



## Pacific Immigration Development Community

2023/24 Board Meeting 3

24 June: Honiara, Solomon Islands

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### Agenda Item 5: PIDC-IOM Project: Online Reporting & Information Sharing Platform

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#### Recommendations

The Board is invited to consider **supporting** the development of a regional immigration specific online reporting, analysis and information sharing platform.

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#### Purpose

This session provides an update on the development of the PIDC-IOM reporting, analysis and information sharing Platform.

#### Background

2. Members will recall at the March Board meeting in Apia its discussion and review of the PIDC Secretariat initiated reporting, analysis and information sharing platform in partnership with IOM. The Board at the March meeting determined the following:

- welcomed the PIDC-IOM Reporting system project and the presentation of the proposed information reporting/sharing platform at the PIDC regional information sharing workshop with the view for members to further review the adoption of the information reporting/sharing platform by the June board meeting for final member consideration at the RAM 2024;
- noting that member participants will have more in-depth discussions on the viability of the platform at the PIDC information sharing regional workshop to provide further informed assessment of its use and viability;

#### Findings

3. The National Contact Point, Profiling Group and Maritime Group Contact Points Information Sharing regional workshop brought together more than 45 senior officers from across the region to draw on their experiences and strengthen regional efforts in sharing targeted information.

4. Consequently, the workshop participants had the opportunity to review the proposed online platform in more depth discussing details on how and what type of sensitive or non-sensitive data could be shared and how it was used and the protection of members data on the online platform. In its assessment members at the workshop:

- (a) **recognised** the need to strengthen the collection and sharing of information and intelligence at the national and regional level to better understand irregular migration trends throughout the region and to successfully combat people smuggling and trafficking networks.
- (b) In seeking to adopt consistent approaches to understanding irregular migration in the Pacific, the Workshop **recognised** limitation in members' analytical capability and or

limitation in the availability of tools, staff and resources to provide constructive and thorough evidence-based analyses; therefore **recognised** that the development of a common data collection baseline and reporting standards throughout the region would be a strong and effective approach to better understand irregular migration in the Pacific.

- (c) The Workshop **noted** the value and potential of the PIDC-IOM reporting and information sharing platform to support members' capability to developing high level analytical products that provide a better understanding of irregular migration nationally and regionally. Participants **welcomed** the opportunity to participate in the PIDC-IOM reporting and information sharing platform Testing Phase to support the development of a Pacific specific customised online platform that has the potential of raising standards in national data collection and reporting across the PIDC membership.

### Update

5. Following the regional workshop and participants review of the proposed platform, it was agreed that the most suitable approach to getting a better understanding of the online platform for decision makers at the Board and RAM forum was through a live test of a dummy platform based of fake data sets. Consequently, IOM systems developers in consultation with the Secretariat mapped a way forward in terms of presenting this model online platform at the June Board Meeting and Regular Annual Meeting through the development of a test model online platform to illustrate in more detail the analytical and trend reporting capability of the platform.

6. To support this testing phase, three member countries with different reporting capability were identified to test the online platform. The Marshall Islands using a MIDAS reporting Border Management System, the Solomon Islands with its current reporting system and using Tuvalu as an example for members manually processing inbound and outbound travellers.

7. In this regard, IOM will be providing an update on the online platform with a live demonstration of the platform to Board members. The demonstration will provide an opportunity for Board members to further review the capability of the reporting online platform.

8. In essence, the online reporting and information sharing platform is intended to support members to:

- Enhance information sharing and regional collaborations for regional border and health security;
- Enhance evidence-based decision making and strengthening targeted border control operational responses;
- Improve shared understanding of cross-border regional mobility and regional trends;
- Inform evidence - based policy advises and formalise recommendations for national and regional border security efforts; and
- Use for developing contextualised capacity building initiatives by PIDC and other Development Partners and informing policy development.