



Pacific Immigration Development Community

26th Regular Annual Meeting – Honiara, Solomon Islands: 25-27 June 2024

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS

AGENDA ITEM 2

STATEMENT BY OUTGOING CHAIR & INCOMING CHAIR

PIDC Members:

- **Noted** the leadership provided by the outgoing Chair Mr. Jeffrey Markson and **welcomed** the Acting Director of Solomon Islands Immigration as the new Chair of PIDC;
- **thanked** the Outgoing Chair and Vanuatu Director for Immigration for the work completed over the last financial year and **acknowledged** with appreciation Mr Jeffrey Markson's contribution and leadership in the 2023/24 calendar year; and
- **welcomed** the Incoming Chair and Solomon Islands Immigration Director's commitment to support PIDC initiatives and seek to strengthen relationships with members.

AGENDA ITEM 3

WORKING PROCEDURES AND APPOINTMENT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE

PIDC Members:

- **adopted** the proposed working procedures; and
- **approved** the appointment of the Drafting Committee comprising Samoa, Cook Islands, Australia and PNG as Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 4

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

PIDC members:

- **agreed** to include an agenda item in the closed session relating to the discussion on the Draft PIDC Communication Plan;
- **acknowledged** the apologies from Niue, FSM and New Caledonia; and
- **endorsed** the 2024 Regular Annual Meeting Agenda.

**AGENDA ITEM 5
SECRETARIAT REPORT**

PIDC Members:

- a) **endorsed** the Secretariat Report regarding its activities undertaken in 2023/2024; and
- b) **welcomed** the significant work undertaken by the Secretariat to implement the Work Plan and commended the Secretariat staff for the hard work undertaken through the year.

**AGENDA ITEM 6
PIDC BOARD REPORT**

PIDC Members:

- a) **endorsed** the Board report; and
- b) **acknowledged** in appreciation the collaborative work and achievements of the Board and the Secretariat.

**AGENDA ITEM 7 (I)
FINANCE UPDATE**

PIDC Members:

- (a) **noted** the financial update and performance of the Secretariat for the period of 01 July 2023-30 May 2024 for the current financial year;
- (b) **thanked** and **acknowledged** the continued financial support provided by the principal donors Australia, New Zealand and Samoa as Host Country and for their continued financial support to the Secretariat;
- (c) **thanked** and **acknowledged** Members for their continuous support in paying their contributions on time;
- (d) **noted** the expenditure breakdown provided as of 30 May 2024.

**AGENDA ITEM 7 (II)
MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION FUND**

PIDC Members:

- (a) **thanked** and **acknowledged** Members for their continuous commitment to supporting the Member's contribution fund to support PIDC activities;

- (b) **noted** Member's contribution fund update as of 30 May 2024;
- (c) **noted** that Members contribute annually to the Member contribution fund based on a tiered approach, with each tier linked to an agreed amount; and
- (d) **encouraged** Members to pay their agreed contribution on time before the end of each financial year.

AGENDA ITEM 7 (III)
PIDC ORGANISATIONAL STOCKTAKE REVIEW

PIDC Members:

- (a) **noted** the finding of the PIDC Stocktake Review; and
- (b) **tasked** the Board in consultation with the Secretariat to further review the stocktake findings to guide members on next steps.

AGENDA ITEM 7 (IV)
MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION REVIEW REPORT

PIDC Members:

- (a) **considered** the recommendations provided in the Membership fees review report and;
 - i. **endorsed** the formula for membership contribution increases;
 - ii. **approved** the increase in Members' total contribution to 8% of PIDC's income in 2025, and agreed that this contribution would be reviewed annually by Members;
 - iii. **approved** the new framework for allocating total distribution amongst Members based on GDP weighted by GDP per capita to become effective in 2025;
 - iv. **approved** the proposed voluntary contribution scheme for Members;
 - v. **noting** that the PIDC Financial Regulation will be reviewed to correctly reflect the revised member contribution and voluntary contribution fund, and to clarify that if members are willing and able to pay amounts in addition to their membership fees, this should be done via the voluntary contribution fund, as opposed to the member's voluntarily changing their tier status.
 - vi. **agreed** to develop a donor funding engagement policy, which will incorporate management oversight from the PIDC Board;
 - vii. **agreed** for PIDC to explore grants from new donors after the Secretariat has done its due diligence in terms of (a) ensuring that there is a donor funding strategy in place and (b) there are no duplication of support provided by potential donors or partners with existing funded programmes in the region;

AGENDA ITEM 7 (v)
PIDC COMMUNICATION PLAN 2022-25

PIDC Members:

- a) **endorsed** the Communication Plan; and
- b) **noted** that the Board has tasked the Secretariat with the development of an associated social media policy.

AGENDA ITEM 7(v)
PIDC AUDIT REPORT

PIDC Members:

- (a) **noted** the successful completion of the external audit for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 under the leadership and guidance of the Chair and Board; and
- (b) **noted** the unqualified opinion expressed by the external auditor.

AGENDA ITEM 7 (vi)
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

PIDC Members:

- (a) **endorsed** the 2023 PIDC Annual Report.
- (b) **Noted** that internal processes would be incorporated into the next financial years' audit.

AGENDA ITEM 7 (vii)
2024/25 ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

PIDC Members:

- (a) **noted** the development of the draft Annual Workplan and Budget 2024-25; and
- (b) **endorsed** the PIDC Annual Workplan and Budget 2024-25.

AGENDA ITEM 8

PIDC – IOM PROJECT: ONLINE REPORTING & INFORMATION SHARING PLATFORM

PIDC Members:

- (a) **noted** the development of a regional immigration information reporting platform; and
- (b) **noted** that it was open to Members to voluntarily join the regional reporting and information sharing online portal as part of the pilot testing phase, with a view to share their experience and lessons learnt by December 2024

**AGENDA ITEM 9
MEMBER COUNTRY REPORTS**

PIDC Members:

- (a) **noted** and **welcomed** Member country reports;
- (b) **noted** the emerging migration trends and common cross border issues impacting the Pacific, recognising that the Pacific was no longer isolated to the transnational issues of people smuggling, human trafficking, drug trafficking and other transnational crime types; and
- (c) **tasked** the Secretariat to develop a brief analysis of Member country reports for board consideration to include into current and future PIDC activities and work programs.

**AGENDA ITEM 10
STRENGTHENING OUR BORDERS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS: THE SOLOMON ISLANDS EXPERIENCE**

PIDC Members:

- (a) **noted** the efforts and approaches demonstrated by the host country, Solomon Islands in strengthening its border management efforts through its partnership with Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Australia.
- (b) **noted** that the tripartite arrangement between PNG, Solomon Islands and Australia could be used as a model for other such arrangements in the Pacific.

**AGENDA ITEM 11
MARITIME BORDER CHALLENGES: EMERGING MARITIME TRENDS IN THE PACIFIC**

PIDC Members:

- (a) **noted** the trends, challenges and emerging issues in Maritime Border for Immigration agencies; and

- (b) **noted** that joint activities that immigration and partner law enforcement agencies can pursue
- (c) **tasked** the Secretariat to work with members in sharing information on maritime border crime types and emerging trends for the Pacific.
- (d) **Tasked** the Secretariat to work towards joint collaborative activities to support members maritime monitoring responsibilities.

AGENDA ITEM 12

CHANGING TRAVEL IN THE PACIFIC – BALANCING SECURITY AND FACILITATION: PACIFIC EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS

PIDC Members:

- (a) **recognised** the range of evolving operational issues emerging as a result of the changing travel landscape in the Pacific;
- (b) **noted** the need for regional solutions to address the challenges of changing travel patterns and requirements in the Pacific;
- (c) **noted** the proposed research on PKI and the opportunities of understanding its functionality and the most suitable regional solutions that could be considered by members;
- (d) **welcomed** the implementation of the UNCT Travel project in the region and the potential support provided to members to monitor the movement of people entering their respective jurisdictions
- (e) **noted** the need to undertake an intensive scrutiny process of reviewing and understanding the details to any proposed technology-based solutions particularly for immigration agencies intending to adopt immigration-based technology solutions.
- (f) **recognised** that technology will not completely solve emerging irregular migration challenges and that risk management-based solutions should be strengthened to mitigate irregular migration risks.
- (g) **agree** to establish a Board technical working group to provide feedback to members on ICAO decisions that potentially impact travel documents and border processes.

AGENDA ITEM 13

COUNTERING SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME: PEOPLE SMUGGLING, HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND DRUGS

PIDC Members:

- (a) **agreed** that collective regional efforts and joint activities of immigration and partner law enforcement agencies is needed to address emerging issues of people smuggling, human trafficking and drugs.

- (b) **recognised** the need to share information on criminal deportees to monitor and disrupt their movements to commit potential illegal activities in the region.
- (c) **recognised** that PIDC and its membership should work with partner agencies like PTCCC and OCO to share information on the movement of illicit product and related trends through the region.

AGENDA ITEM 14

REGIONAL FRAMEWORK AND INITIATIVES: UNDERSTANDING IT THROUGH AN IMMIGRATION PERSPECTIVE.

PIDC Members:

- (a) **noted** the regional initiatives and strategies being adopted by our leaders through the Pacific Islands Forum process; and
- (b) **tasked** the Secretariat to continue monitoring and identifying the responsibilities of immigration agencies within the framework of these regional initiatives.

AGENDA ITEM 15

BUILDING ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY, EXPERTISE AND KNOWLEDGE: SUSTAINING OPERATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

PIDC Members:

- (a) **discussed** the challenges of managing and sustaining operations against an evolving migration landscape and identified areas of activities that can be considered to support members sustain and maintain organisational capacity, expertise, knowledge and operational expectations.
- (b) **Agreed** that the Secretariat would work with members on the possibility of trilateral or multilateral agreements to facilitate the provision of upskilling opportunities for immigration staff in the region.
- (c) **tasked** the Secretariat to identify areas of activities that can be considered by the Board and membership to support members strengthen and sustain their organisational capacity, expertise, knowledge and capacity to continue sustaining operational expectations.
- (d) **welcomed** the offer from Australia to explore further joint capacity building **programme** for members via bilateral or multilateral arrangements.

AGENDA ITEM 16

**FFA VESSEL SURVEILLANCE AND MONITORING SYSTEM SITE VISIT AT FFA HEADQUARTERS
IN HONIARA**

PIDC Members:

- (a) **noted** and **appreciated** the important role FFA plays under our partnership agreement.
- (b) **Noted** the importance of collaboration and information sharing across regional organisations including PIDC, OCO and FFA to combat transnational serious organised crime.
- (c) **acknowledged** the FFA onsite visit which provided a better understanding and appreciation of their resources and accessibility of FFA resources through partnership.

AGENDA ITEM 17

**WORKSHOP SESSION- PIDC-USP MASTERS IN BORDER SECURITY PROGRAMME:
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS**

PIDC Members:

- (a) **welcomed** the University of the South Pacific's proposed Master's in Border Security Programme for Immigration Members in the Pacific;
- (b) **noted** the timeline to meet the course assessment requirements to launch the Masters in Border Security programme by the 2025 academic year; and
- (c) **tasked** the Secretariat to review the:
 - 1. PIDC scholarship bond policy for members; and
 - 2. Scholarship nomination process for immigration officers, including a possible requirement to provide a statement of intent to better assess writing capability.

AGENDA ITEM 18

**BILATERAL OPPORTUNITIES: BILATERAL ENGAGEMENTS FOR MEMBERS AND PARTNER
ORGANISATIONS.**

PIDC Members:

- (a) **welcomed** the bilateral discussions with partner organisations on areas of mutual interest.

AGENDA ITEM 19

PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS FROM OBSERVERS

PIDC Members:

- (a) **welcomed** and **noted** the reports of Observer organisations regarding ongoing activities in the region.
- (b) **thanked** our partners including PICP, OCO, PTCCC, UNHCR, IOM and the French Pacific Liaison Office for their contributions and ongoing support to the PIDC network.

AGENDA ITEM 20
2025 REGULAR ANNUAL MEETING HOST AND ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

PIDC Members:

- (a) **endorsed** Tonga as the incoming Vice Chair for 2024/2025; and
- (b) **welcomed** the new vice chair and host of the next PIDC Regular Annual Meeting in 2025.

AGENDA ITEM 21
ELECTION OF PIDC BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2024/25 AND PIDC BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2024/25

PIDC Members:

- (a) **endorsed** the 2024/25 Board Members including:
 - Chair – Solomon Islands
 - Incoming Vice Chair – Tonga
 - Outgoing Vice Chair – Vanuatu
 - Melanesia – Fiji
 - Polynesia – American Samoa
 - Micronesia – Kiribati
 - Small Island States – Cook Islands
 - Principal Donor – Australia
 - Principal Donor – New Zealand
 - Host Country - Samoa
- (b) **agreed** that the Board meeting schedule for the 2024/25 financial calendar will be determined by the Board members intersessionally.

AGENDA ITEM 22
OTHER BUSINESS

There were no issues discussed under Other Business

AGENDA ITEM 23
ADOPTION OF THE 2024 COMMUNIQUÉ

PIDC Members **endorsed** the 2024 Regular Annual Meeting Communiqué and Resolutions and Decisions.