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**Agenda item 21: Evidence Based Decision Making**

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**Proposed Recommendations**

The PIDC Regular Annual Meeting is invited to:

- a) **note** the importance of evidence-based decision making for the effective and efficient operation of PIDC immigration agencies;
  - b) **welcome** the experiences shared by the panellists highlighting their processes undertaken to collect evidence as a basis to guide measurement of performance or justify key institutional decisions such as allocation of resources;
  - c) **note** the various resources, approaches and tools that can be used to collect data and information as an evidentiary basis to support critical decision-making; and
  - d) **consider tasking** the Secretariat and partner organisations to develop a simple to use PIDC research tool kit containing simple but useful resources, guidelines and tools to measure and record critical immigration related data to support evidence-based decision making at the various levels.
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**Purpose**

The purpose of this session is to highlight the critical nature of evidence-based decision making and common practices on how this can be undertaken to support more effective policy development, institutional decision making and prioritisation of resources for PIDC Members.

**Background**

2. Operational data has a number of uses at different levels including: (a) day to day management of various immigration activities to support border management; (b) analysis of volumetric data to determine optimal allocation of human and financial resources to manage migration policies and maximise deployment of resources; and (c) the use of information to measure staff and institutional performance.

3. As such, information and data form an effective basis for guiding decision making based on data that is often difficult for PIDC Members to collect sustainably. This evidence base is especially useful when defending institutional activities from detractors or when developing policies or seeking resources that may impact on other organisations.

4. For this session, panellists will share their experiences on building a robust and easily accessible evidence base providing real examples to guide Members' discussions. Panellists will be encouraged to use real case studies to provide Members with examples of how they could adapt tools or resources for application in their home jurisdictions.

5. At this stage while there are no resource implications, should the PIDC Members decide to prioritise the possible development of a simple PIDC Research Toolkit, the Secretariat will work with the Board to identify resources to implement this activity.