



2014

Annual Report

Pacific Immigration

Directors Conference





PIDC Members comprise 18 Pacific Island states and territories in the region:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Australia | Niue |
| Cook Islands | Norfolk Island |
| Federated States of Micronesia | Palau |
| Fiji | Papua New Guinea |
| Kiribati | Samoa |
| Marshall Islands | Solomon Islands |
| Nauru | Tuvalu |
| New Caledonia | Vanuatu |
| New Zealand | Wallis and Futuna |

2014

Annual Report Pacific Immigration Directors Conference

*Facilitating capacity development and effective regional cooperation
in managing and securing the Pacific gateways*

The Pacific Immigration Directors Conference (PIDC) is a forum for official immigration agencies from across the Pacific region. The PIDC enables Heads of Immigration agencies to discuss issues of mutual interest and to foster multilateral co-operation and mutual assistance aimed at strengthening Members territorial borders and the integrity of their entry systems.

PIDCs' approach and work in the region are underpinned by its core values of commitment, openness, family and teamwork, trust and respect, integrity, innovation and flexibility, good governance, rule of law and leadership. Members will at all times uphold these values and inspire those they serve.

The Secretariats work programme is delivered and monitored through four key activity areas including:

- Policy and Legislative Reform;
- Data Collection, Research, Analysis and Information Exchange;
- Advocacy, Liaison and Representation;
- Building and sharing Knowledge and Expertise.

Contents

Facilitating capacity development and effective regional cooperation in managing and securing the Pacific gateways

Chairs Foreword

Acting Head of Secretariat's Year in Review

Vision and Mission

Organisation Structure

- Management Board
- Secretariat

Key Achievements

- Key Activity Area 1: Policy and Legislative Reform
- Key Activity Area 2: Data Collection, Research, Analysis and Information Exchange
- Key Activity Area 3: Advocacy, Liaison and Representation
- Key Activity Area 4: Building and sharing Knowledge and Expertise

PIDC Annual Meetings:

- 2014 Annual Conference
- Management Board Meetings

Finance

General Administration

Acronyms

Chairs Foreword



It gives me great pleasure to present the *2014 Annual Report of the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference*.

This is the fourth Annual Report the organisation has produced and reflects its commitment under its Constitution to be open, accountable and responsive to its members.

In April 2014, Papua New Guinea was honoured to assume the role of PIDC Chair and host the Annual Conference in Kokopo, East New Britain, officially opened by the PNG Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration, the Hon Rimbink Pato OBE, LLB, MP.

The Conference was an historic one with a majority of member states able to sign a Joint Memorandum of Understanding establishing our organisation as a legal entity. Since that time, and very pleasingly, almost all remaining member states have secured the authority to sign the MOU.

While the final step of securing a Headquarters Agreement in Fiji has proven challenging, at the time of writing a way forward appears to have been identified. With the MOU and Constitution ratified together with important governance framework documents - Staff Regulations, Financial Regulations and Rules of Procedure – the Management Board and Secretariat have devoted considerable time and effort in 2014 to planning and preparing for the transition to a more independent organisational operation and to drafting a new Strategic Plan to take the new organisation forward. The draft Strategic Plan will be presented to members at the next Annual Conference and I am confident it will receive strong support as a key document guiding the organisation's work and support to your immigration agencies over the coming years.

Notwithstanding this necessarily inwardly focussed work, the Secretariat with Management Board direction and oversight has also continued to deliver beneficial support, services and information to member states. In December 2014 the Secretariat completed the PIDC *People Smuggling, Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration Report* and continued to send out its monthly Immigration Intelligence Bulletins. It organised and facilitated training, and represented members at important regional conferences and workshops. In 2014 Training Programmes included the Joint Border Protection Training Programme coordinated out of the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat, Annual Document Examination Principles and

Examinations (DEPA) Training, the 2014 PIDC Operational Secondment Programme, the Pacific Regional Immigration Identity Programme (PRIIP) and the proposed UNODC VRS-MRSC workshop.

Finally, I would like to thank the Board and the Secretariat for their commitment to the organisation, their strong support provided to me as Chair over the past year, and to Australia and New Zealand, our two key donor countries, for their continued financial support for the organisation.

**Mataio Rabura, ISO
Chair**



Head of Secretariat's Overview



This year's report focuses on how the organisation has delivered its core services to the wider membership. The report aims to inform members but most importantly stimulate discussions about what we are doing and identifying areas we can strengthen.

2014 has been significant for PIDC in two respects; the signing of the PIDC Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and the success of the Annual Conference that was hosted by the Papua New Guinea Immigration Citizenship Services Authority (PNGICSA).

The historical signing of the PIDC MoU by 18 member countries marked the birth of PIDC under its new legal form. Achieving this historical feat has been sweet knowing how long it has taken the organisation to reach this stage of its growth. When our leaders agreed to the formation of a regional forum bringing together leaders of immigration agencies in the Pacific in 1996 the immigration landscape and the mobility of people in the region was restricted and challenged by the scattered nature of the island states and territories. However, the wisdom of our former leaders strategically saw through the challenges that lay ahead and as we begin to witness the impacts of globalisation from an immigration viewpoint, this scattered characteristic continues to become smaller. The endorsement of the MoU by 18 members in this sense sets the platform to strengthening our combined ability to address the changing immigration landscape of the Pacific region.

2014 has been a challenging year for the organisation and one of the foremost priorities for the organisation has been the finalisation of the organisations legal entity status. The region wide consultation on governance issues supporting the legal process was achieved through the support of members. What emerged from the Pacific wide consultation process was members' shared vision to see PIDC grow to become the preeminent immigration body in the Pacific. There is still work to be done and central to this is the establishment of a Headquarters Arrangement with the host country. We continue to pursue finalisation to this process and acknowledge the patience of members as we complete the final phase of this structural change journey we have embarked upon.

For the first time since 1996, we hosted our first annual meeting very early into the year in PNG from April 29 to 1st May 2014. This marked the beginning of a new Conference meeting schedule for the organisation. Since 1996, our Annual conference dates have always been hosted between the months of September – December. The early scheduling of the Conference not only aligns the organisation to its new reporting timeline under PIDCs' Constitution and

Financial Regulations but provides an early opportunity for members to take stock of the organisations deliverables against its outcomes. Congratulations to PNGICSA for successfully hosting the 2014 Annual Conference setting standards that other hosting agency will now have to measure up too.

In spite of the busy programme that the organisation had set this year, the Secretariat forged ahead to successfully deliver its core services to the wider membership. I can confidentially state that we have completed another successful year achieving results that are in line with the guidance range we set ourselves to at the beginning of the year. The PIDC Strategic Plan 2013–2015 will end in 2015 and we have already begun our review process as we strategically position ourselves in this changing immigration landscape. The public have always had high expectation of immigration agencies and our members continue to receive media wide discussion forums on emerging immigration issues that generally challenge social stability and security of our nations. Though, unseen to the public eye is the hard work that our immigration agencies continue to deliver against a backdrop of limited resources and capacities. We take our hats of to all immigration officers in the Pacific who continue to uphold high professional standards in their duty of monitoring our borders to make our nations and the Pacific a safe place.

Finally I would like to pay special credit to those who have contributed to PIDCs' success in 2014; our small secretariat staff who continue to deliver results despite the odds. Our work would be much poorer without the contribution of Management Board members and their support has been fundamental to our success. Lastly and not least, our Donors, for their commitment to PIDCs' vision of becoming the pre-eminent immigration body in the Pacific.

Vinaka Vakalevu.


Akuila Ratu
Acting Head of Secretariat



Vision and Mission

Our Vision

Reaffirming that the PIDC is the pre-eminent forum for immigration issues within the Pacific, the heads of immigration across the membership of the PIDC share a vision:

PIDC is the pre-eminent organisation in the region facilitating capacity and capability development and effective regional cooperation in managing and securing the Pacific gateways, contributing to regional security, economic growth, sustainable development and good governance.

Our Mission Statement

PIDC members working together to build and enhance quality immigration and border management practices within the Pacific region



Organisation Structure

PIDC is an organisation for official Pacific Immigration Agencies of the Pacific Region. It provides a forum for the Heads of Immigration Agencies to meet and discuss issues of mutual interest and to foster multilateral co-operation and mutual assistance aimed at strengthening participants' territorial borders and the integrity of their immigration systems.

The organisation is structured into 3 tier levels with tier 1 at the upper level comprising 17 member countries that have signed the PIDC Memorandum of Understanding including Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Nauru, New Zealand, Norfolk Islands, Niue, New Caledonia, and Republic of Marshal islands, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Wallis & Futuna and Vanuatu. The second tier consists of annually elected Management Board members while the third tier of the organisation is formed by the Secretariat. Currently the Secretariat is led by the Acting Head of Secretariat, concurrently the Deputy Head of Secretariat and supported by an Office Manager and a short term Support Officer.

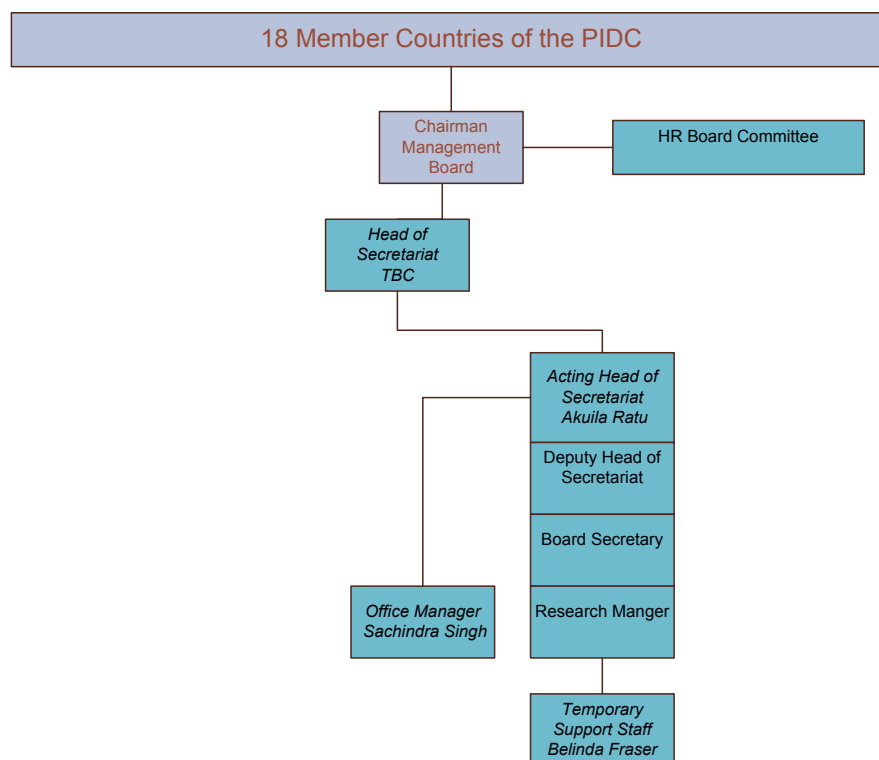


Figure: PIDC Organisation Chart in 2014

Management Board

Management Board members are annually elected at each PIDC annual meeting for a term of one year comprising the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the PIDC as well as one representative from each of Micronesia, Polynesia, Small Island States and one representative from each of the Principal Donors.

The Management Board members for 2014 included Papua New Guinea (Chair), Samoa (Vice Chair), Solomon Islands (Melanesia), Tuvalu (Polynesia), Republic of the Marshall Islands (Micronesia), Kiribati as the representative of Small Island States, Australia and New Zealand (major donors). The Management Board meets on at least three occasions in a year and more often if required for the efficient and effective exercise of its functions.

MANAGEMENT BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman



**Mr Mataio Rabura
(Papua New Guinea)**

Chief Migration Officer, Papua New Guinea Immigration and
Citizenship Services Authority

Vice Chair



**Ms Vaosa Epa
(Samoa)**

Chief Executive Officer,
Ministry of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Samoa

Members



**Mr Jefferey Sade Deve
(Melanesian Representative)**

Immigration Director, Solomon Islands



**Ms Leilani Saitala
(Polynesian Representative)**

Senior Immigration Officer,
Ministry of the Prime Minister and Immigration, Tuvalu



**Mr. Damien Jacklick
(Micronesian Representative)**

Director of Immigration, Republic of Marshal Islands



**Mr. Uering Iteraera
(Small Island States Representative)**

Deputy Immigration Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
Immigration, Kiribati



**Mr. Peter Speldewinde
(Donor)**

Assistant Secretary, International Cooperation Branch
Department of Immigration and Border Protection, Canberra,
Australia



**Mr. Robert Stevens
(Donor)**

General Manager, Service Support, Immigration New Zealand,
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment Wellington,
New Zealand

Secretariat

The PIDC currently maintains a small Secretariat based in Suva, Fiji. The Secretariat's responsibilities are governed by the PIDC Constitution and subsequent Financial Regulations, Staff Regulations and working procedures that were endorsed at the 2014 Annual Conference. In 2014 the Secretariat comprised 2 permanent staff and a support staff – the Acting Head of Secretariat who concurrently serves as the Deputy Head of Secretariat, Research Manager and Board Secretary; The Office Manager and Support Officer. The Management Board also played an important role in supporting and monitoring the Secretariat's responsibilities and delivery of its core services to PIDC members.



Mr. Akuila Ratu
Acting Head of Secretariat

Akuila joined the Secretariat in 2007 and currently holds the position of Deputy Head of Secretariat that encompasses the roles of the Board Secretary and Research Manager.



Mr. Sachindra Singh
Office Manager

Sachindra joined the Secretariat in 2011 and oversees all the administration and finance operations for the Secretariat.

2014 PIDC Secretariat Work Plan



Key Activity Area 1: Policy and Legislative Reform

Purpose

Members will have immigration policy and legislation that enables comprehensive border and immigration management that encompasses their international obligations.

Progress and Achievements

The Secretariat in its current transition structure has not been able to recruit a Policy Advisor but intends to recruit a full-time policy advisor when the organisation finalises its Headquarters Arrangement with the Fijian Government. In spite of this capacity limitation, the Secretariat continues to play a coordinating role in facilitating members request on policy and legislative advice. However, in 2014 the Secretariat under this key activity area focussed its work on the coordination and progression of the organisation's legal entity status and its transition plan.

✿ Legislation Development

This is an area of PIDC work that is currently been put on hold due to staffing limitation. However, the Secretariat has not stopped Members from seeking assistance from PIDC on any specific issues on policy and legislative development and reform. In light of this capacity limitation, the Secretariat continues to address any legislative enquiry on a case by case basis. The Secretariat has a Members application template that Members have been encouraged to lodge their enquiries or proposals with the Secretariat. The Secretariat however continues to address enquiries on a case by case basis and continues to identify and coordinate the most appropriate approach to respond to specific requests. This includes seeking expertise from within the PIDC membership, regional and international experts that would be familiar with immigration legislative issues. However, to date there has been minimal records of enquiry by Members on legislative and policy assistance since the successful review of four PIDC Members' legislation in 2013.

✿ Coordinating and Progressing Organisation's Legal Entity Status Process

The Secretariat continued to play a coordinating role in facilitating discussions on PIDCs' legal entity status processes crucial to the finalisation of PIDCs' status throughout the Membership prior to the 2014 Annual Conference. The Secretariat has been leading coordination efforts on the legal entity status process since 2010 culminating in members' endorsement at the 2014 Annual Conference of the following governance documents that are underpinned by the PIDC Memorandum of Understanding and subsequent Constitution:

- Staff Regulations;
- Financial Regulations; and
- Rules of Procedure

There has been extensive and wide consultation on these documents from the Board level to the wider PIDC membership dating back to 2010. The Constitution and MoU had also been circulated widely to the wider PIDC membership inviting members to provide comments on the draft MoU and accompanying Constitution prior to its endorsement and signing by members. Additionally, the Secretariat has facilitated the following in 2014:

- Notification to Members on the closing date on the Membership consultation phase of the draft governance documents;
- Discussions and follow up on PIDCs' Headquarters Arrangement with the Fiji Government; and
- Coordinated survey discussions on the Membership Subscription formulae.

PIDCs' Transition Plan

The Secretariat has been working closely with the PIDC Transition Project Manager to coordinate the supply of transition management services to ensure the smooth transition of the PIDC from its current business model to a new independent business model predicated on the 2014 PIDC Constitution and its supporting governance documents:

- PIDC Rules of Procedure;
- PIDC Staff Regulations; and
- PIDC Financial Regulations

The Transition Project Manager had visited the Secretariat in August 2014 and October 2014 to undertake work to be completed under phase 1 of the Transition Plan. During the two site visits, the Secretariat facilitated and supported the Transition Project Manager to undertake the following responsibilities:

- Undertake a full stock take of PIDC Secretariat equipment, establish an equipment register, identify gaps and/or make recommendations on upgrade of equipments and identify solutions to be recommended to the Management Board;
- Establish Standard Operating Procedures where appropriate in relation to staff related processes as set out in the Staff Regulations;
- Prepare a detailed set of resources in support of the PIDC recruitment of the PIDC recruitment process;
- Identify potential providers for the provision of "Personal Accident Insurance, Medical & Hospital Insurance and Travel Insurance";
- Identify potential providers for the provision of Banking Services;
- Identify potential providers for the provision of "General Insurance"
- Identify, obtain and install suitable software to facilitate payroll, accounting and tax system process and responsibilities;
- Establish new draft job description for each of the six full time positions within the PIDC Secretariat and submit to the Board for consideration

The Secretariat continues to work with the Transition Project Manager and Management Board on its transition plan.



Key Activity Area 2: Data Collection, Research, Analysis and Information Exchange

Purpose

- Information is routinely collected, shared and exchanged amongst members
- Members to ensure the collection and sharing of information through Annual Collection Plan survey
- The PIDC delivers high quality research and analysis
- The PIDC actively engages with key stakeholders to facilitate information exchange, research and analysis

Progress and Achievements

✿ 2014 PIDC People Smuggling, Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration Report

The Secretariat in December 2014 completed a PIDC People Smuggling, Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration Report. This is a restricted report which is only available to members and other law enforcement agencies. The Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC) and the Intra ACP Migration Facility conducted an assessment on irregular migration in the Pacific Islands between August 2012 and March 2013. This was in support of the Secretariat's annual survey of irregular migration with PIDC members dating back to 2013 with the most recent survey undertaken in 2014. The subsequent assessment was designed to provide immigration agencies with an analysis on the extent of irregular migration in the region, the drivers behind the movement of people, the impacts on host countries, and strategies to protect vulnerable groups and regularise migration.

The Pacific region is a vibrant, dynamic centre for the movement of people. Pacific Islanders themselves have historically moved around the region for exploration, trade, and social reasons. Irregular Migration in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories is increasing as air routes have opened with key transportation hubs in North East Asia. The opening of these routes and the increase of passenger movements has led to a rise in both legitimate and illegitimate movements into the region. Economic development in Asia and the growth of Asian economies like China has fostered the development of a new middle class with disposable income for travel and investment. A number of the Pacific Islands have been beneficiaries of this development through increased arrivals of Chinese from Mainland China and Hong Kong. However not all of the movement of people from the Asian region has been positive. As with any movement of large groups of people and capital, are the movements of illicit goods and services. The 2014 PIDC Irregular migration report explores the current irregular movement trends occurring in the Pacific and discusses methods of addressing this increasing irregular travel trends now occurring in the Pacific region.

✿ PIDC Immigration Intelligence Bulletin

The Secretariat continues to send out its monthly Immigration Intelligence Bulletin to a restricted distribution list. 10 Intelligence Bulletin Reports were distributed in 2014. The PIDC Immigration Intelligence Bulletin is a service that is highly appreciated by Members and law enforcement agencies both regionally and internationally. Members are continually encouraged

to consistently submit monthly intelligence reports as it provides members an assessment of irregular movement trends in the region. There continues to be an increase in irregular migration occurring in the region and Members continue to monitor this movement trends nationally and regionally through the monthly immigration intelligence bulletin.

🌐 Information Exchange Facilitation amongst PIDC Members

The Secretariat continues to undertake a crucial facilitation service to the wider membership connecting Members to each other on operational and strategic issues that normally require consultation between Members on a bilateral level. The Secretariat with its immigration network in the region continues to provide support to Members seeking immigration contacts in the region including regional and international law enforcement agencies. The Secretariat continues to be the first point of contact for Members when enquiries on regional immigration information are sought by members. It is anticipated that this service will continue to grow into the future as economic and border control activities continue to increase significantly.

🌐 UNODC Voluntary Reporting System on Migrant Smuggling and Related Conduct

The PIDC through its Secretariat continues to support the development of the UNODC VRS-MSRC a reporting project that was developed in 2011. The VRS-MSRC is an internet-based, secure IT solution that collects, analyzes and shares information on migrant smuggling, irregular migration and other related conduct. The VRS-MSRC will securely provide participating states with up-to-date information at the click of a button! The VRS-MSRC seeks to establish information on the following issues with regard to irregular migration, migrant smuggling, and related conduct assessing: quantitative assessment of flows, major routes used, fees paid, means of transport & methods used, profiles of irregular & smuggled migrants, profiles of migrant smugglers and criminal justice response of states. PIDC through the Management Board continues to support this voluntary reporting system and encourages Members to participate in the reporting system. The system is user-friendly and should assist Members' intelligence at the strategic and operational level.

🌐 Joint PIDC/UNODC Trafficking Workshop for Criminal Prosecutors

The United Nations Office on Drug and Crime- Vienna Office and PIDC successfully co-partnered a criminal justice training workshop regarding trafficking in persons for Pacific Island States. The workshop was hosted at the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat Office in July 2013. There were 40 participants from Fiji, PNG, Solomons Islands, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Tonga, Samoa and the Federated States of Micronesia. Participants were represented from Law Enforcement Agencies, Ministry of Social Welfare, Women, Children and Poverty, Non-Governmental Organisations, regional and international organisations that had an interest on trafficking issues.

This was the first ever PIDC organised workshop which combined participants from law enforcement agencies, other Government agencies and Non Governmental Organisations (NGOS). Law enforcement in the Pacific tends to view NGOs suspiciously and this was an opportunity to better understand the different roles of participants and establish strong networking systems between law enforcement agencies and NGOs. The training has assisted in changing the perspective of Law Enforcement Agency participants who now realise the need to work more closely with NGOs.

✿ PIDC Strategic Plan Review

Management Board has initiated discussions on the review of its current Strategic Plan which is to expire at the end of 2015 marking the end of its three year plan. The discussions has focussed on the strategic plans strengths, weaknesses, challenges and focussed on opportunities for the organisation as it realigns itself purposefully for the next three year period from 2016-18. The establishment of PIDC as a legal entity status has been a major challenge for the organisation. However, with members now signing onto the PIDC Memorandum of Understanding and agreeing to having a host country agreement with the Fijian Government, it certainly paves the way for a more stable and secure future for the organisation as we continue to work towards the organisations vision of becoming the preeminent immigration organisation in the region.

✿ Annual Reports, Strategic Plan and Management Board Folder

The Secretariat had published the organisations 2013 Annual Report, the Strategic Plan 2013-15 and a new orientation folder for Management Board members. The Secretariat had developed these reports for Members' information and records outlining organisation details and governance procedures and practises to promote transparency and accountability throughout the organisations systems and processes. This has been the ultimate goal of these external publications that are now available to PIDC members in the region. As part of the organisation's strategy to sell our image to the wider public at national, regional and international level, these published reports intended to raise more awareness and more importantly continue working towards establishing the organisations vision to be the pre-eminent immigration agency in the region.

✿ Newsletters

PIDC continues to publish its biannual newsletter with the 18th issue of its newsletter published in December 2014. PIDCs' newsletters are published in July and December on an annual basis. The Secretariat continues to encourage PIDC members to contribute towards the newsletter. The annual newsletter publications are important mechanisms which members are encouraged utilise to share immigration experiences, lessons and good practises that other members in the region can learn from. The newsletter has a wide readership membership extending throughout the Pacific region including the international communities in Asia and the American continent.

✿ PIDC Website

The Secretariat continues to update and utilise the PIDC website to update Members on PIDC activities and immigration news occurring in the region on a regular basis. Meeting papers for all PIDC organised forums can be accessed in the Members areas of the website. An open policy discussion forum is a feature on the website which intends to promote online discussion on immigration related policy issues amongst immigration officers in the region. PIDC publications including newsletters and research materials can be accessed in the Members' area of the website. In seeking to continue strengthening our website services to our Members the Secretariat continues to encourage Members to make recommendations on areas that can be improved or strengthened. In addition, members are continually encouraged to contribute to the website to promote a sense of ownership amongst Members.



Key Activity Area 3: Advocacy, Liaison and Representation

Purpose

- The PIDC to be recognised as the pre-eminent immigration forum in the Pacific
- Immigration is recognised as a major contributor to regional outcomes
- The PIDC works in partnership with other key national, regional and international agencies and forums

Progress and Achievements

The Secretariat continues to raise the profile of PIDC through its representation of the organisation at regional and international forums. Since the endorsement of an advocacy strategy in 2009, the Secretariat has continued to increase the organization's profile regionally and internationally and this is evident in the number of forums the PIDC has now become a regular and recognized contributor.

Due to staffing capacity limitation and under the advice of the Board, the Secretariat has adopted an advocacy programme that ties other PIDC commitments together into one mission. For instance, combining the joint border protection training programme with our advocacy visit is in line with the strategy. This strategy maximises opportunities, resources and the Secretariat's limited staffing capacity. However, the Secretariat continues to liaise and work closely with Members, regional and international organisations to strengthen our working relations as we continue to collectively work towards protecting and improving our border control processes and systems.

• National, Regional and International Representation

The organisation advocated on PIDC interests focussing more on a prioritising strategy in light of the Secretariat's staffing capacities to undertake advocacy work. Previously in 2013 the Secretariat was able to participate in approximately 17 regional and international forums advocating on the interests of PIDC in the region. In 2014, the Secretariat participated in 9 forums as part of its advocacy, liaison and representation programme including:

- (a) Trans-Pacific Drug Trafficking and Money Laundering Typologies Workshop – New Zealand, January 2014;
- (b) UNHCR/IOM Pacific Regional Protection Workshop – Australia, May 2014;
- (c) Forum Regional Security Committee Meeting – Fiji, June 2014;
- (d) Consultation meeting with Canadian Citizenship and Immigration Representative to South Pacific – Fiji, June 2014;
- (e) Fiji Inter-Agency Workshop on Fiji National Plan of Action to Eradicate Trafficking in Person and Child Trafficking – Fiji, July 2014;
- (f) Consultation meeting with the Nansen Initiative Representative based in Switzerland – Fiji, August 2014;
- (g) IOM consultation meeting – Fiji, August 2014;
- (h) Regional Security and Collaboration in the Pacific Islands Region – Samoa, September 2014
- (i) Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police Annual Conference – New Zealand, September 2014

🌐 Trans-Pacific Drug Trafficking and Money Laundering Typologies Workshop

The Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG-ML) invited the PIDC for the first time to its Pacific Typologies Workshop on Money Laundering and TF Risks and Vulnerabilities Associated with Trans-Pacific Drug Trafficking that was hosted by the New Zealand Ministry of Justice. This workshop is a key part of the APG Typologies Project on Trans-Pacific drug trafficking being led by Tonga and Vanuatu. The aim of the project also included identifying red flag indicators to assist with real time international cooperation on money laundering TF investigations and prosecutions related to trans-Pacific drug trafficking. The meeting enabled PIDC to:

- Establish contacts with experts in money laundering and training in the region. Especially identified a UNODC expert in money laundering; who is a money laundering expert/contact confirming that UNODC also provides training to immigration officers on upskilling border control staff in identifying and interdicting cash couriers and other methods of cash smuggling across borders. This is a practical training for customs, immigration, FIU officers on how to detect cash couriers, seize evidences and conduct further financial investigations;
- Identified the need for border control staff to have the skill to monitor cross-border transportation of cash and bearer negotiable instruments as well as the identification and interdiction of cash couriers; and
- Establishing a working relationship for future collaboration with the APG Secretariat especially around information exchange on money laundering that is relevant to immigration.

🌐 UNHCR/IOM Pacific Regional Protection Workshop

The UNHCR/IOM Pacific regional workshop was an opportunity to promote protection-sensitive and solution-oriented approaches to mixed migration management in the Pacific. Although States in the Pacific region have invested in improving their border and immigration management systems at the regional as well as at the national levels, there are challenges in creating comprehensive frameworks to manage mixed migration movements in the Pacific region, which is characterized by island countries with small populations, in remote locations, with particular vulnerability to climate change and natural disasters and, mostly, with limited resources.

The meeting provided the opportunity for participants to review current practices and to identify challenges that exist in responding to mixed migration movements; to identify specific challenges faced by Pacific Island Countries in responding to situations involving migrants in mixed migratory movements, including asylum-seekers, refugees, stateless persons and victims of trafficking; exchange good practices and lessons learned related to identification and referral mechanisms at entry points for the different categories of migrants; and consider ways in which States, supported by relevant regional bodies and international organizations, might cooperate and collaborate more effectively in the Pacific region to address protection issues.

Immigration representatives from the following Pacific Island member countries participated in this regional workshop: Cook Islands; Fiji; Kiribati; Nauru; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Tonga; Samoa; Solomon Islands; and Vanuatu. Australia and New Zealand Immigration entities were also represented in an observer capacity.

🌿 Forum Regional Security Committee Meeting

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) annually hosts the Forum Regional Security Committee (FRSC) meeting. The FRSC is an important driver of the work performed by the Forum Secretariat. Coordinated by the Political Governance and Security Programme, the FRSC's annual meeting draws together representatives from Member Countries, representatives of all the Regional Law Enforcement Secretariats such as OCO, PIDC, PILON and PICP as well as representatives of other CROP agencies such as SPREP, SPC and FFA. The annual meeting of the FRSC is the principal regional forum on political security and governance issues and allows Members and stakeholders to:

- Discuss reports compiled by the Forum Secretariat and Regional Law Enforcement Secretariats on regional security issues such as civil unrest, transnational crimes and terrorist related activities;
- Identify and discuss both internal and external security threats that affect either the security or sustainable economic development of the region;
- Promote cooperation between Members and the Regional Law Enforcement Secretariats to encourage coordinated responses to the identified threats.
- Identify key priority areas to enhance the capacity of Members and their National Law Enforcement Agencies to respond to National security threats; and
- Coordinate regional responses to the identified threats and concerns.

🌿 Consultation meeting with Canadian Citizenship and Immigration Representative to South Pacific

The Canadian Citizenship and Immigration representative to the South Pacific based in Sydney Mrs Nectoux had attended the 2014 Annual Conference in PNG and was in-country in Fiji undertaking annual Canadian Immigration Services work with the Fiji government and relevant agencies located in Suva. The meeting was provided the opportunity for the Canadian Border Services to assess the training programmes and priorities that were delivered through PIDC and how CBS could work in support of PIDCs' training initiatives in the region without creating a duplication of efforts. Discussions also centred at length on PIDCs' training activities throughout the region and the need for proper coordination of training activities amongst law enforcement agencies in the Pacific and training agencies intending to deliver training to immigration departments in the region. The discussions recognised the need for consistency and coordination in the delivery of training in the region. In recognition of the value of training, PIDC intends to recruit a Training Manager under its transition plan to be responsible for all training needs of our members.

🌿 Consultation meeting with the Nansen Initiative Representative based in Switzerland

The Nansen Initiative Pacific Regional Consultation on "Human Mobility, Natural Disasters and Climate Changes in the Pacific works outside of the UN reporting framework led by the Norway and Switzerland government and based out of Switzerland. 2014 was targeted as a consultation period with the objective of finalizing outcomes in 2015 to be presented at the UN level. A number of overview reports of the status of climate change and adaptation projects undertaken throughout the region under the NANSEN INITIATIVE have been released titled:

1. Land and human mobility in the Pacific: The effects of Natural; and
2. Clusters and Hubs: toward a regional architecture for a voluntary adaptive migration in the Pacific.

❁ IOM consultation meeting – Fiji, August 2014

The IOM Regional Office in Brussels had recently been tasked with implementing a wide-ranging project funded by the European Union and looks to establish a presence in Suva in connection with this activity. Comprehensive discussion on migration between the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States and EU partners has taken place since 2010 in the context of the ACP-EU Dialogue. IOM has been selected to implement a project entitled “*Supporting ACP-EU Cooperation on Migration and Development.*” This project is slated to run for 44 months and will be implemented by Project Coordinators (still to be identified) to be located in Dakar, Pretoria, Nairobi, Georgetown and Suva. IOM was hopeful of having the opportunity to assess what options might be available for some small office space to house the Coordinator to be selected for IOM’s initial Fiji presence. This will start out as a one-person IOM office presence and it is IOM’s hope that this initial project to be implemented in the Pacific with Fiji as its base will eventually lead to other IOM activities in close consultation with the Government of Fiji and regional organisations in the region.

❁ Regional Security and Collaboration in the Pacific Islands Region

The forum coordinated by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat discussed “Regional Security and Collaboration in the Pacific Islands” at a meeting of the Working Group for Strengthening Information Management in Samoa. This was an initiative that originated from a recommendation from the Forum Regional Security Committee (FRSC) meeting and led by the Pacific islands Forum Secretariat. The meeting was organised to:

- To review the first draft of a National Guide to Combat Transnational Organised Crime
- To discuss the outcomes of the 2014 Forum Regional Security Committee meeting
- To develop a Regional Law Enforcement Information and Intelligence Strategy to provide a coordination framework for national and regional activities; and
- To finalise a model Regional Information Security Classification System for possible FRSC endorsement inter-sessionally and a standardised set of model information and intelligence products to guide domestic law enforcement activities for members to adapt appropriately.





Key Activity Area 4: Building and Sharing Knowledge and Expertise

Purpose

- Immigration officials are equipped with immigration knowledge, skills and tools to enhance border security and immigration services within the region
- Ongoing development of Member countries institutional capability
- PIDC actively engages with regional partners to achieve coordination in delivery of regional programs
- PIDC Members are sharing skills and expertise within the membership

Progress and Achievements

The PIDC Training programme continues to be a core part of the Secretariat's work programme as it directly impacts member countries operational activities in the region. The Secretariat in 2014 continued to coordinate regional training programmes, seeks new training opportunities for our members, supports existing training programmes, organise secondment programmes, discusses with members training needs and opportunities and facilitates communication amongst members on training opportunities and initiatives in the multi faceted tasks of border control.

In 2014 Training Programmes included the Joint Border Protection Training Programme coordinated out of the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat, Annual Document Examination Principles and Examinations (DEPA) Training, the 2014 PIDC Operational Secondment Programme, the Pacific Regional Immigration Identity Programme (PRIIIP) and the proposed UNODC VRS-MRSC workshop.

✿ Annual Document Examination Principals and Applications (DEPA) Training/ Facial Image Comparison Principals Application Course (FICPA)

The annual DEPA/FICPA course is an annual immigration training programme that started in 2006 and continues to successfully train immigration officers throughout the region on the latest standards in document examination/facial image comparison. This regional course has always been delivered by experienced Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) forensic document examiners and trainers. This year's Annual DEPA/FICPA Training was successfully delivered by DIBP in Nadi, Fiji from 06-10 October 2014. Unlike previous years, this year's training programme was funded solely by Australia. The course covered subject areas including: forensic decision making process, correct use of document examination equipment, demonstration of equipment and practical exercises, identification of paper and security features, hands on examination of documents to detect fraud and recording methodology for examination and results. The training also included the Facial Image Comparison (FIC) component providing officers working at the border with advanced skills in detecting imposters. Participants that attended the training included immigration officers from Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu.

2014 PIDC Operational Secondment Programme

The Australian Department of Border Protection (DIBP) successfully hosted this year's PIDC Operational Secondment Programme in Canberra and Melbourne from August 25-29, 2014. The two successful candidates from Samoa Ms. Faaeteete Lene and Mr. Burton McKay from the Marshall Islands respectively were selected following an intensive selection process by the PIDC Management Board Selection Committee. The attachment exposed the officers to data collections, incident reports and log, intelligence, advanced passenger processing, border systems and processes, legislations to keep all fraudulent passports for training purposes and policies to guide immigration work at the borders. The PIDC Operational Secondment Programme was established in 2010 to:

- Expose Seconded Immigration Officers' to a specific range of experiences in a busy airport environment
- Expose officers to, in particular, border control work whereby the processes of document examination and timely decision making are of prime importance
- Assign an Airport Liaison Officer/Supervisor to work with the officers as mentor and trainer
- Cement and build upon previous training experiences
- Allow the seconded immigration officers to be present and observe during real time profiling, passenger assessment and document examination; and
- Build capacity in the Seconded Officers' home organization

The secondment programme continues to be annually delivered successful and participants continue to acknowledge the high standards and learning environment they are exposed too which continues to strengthen their expertise, knowledge and understanding of immigration issues at national, regional and international issues.

Joint Border Protection Training Programme

The Border Protection Training is a joint initiative funded by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, and supported and coordinated by Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC), Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO), Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection and Immigration New Zealand which aims to enhance the capacity of Forum Island Countries to effectively manage their borders. The overarching objective of the Border Security Training is to deliver in-country training to multi-agency participants and equip them with the basic front-line skills to manage their borders effectively. The project is a coordinated whole of regional approach by border management agencies to adequately maintain border security and integrity. The training is delivered by technical experts from the above agencies and targets the full spectrum of people working in border protection, including staff from immigration, customs, police, quarantine, civil aviation, ports and fisheries authorities, and airlines. It provides frontline skills training to law enforcement officers and explores avenues for increased collaboration amongst border agencies and private sector staff. Since 2011, this training has been delivered in 11 Forum Island Countries: Vanuatu, Republic of Marshall Islands and Federated States of Micronesia in 2011; Cook Islands, Kiribati and Palau in 2012; Tuvalu, Niue and Tonga in 2013; and Nauru, Samoa in 2014. A total of over 350 plus law enforcement officers from the above FIC's have attended the training. Arrangements for similar training to be delivered in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea in 2015 are already underway.

✿ Pacific Regional Immigration Identity and Intelligence Programme (PRIIP)

In 2014, the Pacific Region Immigration, Identity and Intelligence Programme's (PRIIP/INTEL) training programme completed the delivery of three courses on Round One and Round Two of the Level One programme. The first Level One programme Intelligence course was held in Auckland from 23-17 June 2014 and included 13 participants from the customs, immigration and police agencies of Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu. In addition, the Border Security Course was held in Samoa from 06-17 October 2014 and was also attended by the same participants as in course one from the customs, immigration and police agencies of Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu. The Samoa course was managed and delivered by Patricia Welch Project Manager (PRIIP/INTEL) and assisted by Ms Cordula Plassmann from New Zealand Customs and Ms Kerri Hyndman from New Zealand Police. The course facilitators were also fortunate to have the assistance of the New Zealand Police advisor to PTCCC, Senior Sergeant Aaron Holloway for the first week of the course and Mr Bimbo Eresi from Solomon Islands Customs to assist as a mentor for the two week course. Mr Eresi had previously participated in the original PRIIP programme and had subsequently delivered Intelligence training to his colleagues in the Solomon Islands. Throughout the week, the country groups were mentored, coached and applied Intelligence and Risk Analysis methodology to their collected information to create an Intelligence product and a presentation. The assignments completed were specifically targeted for delivery to the participants' clients in their home country. The participants demonstrated the ability to apply appropriate intelligence and risk methodology to produce products and presentations which will be of value in their home countries. The topics covered in the course were current tactical, operational or strategic areas of interest which could be further developed or acted on in their home country.

Round Two of the Level One programme with a focus on Introduction to Intelligence was held in Cairns from 07-13 November 2014 and included 15 participants from the customs, immigration and police agencies of FSM, Palau, Marshall Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu and Cook Islands. The course was coordinated and facilitated by Patricia Welch Project Manager PRIIP/INTEL assisted by Ms Cordula Plassmann from New Zealand Customs and Ms Kerri Hyndman from NZ Police. The course introduced the participants to the intelligence analysis cycle with a focus on the importance of information collection and how intelligence can support investigations, profiling and operations and vice versa. The course facilitators were fortunate to have presentations from the Principal Intelligence Advisor, Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the Manager APC Office, Australian Federal Police, Cairns. The focus of the presentations was "*How Intelligence informs the Border and vice versa, with a focus on collection*". The post course work was designed to consolidate and implement the knowledge delivered on the course and to produce information to be developed into Intelligence on the Border Security course. In the spirit of the PRIIP/INTEL programme outcomes participants are to select a topic (relevant to all three agencies) and as a group develop and collect against a collection plan. The information collected will then be used on the Border Security course to be held in July 2015.

PIDC Annual Meetings

2014 Annual Conference

The 17th Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC) was convened in Kokopo, Papua New Guinea, on 29 April – 01 May 2014. The theme of the conference was “Economic Growth and National Development through Skilled Entry Programmes”. Thirty Five delegates from 17 Pacific Island countries attended including Papua New Guinea (Chair), Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Niue, Norfolk Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

The conference also welcomed representatives of observer organisations from the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police (PICP), Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Intra-Migration Facility, Canadian Border Services (CBS), Canada Immigration and Citizenship, the Bali Process Regional Support Office (RSO) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Apologies were received from French Polynesia, New Caledonia, the Oceania Customs Organisation and the Pacific Islands Law Officers Network (PILON).

Opening

The Conference was opened by the Honourable Mr Rimbink Pato, OBE, LLB, MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration who extended a warm welcome to delegates and official observers. Minister Pato spoke to the 2014 conference theme “Economic Growth and National Development through Skilled Entry Programmes”. He described how the conference drew together heads and representatives of immigration agencies and partners across the Pacific to advance the PIDC's objectives of supporting the development of effective and efficient border management agencies, facilitating bona fide travel, addressing irregular migration and combating people smuggling and human trafficking in the region.

He noted with pleasure the theme of skilled migration marking it as an important broadening of focus for the PIDC. He spoke about how Pacific countries could best position migration to achieve government objectives to support national development and economic growth, and highlighted as a key feature the development of the right legislative and policy mechanisms for foreign skilled entry. He highlighted PNG's work in this area, particularly the undertaking of a comprehensive review of PNG's Migration Act and Regulations.

He noted that a highlight of this year's Annual Conference is the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding by PIDC Members introducing a new Constitution, marking a historic moment

for PIDC that has taken years of careful discussion and deliberation. The Memorandum is an important step towards PIDC attaining legal entity status and will lead to the signing of the Headquarters Arrangement between PIDC and the Government of Fiji which will formally establish the PIDC Secretariat in Fiji.

Statement by the Chair

The Chair, Mr Mataio Rabura, extended his sincere appreciation and thanks to the outgoing Chair from the Cook Islands for her leadership of the PIDC, including the progress made towards legal entity status, since the last Annual Conference in Rarotonga in November 2012. Mr Rabura described how honoured he was to be Chair of the PIDC at this time in the organisation's history. He predicted that 2014 will be remembered as a landmark moment for the PIDC family because of its establishment as a legal entity and through this achieve a greater degree of independence.

As Chair, Mr Rabura saw his role as ensuring that the new organisational arrangements and structures are implemented and consolidated. He spoke about his commitment to positioning the Secretariat and the Management Board to be supportive and responsive to the needs of all member countries.

He spoke about the key role immigration agencies played in national development and economic growth through managing the entry of foreign workers to the Pacific. He saw PIDC as the pre-eminent regional forum for immigration agencies, critical to effective cooperation and best practice exchange and support as Pacific countries look to improve the effectiveness of their agencies. Mr Rabura set out his aim as Chair of PIDC over the coming year to ensure the PIDC is an organisation which adds value to and supports all Pacific members.

Issues Considered by the 17th pacific immigration directors conference

Signing of PIDC Memorandum of Understanding

15 states and territories including Australia, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, New Caledonia/Wallis and Futuna, Niue, Norfolk Island, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu have signed the PIDC Memorandum of Understanding which introduces its new constitution and enables it to pursue legal entity status under a Headquarters Arrangement with the Fijian government. This is an historical achievement for the organisation as PIDC has been exploring legal entity status options since 2005. The shift to legal entity status is seen by members as the next logical step in the organisation's evolution. It will strengthen and advance its operational effectiveness and create opportunities for future growth that may not otherwise be available. Other Pacific Island states and territories are encouraged to finalise signing of the MoU.

Secretariat's Report

Highlights of the Secretariat's work in 2013-14 include the successful coordination of five Management Board meetings held successfully in Fiji (2), Tonga, Palau and PNG, the successful delivery of the inaugural PIDC Regional Workshop on Information, communication and technology in Australia, the coordination of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Constitution consultation phase in June 2013, delivery of the Joint Border Protection Training Programme in Niue and Tonga, joint PIDC/UNODC Trafficking Workshop in Suva, finalisation of the PIDC MoU and Constitution, Operational Secondment Programme in

Australia, the Advanced Document Examination Training, Operational Secondment with the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordinating Centre in Apia, signing of the PIDC MoU and finalisation of the PIDC Staff Regulations, Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations.

PIDC Management Board Recommendations

Members noted the achievements of the Management Board during its term from 2012-2014 recognising the effort put into establishing governance structures and documents that will be the foundation for the organisation under its new legal status. The planning and review process leading to the endorsement of these governance documents has set in place transparent and accountable systems and processes that will enable PIDC to grow stronger into the future. Members consequently following a review of the Management Board's recommendation endorsed the PIDC Financial Regulations, PIDC Working Procedures and PIDC Staff Regulations.

PIDC Member Country Reports

Country reports focusing on the theme were presented by Australia, Cook Islands, FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Norfolk Island, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Members agreed there were commonalities on immigration issues challenging members in the Pacific and the need to continue to work closely together to monitor and protect their borders was crucial for the region. Members agreed to address issues raised during the discussion through their Management Board to analyse in detail the challenges and opportunities emerging from the country reports.

PIDC Financial Update

The Acting Head of Secretariat presented an updated Financial Report for 2012-13 and 2013-14 showing expenditures, variances and an update report on the PIDC Members Subscription Fund. Members welcomed the new financial reporting template under PIDC's new legal structure as there was more detail and clarity to the financial report. Members agreed that the new financial reporting process under the new PIDC Financial Regulations promoted transparency and accountability within the organisation. The indicative budget for 2014-15 was also considered and will be finalised by the Management Board by the end of the 2013-14 financial year.

PIDC Funding

Members recognised the support Australia and New Zealand have provided since the establishment of the PIDC and thanked them for their continued commitment to the organisation.

Pacific Regional Immigration Identity Project and Pacific Customs, Immigration and Police Intelligence Officer Training Programme

Members acknowledged the benefits of PIDC training programmes delivered in the region for members. Members also recognised the continuing challenges caused by identity fraud and the benefits the PRIIP/Intel Programme would bring to members in 2014-16. There was great anticipation and support for the implementation of the new PRIIP/Intel Programme for

2014-16 and Members are to be encouraged to work closely with New Zealand in delivering the training package.

Conference Workshop Session

Conference delegates participated in workshop sessions discussing issues related to the regulation of skilled migrant workers and the maintenance of integrity in skilled migration programmes. Delegates shared experiences from around the region reviewing best practices and standards that enhanced coordination amongst stakeholders and border control agencies in the regulation of skilled migrant workers. Members agreed that continuous consultations and strengthening of relationships with stakeholders was crucial to the process of managing issues relating to skilled migration programmes.

Observers

Presentations were provided by representatives from the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration, the ACP-Intra Migration Facility South Pacific Representative, the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement for Removals, the Canada Border Services Agency, the Bali Process Regional Support Office and the International Air Transport Association. A guest speaker from Exxon Mobil also presented.

Election of new Management Board

The new Management Board elected for the 2014/15 year comprised - Australia (Donor), Papua New Guinea as Chair, Samoa (Vice Chair), Republic of the Marshall Islands (Micronesia), Solomon Islands (Melanesia), Kiribati (Small Island States), Tuvalu (Polynesia) and New Zealand (Donor).

Closing

Delegates were thankful to the Government of Papua New Guinea and its Chief Migration Officer, Mr Mataio Rabura, and his staff for organising and hosting a successful and historic Conference.

Organisations that hosted dinner functions, namely the Papua New Guinea Immigration and Citizenship Services Authority, East New Britain Provincial Government, the Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection and Immigration New Zealand were gratefully acknowledged.

The Conference welcomed the invitation by Samoa to host the 18th Pacific Immigration Directors Annual Conference in 2015.



Management Board Meetings

The Management Board meets on at least three occasions throughout the year and more often if required for the efficient and effective exercise of its functions. The meetings are normally held at venues agreed upon by Management Board members. In 2014 the Secretariat successfully coordinated four important Management Board meetings. Three meetings were hosted in Fiji and the fourth in PNG which was held a day prior to the Annual Conference. The Secretariat continues to work closely with all Management Board members and their respective agencies in finalizing logistical and administrative arrangements. This included travel plans, accommodation, meeting venues and meeting programmes. One of the underlying reasons for hosting the Board meetings in Fiji in 2014 was purely based on economical costs and connectivity of flights into Fiji.

First Management Board Meeting: 03-04 March 2014, Fiji

The 23rd Management Board meeting of the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC), the first in 2014, was convened in Nadi, Fiji on 03 and 04 March 2014 and attended by representatives from Cook Islands (Chair), PNG (Vice Chair) Australia (Donor), Fiji (Melanesia) Palau (Micronesia) Kiribati (Small Island States), New Zealand (Donor) and Samoa (Polynesia).

Issues Considered by the Management Board

PIDC Legal Entity Status

Management Board discussed the progress of members signing of the PIDC Memorandum of Understanding acknowledging in appreciation members that had finalised government approval to sign onto the Memorandum of Understanding. The Board also encouraged other Members to finalise their signature approval process early if they wanted to be part of the new PIDC family as we prepare to transition into our new legal form. The Board also discussed in detail the Transition Plan in anticipation of the organisation moving towards its new legal form noting the challenges that lay ahead during this phase of the legal entity process. Members were encouraged to work together in support of the organisation during this critical phase of the legal entity status process.

Secretariat Report

Management Board noted with appreciation the PIDC Secretariat's Report on its ongoing work programme and its commitment to successfully completing additional tasks set out by the Management Board. The Board committed to continue providing assistance to the Secretariat in delivering its outcome. Board members expressed appreciation to Australia and New Zealand on the capacity building programmes they continue to

support and deliver in the region. The Board also noted the need to align the Annual Work Plan with the Transition Plan in light of the need to reprioritise the Secretariat's Work Plan as Secretariat staffing is increase to full operational capacity.

2013 PIDC Annual Report

Management Board endorsed the 2013 Annual Report noting the value it brought to the organisation and most importantly our responsibility and obligation to continually advise members of the work PIDC delivers annually to its members.

2014 Annual conference

Management Board acknowledged with appreciation the work the Papua New Guinea Immigration Citizenship Authority (PNGICSA) was undertaking in preparation for the 2014 Annual Conference to be held in Kokopo, East New Britain, PNG from 29 April to 01 May 2014. The Management Board anticipated a successful Conference and thanked PNGICSA for its role in finalising a Conference agenda that is expected to generate active discussions and most importantly provide members an opportunity to identify regional immigration issues that members needed to be alerted too.

Other Discussions

Management Board thanked Fiji Immigration for hosting a successful Management Board meeting, also thanking the Secretariat for its work and encouraged members to continue supporting and collaborating openly as we work together to develop and strengthen our organisation to become the preeminent immigration body in the region.

Second Management Board Meeting: 23-24 July 2014, Fiji

The 25th Management Board meeting of the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC), the first for the new Management Board that was recently elected at the 2014 Annual Conference, was convened in Nadi, Fiji on 23 and 24 July 2014 and attended by representatives from PNG (Chair), Samoa (Vice Chair), Australia (Donor), Solomon Islands (Melanesia), Republic of the Marshall Islands (Micronesia), Kiribati (Small Island States), New Zealand (Donor) and Tuvalu (Polynesia).

Issues Considered by the Management Board

PIDC Legal Entity Status

Management Board discussed the progress of members signing of the PIDC Memorandum of Understanding and welcomed in appreciation Nauru's recent commitment to signing the MoU. The Board also encouraged former Members that haven't signed the MoU to continue working towards finalising their signing process. The Board also discussed in detail the Headquarters Arrangement and agreed to continue to work with Fiji Immigration to finalise supporting documents critical to the Headquarters Arrangement.

The Board also discussed the Transition Plan and welcomed in particular the secondment of Shaun Driscoll from Immigration New Zealand to assist in the proposed transition. Board members discussed priority areas that transition work would need to immediately consider moving forward when he begins the secondment in August 2014. Members were encouraged to work together to support the organisation during this critical phase of the legal entity status process.

Secretariat Report

Management Board noted with appreciation the PIDC Secretariat's Report on its ongoing work programme and its commitment to successfully completing additional tasks set out by the Management Board despite its limited staffing capacity. The Board endorsed a 6 month Interim Work Plan in anticipation of the organisation's transition into a legal entity status. The Board also reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the Secretariat in delivering the Interim Work Plan.

2014 Annual Conference Country Report Analysis

Management Board noted the achievements and challenges raised in the 2014 Annual Conference. The Board also noted the challenges in linking country reports to the PIDC Work Plan and agreed that there was a need to identify the options of linking these country reports. More importantly was the need by all member countries to provide written reports two months prior to the Annual Conference to enable the Secretariat to provide a detailed analysis of the reports and subsequently link the report to other PIDC planning documents.

2014 Training programme

Management Board noted the ongoing implementation of the PIDC training programmes in 2014 welcoming in particular the successful completion of Phase 1 of the Pacific Regional Immigration Identity and Intelligence (PRIIP/Intel) Training Programme, the continuation of Australian funding for the Annual Document Examination Principals and Applications (DEPA) training, the finalisation of the 2014 PIDC Operational Secondment Programme in Australia and to support the proposed UNODC training workshop on Voluntary Reporting System on Migrant Smuggling and Related Conduct (VRS-MSRC).

Review of 2013-2015 Strategic Plan

Management Board mapped out a review plan for the Strategic Plan 2013-15. The Board discussed the new Strategic Plan and agreed to specific timelines. The Board acknowledged the strength of the current Strategic Plan and agreed that the review process was an opportunity to raise the organisation's profile further through a more comprehensive and inclusive review process.

Other Discussions

The Chair thanked the Management Board on the completion of another successful Board meeting and the Management Board also thanked the Secretariat for its work and encouraged members to continue supporting and collaborating openly as we work together to support the legal entity status process.

Third Management Board Meeting: 05-06 November 2014, Fiji

The 26th Management Board meeting of the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC) was convened in Suva, Fiji on 05 and 06 November 2014 and attended by representatives from Samoa (Acting Chair), Australia (Donor), Solomon Islands (Melanesia), Republic of the Marshall Islands (Micronesia), Kiribati (Small Island States), New Zealand (Donor) and Tuvalu (Polynesia).

Issues Considered by the Management Board

PIDC Legal Entity Status

The Management Board discussed the progress of members signing of the PIDC Memorandum of Understanding and welcomed Cook Islands Cabinet endorsement to

signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The Board continued to encourage countries that haven't signed the MoU to continue working towards finalising their signing process. The Board also noted the progress in finalising the Headquarters Arrangement and agreed to continue to work with Fiji Immigration to conclude the documentation process.

The Board also discussed the Transition Plan and welcomed the Transition Project Manager's preliminary report on Phase 1 of the transition scope of work. Board members noted with appreciation the level of detail the organisation has pursued to establish relevant governance structures in its transition plans and encouraged Board members to continue contributing actively to discussions on PIDCs' Transition Plan.

Secretariat Report

Management Board acknowledged the PIDC Secretariat's report on its ongoing work programme and its commitment to successfully completing additional tasks set out by the Management Board. The Board encouraged the completion of remaining work activity areas and also reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the Secretariat in completing its respective key activity areas of the Secretariat's Interim Work Plan.

2014 training programme

The Management Board noted the successful completion of all the scheduled PIDC training programmes in 2014. The Board expressed its appreciation to Australia and New Zealand for their commitment and funding support to the annual PIDC training programme including Phase 1 of the Pacific Regional Immigration Identity and Intelligence (PRIIP/ Intel) training programme, the Annual Document Examination Principals and Applications (DEPA) training and the 2014 PIDC Operational Secondment Programme in Australia. The Board also noted the increasing number of training programmes in the region and tasked the Secretariat to undertake a training needs analysis to guide PIDC in its future training plans.

Review of 2013-2015 Strategic plan

The Management Board discussed its review plan for the Strategic Plan 2013-15 noting the transition plans impact on the strategic plan time lines and agreed that the new Strategic Plan would be more appropriately presented to Management Board members at the 2016 Annual Conference in light of its new financial year. The Board agreed to hold a one day workshop in February 2015 to undertake an in-depth review and analysis of the current strategic plan with a view to having a more comprehensive and inclusive review process.

PIDC people smuggling, human trafficking and irregular migration report

The Management Board welcomed the first draft of PIDCs' 2014 People Smuggling, Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration report noting its comprehensiveness and identification of key thematic areas that members were encouraged to consider addressing at the national level. Members agreed to provide further critical comments to strengthen the quality of the report before presentation to the 2015 Annual Conference.

Other discussions

The Chair thanked the Management Board on the completion of another successful Board meeting and the Management Board also thanked the Secretariat for its work and encouraged members to continue supporting and collaborating openly as we work towards finalising the Fiji Headquarters Arrangement.

Finance

PIDC's financial annual reporting is based on a calendar year that begins from July to June the following year. The PIDC Financial statement for 2013/14 is subsequently divided into four categories that summarise four key operational areas including:

1. Personnel, Member Travel and Other Costs;
2. Management Board & Annual Conference Organisation;
3. General Administration; and
4. Work Plan Expenses

Year 2013 – 2014 had a significant number of challenges as PIDC progresses towards establishing the final stages of its legal entity status process.

Category NZ\$	Budget 13/14	Expense 13/14	Variance
Personnel, Member Travel and Other Costs	290,206	112,633	177,573
MB & AC Organisation	60,000	27,346	32,654
General Administration	68,367	46,401	21,966
Work Plan Expenses	197,427	23,882	173,545
Total	616,000	210,263	405,737

As outlined in PIDCs' financial statement for 2013/14 the total budget for this business calendar year was NZD616,000. NZD210,263 was utilised for the same period creating a variance of NZD405,737. The variance indicate the transition that the secretariat is currently going through and it is projected that the variance will be at a much high rate then it currently is for the upcoming year as we finalise the organisations transition process.

While operational costs including personnel, member travel and other costs, general administration and work plan expenses are funded by New Zealand, Management Board and Annual Conference Organisation costs are jointly funded by Australia and New Zealand. Additionally, Australia in 2014 fully funded the 2014 Document Examination and Principals Application and Facial Image Comparison training and PIDC Operational Secondment programme.

General Administration

The Secretariat continues to meet its administrative and financial role in hosting PIDC programmes, forums and the daily operational activities of the Secretariat. The Secretariat continues to strictly follow the financial procedures of Immigration New Zealand as per operational costs being sourced through INZ in Wellington and continues to deliver its services successfully to members. The transition to its new legal form will require the Secretariat to be governed by its own financial regulations, rules of procedure and staff regulations with specific reporting timelines that the Secretariat will be obligated to abide by. This new reporting timeline will certainly raise the level of accountability of the organisation but most importantly allow for a transparent and accountable procedure. The current Transition Plan that Members endorsed at the 2014 Annual Conference should guide the organisation seamlessly into its new financial and administrative operational environment.



Acronyms

ACP	Annual Collection Plan
APC	Asia Pacific Consultations
DIBP	Australian Department for Immigration and Border Protection
FRSC	Forum Regional Security Committee
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
HoS	Head of Secretariat
HR	Human Resources
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
INZ	Immigration New Zealand
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
OCO	Oceania Customs Organisation
PICP	Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police
PICTA	Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement
PIDC	Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
PILON	Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PRIP	Pacific Region Immigration Identity Project
RMI	Republic of Marshall Islands
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference

FNPF Plaza

Level 5, Victoria Arcade, Suva

Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji

Phone: +679 331 2017

Fax: +679 331 2113

Email: info@pidcsec.org

Website: www.pidcsec.org