



Agenda item 18: Investigating and prosecuting human trafficking crimes

Recommendation

The PIDC Regular Annual Meeting is invited to:

1. **note** investigation and prosecution practises in the PIDC membership; and
 2. **encourage** members to use multi-agency investigation processes to prosecute human trafficking crimes.
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Purpose

1. To discuss how Members investigate and prosecute human trafficking crimes to determine how PIDC can best support these activities.

Background

2. The transnational nature of human trafficking cases can be complex and in most instances cannot be handled by one agency alone. This is especially true for Pacific Island immigration agencies with limited staff numbers, resources and technical expertise. Effective law enforcement responses also depend on the participation of all levels of society from local communities and non-governmental organizations to migration officials and prosecutors. Initial actions taken in investigations are crucial to the ultimate success of prosecutions. Human trafficking investigations require careful treatment of victims, witnesses upon whose testimony the prosecution depends.

Strategic Implications

3. The proposed recommendations support the implementation of building expertise sharing knowledge and expertise objectives contained in the PIDC Constitution, the 2016 – 2018 Strategic Plan and the Results Management Suite.

Financial Implications

4. There are no financial implications for any activities identified under this agenda item although Members may propose specific activities as a result of discussions.

Conclusion

6. Members in this session will discuss responses to human trafficking in the Pacific, including a case study of how countries use the immigration and multi-agency investigation process to prosecute human trafficking crimes. The presenters will share their experiences and discuss how the multi-agency investigation approach supports successful prosecution of human trafficking crimes.