



Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference

Nadi, Fiji: 14 – 18 May 2018

PIDC REGIONAL PROFILING WORKSHOP

Enhancing Border Security through strengthened network targeting

Introduction

The Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC) Profiling Workshop was held in Nadi, Fiji at the Novotel Hotel Meeting Rooms from 14 – 18 May 2018. The workshop was coordinated and facilitated by the PIDC Secretariat and Australia Department of Home Affairs (HA) with support from Immigration New Zealand (INZ).

2. The Workshop was attended by 19 participants representing the immigration departments of Australia, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Unfortunately the representatives of Federated States of Micronesia and Republic of the Marshall Islands were unable to attend at the last minute due to circumstances beyond their control.

3. The Workshop was opened by the PIDC Head of Secretariat Mr. Ioane Alama who welcomed participants to Fiji and reinforced the critical need to strengthen Members' capacity to target external threats. Members were reminded of the importance of information and intelligence sharing as a prerequisite for effective decision making and the need for this information to be made available to border officers. Special mention was made of the need to tailor lessons and solutions to take into account national circumstances especially for Small Island State agencies with limited staff numbers.

4. Noting that this was the first profiling workshop PIDC has organised and funded, the Secretariat called for real and sustained national action at the operational level. The Secretariat advised participants that it was an important opportunity for Members to strengthen domestic border security operations by mapping out actions required to introduce profiling as a means to improve actual filtering and targeting at the border.

5. The workshop also provided a unique opportunity for PIDC and participants to network, share knowledge, cooperate, and strengthen immigration networks in the region to increase the information available to immigration agencies and collaboratively develop an information sharing culture.

Objectives

6. The specific objective of the training workshop was to strengthen national border enforcement by developing or enhancing Members' collective and individual capability to undertake profiling by:

- a) developing profiling skills for participating immigration officers;

- b) establishing a regional profiling group/ network of practitioners for PIDC;
- c) identifying latest profiling trends and indicators in border control activities and operations;
- d) identifying information and intelligence sources to be used to develop and support national and regional profiles; and
- e) developing agreed recommendations on possible ways forward for Members to consider at the 2018 PIDC Regular Annual Meeting in June.

Workshop activities

7. Participants:
 - held a series of workshop sessions to familiarise themselves with targeting processes;
 - participated in interactive training exercises with images and case studies to identify some basic indicators for various criminal and unlawful border activities;
 - mapped out individually national: (a) priority threats; (b) immigration information and intelligence sources; (c) profiling and targeting opportunities; and (d) capacity to implement the PIDC Model Information Security Classification System;
 - prepared a draft National Profiling Action Framework to guide possible next steps for each participating agency;
 - undertook a Fiji Department of Immigration organised site visit of the Nadi International Airport where participants were invited to practice their profiling skills on arriving flights and were able to view the operations on a departing Australia bound flight.
 - identified possible national and regional activities required to support formal development of national profiling functions.

Workshop outcomes

8. The Outcomes represents a tentative plan for possible future action (e.g. further workshops and other collaborative projects) on issues identified and discussed by Participants. It highlights issues and priorities for further discussion by the PIDC Board at its regular meetings and by the wider Membership at the annual conference.

Outcomes as agreed upon by Profiling workshop participants

- I. Participants thanked the Secretariat for organising the workshop and agreed that it was of great value providing them with new knowledge and skills on profiling and allowing them to establish strong networks for the sustained sharing of immigration information.
- II. Participants thanked Mr Gavin Watters of Home Affairs (HA) for leading the workshop sessions and practical exercises throughout the week and Mr Kevin Kneebone and Ms Maile Giffin of MBIE Intelligence Unit (MIU) – Immigration New Zealand, Mr Daniel Sheppard (HA) as well as the Secretariat for supporting the various discussions and activities.
- III. Participants thanked Fiji for their warm hospitality in supporting the workshop and also hosting Participants for the planned on-site visit to Nadi International Airport.

IV. Participants welcomed the opportunity to learn from shared national experiences and challenges and recognised the importance of developing coordinated pragmatic responses to strengthen collective border security.

Specific outcomes

V. Participants:

- a) **agreed** that profiling was an essential skill for primary line officers to effectively manage risk at the border;
- b) **agreed** that the effectiveness of profiling and the capacity of immigration officers to recognise border threats was greatly enhanced when provided with regular access to wider law enforcement information and intelligence products;
- c) **recognised** there was a need to develop more formal processes around national and regional profiling to strengthen primary line passenger processing throughout PIDC;
- d) ***strongly recommended that PIDC Members develop a profiling function at the national level appropriate to their environment and resources to greatly strengthen strategic and operational (for example primary line) decision making processes;***
- e) **recommended** PIDC Members formally identify their national priority threats and develop possible domestic indicators associated to these risks to support primary line processing;
- f) **strongly recommended** that PIDC support efforts to establish national profiling functions and look to establish a regional Profiling Group (PRPG) made up of operational representatives of PIDC Members to serve as a platform for:
 - i. exchange of information, views, experiences, and analysis;
 - ii. advancing profiling policy dialogue;
 - iii. developing regional resources and tools such as templates, common communication platforms and best practices to support national profilers;
 - iv. coordinating regional targeting campaigns or operations;
 - v. coordinating capacity building and training; and
 - vi. collaborating with related industry, civil society and media.
- g) **recommended** the Secretariat and PRPG: (a) develop and maintain PIDC Generic Indicators to support national assessments and development of national indicators, (b) meet annually prior to the Regular Annual Meeting to discuss Member support, information sharing processes, and identify trends and risks; and (c) report on relevant activities and regional trends to PIDC Members through the Board and Regular Annual Meeting;
- h) **recommended** Members develop simple domestic training exercises to promote skills on profiling and questioning to improve border interventions and **recognised** the important capacity building role played by INZ's Pacific Regional Immigration Intelligence Programme (PRIIP) and HA International Border Cooperation Programme (IBCP) in this area;
- i) **welcomed** the offer by the Immigration New Zealand and the Secretariat to support two profiling secondments before the end of July 2019;
- j) **noted** the usefulness of initial work undertaken through the workshop to identify preliminary priority national actions required to develop domestic profiling functions; and
- k) **agreed** collectively as a group to begin sharing appropriate immigration information where possible.

Proposed Secretariat priorities

VI. The PIDC Secretariat will look to:

- a) **advance** the establishment of the proposed PIDC Regional Profiling Group, PIDC Contact Points network and endorsement of the PIDC Model Information Security System to facilitate the sharing of immigration related information throughout the PIDC membership;
- b) **strengthen** national profiling capacity by supporting Members to:
 - i. establish appropriate domestic profiling structures; and
 - ii. exchange secure immigration information in real time through the PIDC Information and Intelligence Network; and
- c) **ensure** that the information and intelligence products developed by the Secretariat directly support the profiling activities of both SIS and non-SIS Members alike.