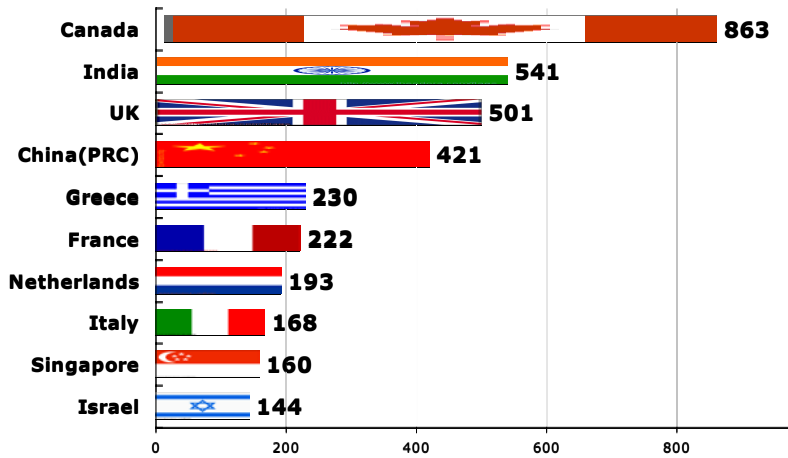
It is proposed that the IWGBMI advances a paper to the FRSC through the processes of the Pre-FRSC to seek FRSC endorsement that border management is a major regional issue that requires a coordinated whole-of-region approach from all Pacific border management agencies.

Also to seek approval that the IWGBMI be established as a specialist Border Management Working Group on Issues to exchange information between participating organisations, identify common objectives and progress agreed objectives to addresses priority regional border management issues – *PIDC Secretariat*



Canada provides border management training in Fiji

Top Ten Passports Used by Undocumented Passengers to Canada 2004 (fig.1)



The Immigration Counsellor at the Canadian High Commission in Canberra, Marlene Massey, is responsible for liaison, interdiction and training on behalf of the Canada Border Services Agency and Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Her territory is vast, covering Australia, New Zealand and those Pacific Island nations south of the equator.

She recently visited Fiji to conduct training on documents for Fiji Immigration, Air Terminal Service staff (responsible for international check-ins) and airline staff. The training program was the first general training program conducted by Canada in the region in several years.

Ms. Massey conducted three half-day training sessions in Nadi on April 4th and 5th. Thanks to the organizational skills of the Canadian Honorary Consul in Nadi, Jana Vyas, and the support of Fiji Immigration, especially Mohammed Khalil, attendance at all sessions was very good. Air Pacific's training manager, Lavinia Kaumaitotoya, generously made the airline's training centre available for all the classes.

The training was in two parts: an introduction to the basic features of security documents, using Fijian currency to illustrate many of the points, followed by an in-depth examination of Canadian documents, including visas, the new Permanent Resident card and Canadian passports. Particular attention was given to the older style Canadian passport, which has been particularly vulnerable to photo-substitution (Figure one inserted above illustrates the problem).

Over the course of the three sessions in Nadi, Ms. Massey trained a total of 23 staff from Air Terminal Services and 23 from Fiji Immigration, as well as three local IATA travel agents. The level of knowledge amongst participants was quite varied, ranging from very new ATS and Immigration staff that were getting their first training on documents, to much more experienced staff with a good grasp of the fundamentals. Even with the latter, however, interest and enthusiasm seemed quite high and participation was energetic.

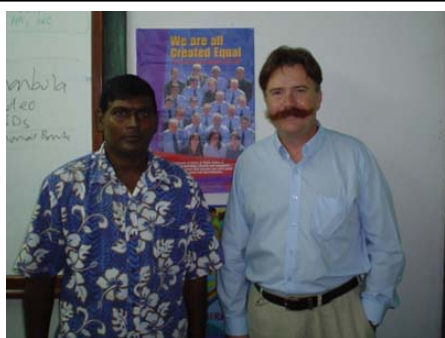
Ms. Massey also conducted one half-day training session in Suva, at the Tanoa Plaza Hotel, on April 6th. This session was organized with the assistance of MsVyas and Tui Koroiveibau, Manager, Compliance and Investigation for Fiji Immigration. Although those attending the class in Suva generally have less exposure to documents than those in Nadi, their interest and enthusiasm was again high.

The Canadian High Commission hopes to be able to conduct similar training over the next year for other members of the PIDC, ideally in conjunction with training from other immigration agencies such as DIMIA and NZIS. The High Commission is always ready to assist PIDC members – *Marlene Massey*

Top Ten Transit Points for Inadpax to Canada (fig.2)

	2003		2004
1- Bangkok	320	1- Kuala Lumpur	267
2- Hong Kong	206	2- Bangkok	257
3- Kuala Lumpur	204	3- Singapore	208
4- Paris	202	4- Paris	202
5- Dubai	182	5- Hong Kong	190
6- Singapore	156	6- Dubai	142
7- Amsterdam	121	7- Istanbul	115
8- Madrid	103	8- Amsterdam	106
9- Istanbul	99	9- Johannesburg	101
10- Brussels	96	10- Rome	94

The Pacific Police Program



(left to right) Inspector Pariniappa Goundar and Mark Wall Coordinator of the Pacific Policing Program.

On the 7th of February, hundreds of new students commenced their distance education studies with the University of South Pacific. Among these, for the first time, were a significant number of serving police officers drawn from almost every jurisdiction in the Pacific – from Palau to the Cook Is. Previously, police officers in their ones and twos had studied at the University for the Certificate in Law or Management. In the first semester of 2005, 150 police professionals, ranging in rank from superintendent to constable, were enrolled.

Attracting 150 Pacific police practitioners to higher education would have been a coup in itself; what makes this event more exciting though, is the realisation that these students are embarking on a liberal arts education – sociology, psychology, law, management, history and politics – while majoring in Pacific policing. The new Bachelor of Arts in

Pacific Policing is the result of work by staff of the Pacific Regional Policing Initiative, the University of the South Pacific and of the 14 police jurisdictions cooperating, under the auspices of the Australian, New Zealand and Fiji governments, for a 'safer more secure Pacific'.

The BA in Pacific Policing is regionally developed, articulated degree program. Students can choose to exit the program with a certificate or diploma qualification or remain to complete the full degree. Of the current enrolment, 100 students occupy Pacific Regional Policing Initiative fees assisted places. The remainder are self-funded or sponsored by parent or other agencies.

The certificate, diploma or degree programs are primarily designed and developed for police officers that currently occupy or seek to move into management and leadership positions. They do have a wider application though and already two non-police students are enrolled. Police are an integral part of a civil society and foundational to a vibrant economy. Like all public enterprises, police can be improved. They can be more professional, fairer and more responsive to the community they serve. Our current arrangements, be they in health, education or policing, do not exhaust our potential; they just mark where we have got to so far. Improving the police requires a more educated police but it also requires the involvement of educators, researchers, policy analysts, politicians and an informed public.

The BA in Pacific Policing is open to all candidates who are eligible for enrolment at the University of the South Pacific, and it is well on its way to becoming a mainstream program. Like all good liberal arts programs, it takes a critical, questioning and developmental approach to its subject matter. As such it makes a direct contribution to the safety and security of the Pacific. - *Mark Weston Wall, Coordinator Pacific Police Program.*

From the desk of the Secretariat



Bula and Namaste. The review of the PIDC is almost complete and has been a most enlightening experience. From a resolution at the 2004 Palau Conference to a working draft of the new strategic plan, the process has involved 2 workshops, in both Fiji and Australia, and the very active participation of the Review Committee members. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those involved with this process and for making the review as successful as it has been so far.

The PIDC Annual Conference is again on the horizon – scheduled for September 7-9 in Fiji. The Secretariat and Fiji Immigration will be sending out invitations

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From the desk of the Secretariat (continued)

and registration forms as well as general information about the chosen venue and hotel accommodation. The Forum Regional Security Committee Meeting (FRSC) will be in New Zealand during June this year. The meeting is to be held in conjunction with a New Zealand sponsored Planning Session for the Pacific Forum Counter-Terrorism Contingency Planning Exercise. The main objectives for the Planning Session will be to discuss suggested objectives for a later Tabletop Exercise; discuss regional counter terrorism contingency planning priorities; discuss processes and participation for the Tabletop exercise later in the year.

So, the remainder of the year promises to be a busy one – I would like to take this opportunity to also remind members about the feasibility study currently being undertaken by SIMPL and New Zealand immigration into the development of a Pacific Security Alert System. If you are contacted, I would ask for your cooperation in providing the necessary information at the earliest possible opportunity

Finally, we have begun working on how the PIDC can be more engaged in the development of the Pacific Plan. We are working closely with the Forum Secretariat and monitoring the National Consultations throughout the Pacific. Your views and opinions would be most welcome on any of the topics covered within this newsletter and will be considered for publication in the next Quarterly Newsletter – *PIDC Secretariat*

Pacific Regional Terrorism, Transnational Crime & Border Security Seminar



The British High Commission, Suva and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat jointly sponsored the Pacific Regional Terrorism, Transnational Crime & Border Security Seminar. This two day seminar was aimed at raising awareness amongst operational law enforcement officials and provided information and updates on counter terrorism, transnational crime trends and issues, and border security matters.

The British High Commission Suva facilitated the participation of four senior members of the UK law enforcement community plus members of the Australian Federal Police and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat addressed an audience of both local and regional law enforcement officials.

During the two day seminars in Suva and Nadi, Shaun Evans, Law Enforcement Adviser at the Forum Secretariat gave an overview of “Organised Crime in the Pacific”. Stuart Crookshank presented on “Risk Based Approach to Targeted Smuggling” and also how the UK is combining Immigration, Customs and Police into a united border management service. Det. Denis Pygall gave presentations on “Intelligence Led Law Enforcement” and “Don’t Think of Today, Think of Tomorrow”, a demonstration of UK police procedures. Nick O’ Brien presented on “Suicide Terrorism” and also gave an overview of the UK’s C/T structure and the workings of the Real IRA. Andy Gray covered Illegal Immigration and travel document forgery.

The Suva seminar was open to participants from Fijian law enforcement agencies: the Fiji Police Force, Immigration Department, Fiji Customs, and the DPP’s office. The Nadi seminar was attended by both local and regional participants from Fiji, Tonga, PNG, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Samoa and the Solomon Islands. Over 100 law enforcement officials attended the Suva Seminars and 80 (including the islanders) attended the Nadi seminars – *Forum Secretariat*