

Endorsed Outcomes of the Joint Heads of Pacific Security Meeting

“The Denarau Outcome”

Denarau Island, Nadi, Fiji, November, 2022

I. Preamble

1. We, the Members of the Joint Heads of Pacific Security (JHOPS) and Observers, have gathered at Denarau Island, Nadi, Fiji from 07 to 10 November 2022 for our fourth meeting;
2. We recognise and recall the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' endorsement of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, including the Leaders' Vision for a Pacific region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion and prosperity that ensures all Pacific peoples can lead free, healthy and productive lives;
3. We recognise and recall the 2018 Boe Declaration on Regional Security, including the region's expanded concept of security which addresses the wide range of security issues in the region, both traditional and non-traditional, and reaffirms that climate change remains the single greatest threat to the livelihoods, security and wellbeing of the peoples of the Pacific;
4. We reaffirm the values and principles which have been established under these policy instruments to guide our efforts in respect to traditional and non-traditional security in the Pacific, such as commitment to strengthened leadership, good governance, support for full inclusivity, equity and equality for all persons and peoples, the importance of solidarity and a shared commitment to work together and strengthen and develop partnerships;
5. We recognise and recall the 2022 Pacific Disaster Ministers Declaration of Commitment to Action towards a safer and more resilient region in the face of disaster risk and climate change, including a commitment to supporting the strengthening of national and regional capabilities in response to disaster and reaffirmed the commitment to establish a regional and sub-regional humanitarian and disaster response mechanism to support trans-boundary response between countries alongside international partners.

II. Climate Change and Security Nexus - Operational Outcomes

6. Pre-position Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) resources to support the Pacific's regional response capability to climate change.

7. Fiji will share the regional HADR Standard Operating Procedures with JHOPS Members and Observers, in consultation with the South Pacific Defence Ministers' Meeting Secretariat.
8. JHOPS to ensure opportunities for de-briefing post-disaster response are embedded in Standard Operating Procedures.
9. JHOPS to identify its information requirements and to draw upon assessments and research from the Pacific Fusion Centre, NGOs, think tanks, and academia to inform the design of regional security solutions to the security dimensions of climate change.
10. JHOPS to improve communication between JHOPS members to coordinate HADR responses and enable effective resource distribution.
11. Consider options for JHOPS to support members inclusion in existing regional HADR tabletop exercises.

IV. Maritime Security - Operational Outcomes

12. Agree to establish a partnership for information sharing, with a view to enhancing regional maritime security.
13. JHOPS members agree to request the Pacific Fusion Centre to provide an analytic product that provides an estimated timeline and cost of catastrophic Pacific threats, including but not limited to:
 - a. Illegal fishing;
 - b. Climate change and rising sea levels;
 - c. Cyber;
 - d. Illicit narcotics.
14. Agree that the JHOPS Secretariat coordinate, in consultation with participating countries, a register of lead JHOPS members' point of contacts to build a network that enables greater information sharing.
15. To enable preparation for future Climate related security challenges and enhance our collective maritime response capability, the Secretariat will prepare for JHOPS' consideration in 2023 a potential regional treaty framework to promote interoperability and operationalise our responses to regional security challenges, including but not limited to optional protocols which may cover:
 - a. Status of Forces type of arrangements covering all response agencies, for responding at short notice and on request to Humanitarian and Disaster relief scenarios and for regional security responses requested under the Biketawa Declaration


- b. to enable ship-rider arrangements across the region for law enforcement and defence organisations
- c. to enable enhanced cross-regional legislation enforcement powers.

V. Governance outcomes

16. Agree to develop a JHOPS Terms of Reference for consideration at JHOPS 2023, which includes:
 - a. A JHOPS mission statement focussed on operationalising practical regional security solutions aligned to the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent and the Boe Declaration on Regional Security;
 - b. Promote Pacific family first and-family led responses to regional security challenges and needs in keeping with leaders' guidance at the July 2022 Pacific Islands Forum meeting and the Boe Declaration on Regional Security.
 - c. A governance framework to clarify JHOPS arrangements;
 - d. Enhance alignment of JHOPS with existing regional security architecture;
 - e. Consider options for resource sharing arrangements;
 - f. Consider expanding participation in JHOPS to other government security stakeholders, including national disaster management offices, think tanks, and academia.
17. Agree the JHOPS 2023 meeting, and future iterations, should maximise inclusion of security-related whole-of-government agencies, think tanks, and academia.
18. Align JHOPS' planning and agenda development with the Pacific Islands Forum meeting calendar and other regional secretariats and networks including but not limited to the PIF, PICP, OCO, PIDC, and FFA and implementation of the PIF 2050 Strategy.

VI. JHOPS 2023 Arrangements

19. Agree that the Republic of Palau will host JHOPS 2023.
20. Agree that the Independent State of Papua New Guinea will host JHOPS 2024.


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Manasa Lesuma (Mr)
Permanent Secretary for Defence, National Security and Policing

21 December 2022