



Agenda item 15: Immigrations role in combating transnational crime

Recommendation

The PIDC Regular Annual Meeting is invited to note the transnational crime activities that members are investigating in the region.

Purpose

1. To discuss case studies of transnational crime activities being investigated by Members in the region.

Background

2. The number of travelers entering the region is expected to grow into the future with around more than 3 million recorded visitors entering the Pacific region in 2013. The growth is largely due to: (a) the projected growth of Asian tourism into the region; (b) an increasing number of direct flights between Asia and Pacific Island states and territories; and (c) the continued ease of access for Asian travelers entering the region due to visa free entry in various Pacific island states (PTCA 2015).

Strategic Implications

3. The proposed recommendations support the implementation of objectives promoting collaboration with partner law enforcement agencies 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

5. Members throughout the PIDC region are no longer isolated from transnational crime related activities. Tonga and PNG's experience on recent immigration identity fraud cases reveal the varying levels and lengths foreigners pursue to exploit our entry systems. Members need to continually monitor irregular movement trends and work collectively with other law enforcement agencies to combat transnational crimes.
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