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MSG	Melanesian Spearhead Group
OCO	Oceania Customs Organization
PICP	Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police
PIF	Pacific Islands Forum



Name

Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG)

Headquarters

Porta Vila, Vanuatu

Website

www.msgsec.info

Short description

The MSG promotes economic growth among member countries through trade, cultural exchanges, economic and technical cooperation, and policy alignment.

Membership

5 members
(4 UN member states)

Notes

Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu established the MSG in 1986. In 1989 the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS) became a member. (The FLNKS is a group of political parties seeking independence for the French territory New Caledonia.) Fiji joined in 1996.

Funding

All members of the MSG contribute to the regular budget. At present there is no external funding for PoA-related activities. The Government of Luxembourg provided budget support for convening the 1st Workshop on the ATT in 2012. In 2015 the Pacific Small Arms Action Group (PSAAG) provided supplementary funding for the 2nd

Workshop on the PoA and ATT.

RO members and the ATT

- ✚ States parties: 0%
(0 states)
- ☑ Signatories: 25%
(1 state)
- ✘ Not yet joined: 75%
(3 states)

Notes

Vanuatu is a signatory. Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and Solomon Islands have not yet joined. FLNKS is not a UN member state and cannot join.

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PoA-related activities

In 2012 the MSG Secretariat and the Government of Luxembourg organized a workshop on the ATT. The results of this workshop were presented in April 2014 to the MSG's 11th Sub-Committee on Security (SCS) meeting, which supported the formulation of a common position on the ATT. The SCS also agreed to appoint a lead negotiator on the ATT for the MSG region, ensuring that Fiji could participate in a common Pacific Island position despite its suspension from PIF at the time. In June 2015 the MSG agreed to establish a Regional Police Academy and Formed Police Unit in order to provide a platform for capacity building, technical training, and police cooperation among member states. In September 2015, in partnership with the PSAAG, the MSG held the 2nd Workshop on the PoA and ATT, focusing on reporting mechanisms, ratification, and implementation of the instruments. The MSG has also engaged through information sharing and technical support with the PSAAG, Oxfam, OCHA-Oceania, and UNDPKO on areas related to the PoA, ATT, humanitarian assistance, and peacekeeping operations.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

MSG members agreed to work closely with other ROs, in particular the PICP and PIF, on important issues relating to security and policing, as well as working in partnership with various civil society organizations.

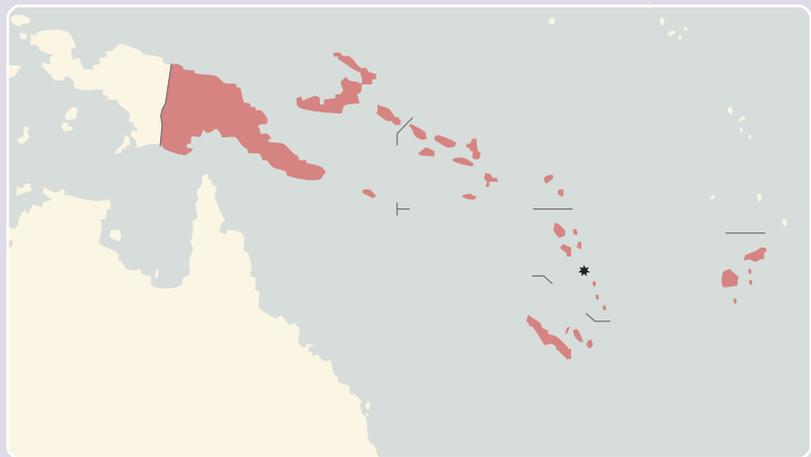
Legally binding regional instruments

- None

Other official documents of interest

- Agreement Establishing the MSG Regional Police Academy (not yet ratified) (2015)
- Framework Agreement for the Melanesian Spearhead Group Formed Police Unit (not yet ratified) (2015)

PoA-related programmes and initiatives



■ Current members

Fiji, FLNKS, **Papua New Guinea**, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu

Bold = founding member

■ Former members: None

■ Membership pending: None

Profile updated March 2016



Name

Oceania Customs Organization (OCO)

Headquarters

Suva, Fiji

Website

www.ocosec.org

Short description

OCO acts as a focal point for customs organizations in the Pacific region and promotes the effectiveness and efficiency of its member administrations by:

- 1) assisting members to align activities where appropriate with international customs standards and best practices;
- 2) coordinating activities and the sharing of

resources among members; and 3) promoting collaboration and communication both among members, and with private sector bodies and international organizations.

Membership

24 members
(15 UN member states)

Notes

OCO was established in 1999 with 23 members. The Customs Head of Administration Regional Meeting (CHARM), which has met annually since 1986, decided in 1998 to disband and that OCO should take its place. OCO's Secretariat, first based in Brisbane and then in Noumea, moved to Suva in 2006. Timor-Leste joined OCO in May 2011, becoming the organization's 24th member.

Funding

Australia and New Zealand fund approximately 80 per cent of the Secretariat's core budget, with the

remainder made up of members' annual contributions. In 2011 the EDF 10 provided OCO with a multi-million euro grant to implement the Trade Facilitation in Customs Cooperation (TFCC) Project.

RO members and the ATT

- ✦ States parties: 27%
(4 states)
- ☑ Signatories: 27%
(4 states)
- ✗ Not yet joined: 47%
(7 states)

Notes

Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, and Vanuatu are signatories. Fiji, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, and Tonga have not yet joined. American Samoa, CNMI, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Niue, Norfolk Island, and Wallis and Futuna are not UN member states and cannot join.

PoA POC

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PoA-related activities

A core part of OCO's regional mandate is to strengthen the law enforcement capacity of its members by promoting and facilitating information sharing, and providing technical assistance, training, and policy advice. Central to this mandate is strengthening the capacity to protect borders from the importation of unlawful and harmful goods. To this end OCO developed the Customs Regional Intelligence Network (CRIN) to facilitate the sharing of information among members on seizures of unlawful restricted goods and various types of commercial fraud. OCO has recently established a Working Group to Strengthen Information Sharing. The Working Group intends to revitalize CRIN, which had been limited in its implementation over the past few years due to reforms of OCO's Secretariat. Those reforms were undertaken to streamline the Secretariat and have resulted in a reduction in staffing numbers, with the work previously undertaken by the Law Enforcement and Security Division now assigned to a single law enforcement adviser. As part of its strategic plan OCO has recognized that the unlawful importation of firearms, ammunition,

and their parts remains an important issue for it to address. OCO continues to support PIF's work to help its members to implement the PoA. In 2014 an OCO representative joined the PIF Small Arms and Light Weapons Technical Experts Group. In December 2014 OCO attended a regional small arms workshop organized by UNIDIR, the ISACS Implementation Support Unit, and PIF designed to strengthen regional capabilities to design, monitor, and evaluate small arms control policies, using the ISACS assessment tool. .

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

OCO and the PICP have both contributed to the regional Model Weapons Control Bill developed primarily by PIFS. OCO regularly attends the annual PIF Regional Security Committee meeting where issues regarding small arms regulation and the implementation of the PoA and ATT are discussed as an integral part of the agenda.

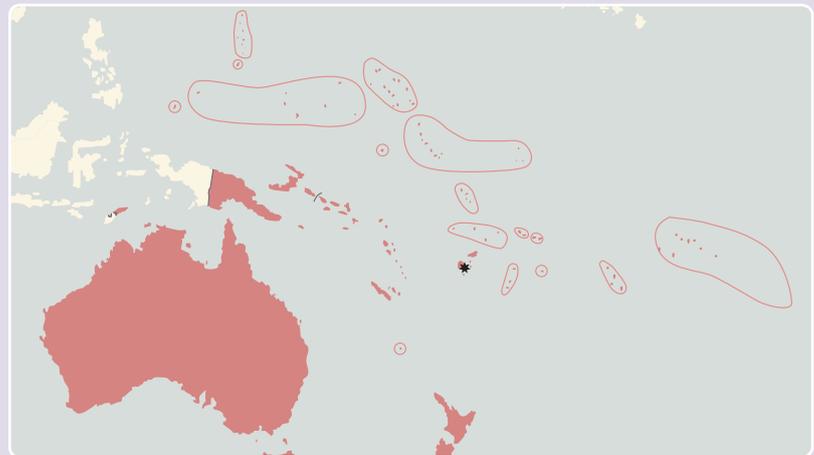
Legally binding regional instruments

- None

Other official documents of interest

- None

PoA-related programmes and initiatives



- **Current members**
American Samoa, Australia, CNMI, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Norfolk Island, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna

Bold = founding member

- **Former members:** None
- **Membership pending:** None

Profile updated March 2016



Name

Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police (PICP)

Headquarters

Wellington,
New Zealand

Website

www.picp.co.nz

Short description

The PICP facilitates the training of its members' police forces and seeks to improve information sharing and cooperation among them to enhance their three broad strategies of ethics and integrity, regional cooperation, and sustainable capacity development.

Membership

21 members
(14 UN member states)

Notes

The PICP has its origins with the South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference (SPCPC), which was created in 1970. The original members were British Solomon Islands (now Solomon Islands), Fiji, Gilbert and Ellice Islands (now Kiribati and Tuvalu, respectively), Nauru, New Hebrides (now Vanuatu), and Tonga. The SPCPC's membership expanded to 16 by the end of the 1970s, while five additional states joined between 1990 and 1992. The organization assumed its current name in 2005 to better reflect the composition of its membership. The PICP lifted its suspension of Fiji (imposed in 2006) in 2015. In the same year the PICP received applications from Bougainville, Timor-Leste, and Tokelau for observer status. PICP members unanimously voted in favour of these applications in September 2015, with one provision: Bougainville will only be allowed to attend future annual conferences if Papua New Guinea also attends.

Funding

The PICP is funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand (New Zealand Aid Programme), New Zealand Police, and Australian Federal Police. The organization has received supplemental support from the US government for its armouries project.

RO members and the ATT

- ✚ States parties: 29%
(4 states)
- ☑ Signatories: 29%
(4 states)
- ✘ Not yet joined: 43%
(6 states)

Notes

Australia, New Zealand, Samoa, and Tuvalu are states parties. American Samoa, CNMI, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, and Niue are not UN member states and cannot join.

PoA POC

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PoA-related activities

The PICP has been training the region's police forces for over 40 years, encouraging best practices and information sharing to promote law and order and combat transnational crime. Besides possessing expertise and providing frameworks for meetings, seminars, and working groups, the Secretariat also assists members with generating financial support for their programmes and initiatives. During the 1980s and 1990s, twelve PICP members received 22 patrol boats to help protect fisheries. In 2005 the PICP worked with nine of these members to use the patrol boats for broader law enforcement purposes, and to share information among their police, customs, military, and immigration forces, among other bodies. The PICP partners with the Pacific Transnational Crime Network (established in 2002 and consisting of 18 transnational crime units (TCUs) in 13 states). The Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre (PTCCC, Samoa) has managed and coordinated TCUs' and regional law enforcement agencies' criminal intelligence since 2004. During 2008–2012 the PICP reviewed the

safety of its members' police armouries and upgraded depots for Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Niue, Tonga, and Tuvalu. The PICP also drafted and shared a model armoury and firearms policy for them. Given that these updates are fairly recent and that the illicit trade in small arms is not a daily threat in the South Pacific, the PICP's current priorities are to maintain awareness raising and offer support as required. The PICP engages directly and facilitates the sharing of small-arms-related information and intelligence as required.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

The PICP participates in two Working Groups: on Border Management Issues and on Information Sharing. The latter is made up of representatives from the OCO, PIDC, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, and PIFS. Working group meetings discuss mechanisms and processes that Pacific police forces can use to share information on all crime types, including firearms offences. The PICP helped PIFS to draft its 2000 Model Weapons Control Bill and frequently cooperates with the MSG.

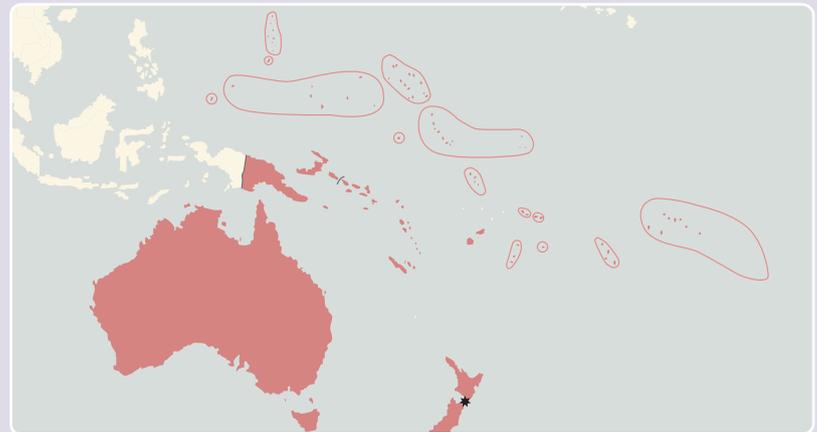
Legally binding regional instruments

■ None

Other official documents of interest

■ None

PoA-related programmes and initiatives



■ Current members

American Samoa, Australia, CNMI, Cook Islands, **Fiji**, French Polynesia, Guam, **Kiribati**, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, **Nauru**, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, **Solomon Islands**, **Tonga**, **Tuvalu**, **Vanuatu**

Bold = founding member

■ Former members: None

■ Membership pending: None

Profile updated March 2016



Name

Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)

Headquarters

Suva, Fiji

Website

www.forumsec.org

Short description

PIF seeks to stimulate economic growth and enhance political governance and security for its members by providing policy advice, and strengthening regional cooperation and integration.

Membership

16 members
(14 UN member states)

Notes

PIF began as the South Pacific Forum in 1971 with seven members. It changed its name in 2000 to reflect its expanded membership. The organization's secretariat—the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)—took its current name that same year (replacing the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Cooperation, or SPEC). Besides its 16 members, it has three associate members: French Polynesia, New Caledonia, and Tokelau. Fiji, which was suspended in 2009, was reinstated as an active member in October 2014.

Funding

All PIF members and associates contribute to the regular budget. Australia and New Zealand together contribute about 75 per cent of the dues. Papua New Guinea pays the third-largest assessment

(about 5 per cent). Members' assessed contributions represent a small percentage of the overall operating budget. External supplemental support for PoA-related activities has come principally from Australia, New Zealand, and Japan.

RO members and the ATT

- ☑ States parties: 29%
(4 states)
- ☑ Signatories: 29%
(4 states)
- ☒ Not yet joined: 43%
(6 states)

Notes

Australia, New Zealand, Samoa, and Tuvalu are states parties. Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, and Vanuatu are signatories. Cook Islands and Niue are not UN member states and cannot join.

PoA POC

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PoA-related activities

The Forum Regional Security Committee (FRSC) is the primary PIF body addressing regional law enforcement and security issues. It has focused on arms proliferation since 1996. FRSC oversaw the development of the document Towards a Common Approach to Weapons Control (Nadi Framework), which led to the Model Weapons Control Bill (2003). Under the terms of the Biketawa Declaration (covering regional crisis management and conflict resolution), PIF members undertook the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI, 2003). RAMSI collected several thousand weapons and initiated many SSR activities, including police training. Some collected weapons were destroyed. The Working Group for Strengthening Information Management (WGSIM) was established in 2009. FRSC amended the 2003 Model Weapons Control Bill in 2010 to include brokering provisions, and forum leaders endorsed the PoA Regional Implementation Guidelines, including the provision of technical assistance to members (within available resources). In 2014 FRSC endorsed an ATT Model Law (initiated by New Zealand and

developed in consultation with legal officials across the region and PIFS). In 2014 PIF also organized a regional workshop in partnership with UNIDIR and the ISACS Implementation Support Unit to promote ISACS and the use of associated implementation software for national small arms assessments. PIFS hosted another workshop in 2014 with UNRCPD and the Small Arms Survey.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

PIFS has long worked with ROs such as PICP and OCO on a number of security-related activities. OCO and the PICP collaborated with PIFS in developing the Nadi Framework and the PIF Model Weapons Control Bill. These—and other—ROs participate in FRSC meetings on law enforcement and security threats and collaborate on a number of law enforcement initiatives. PIFS chairs an annual meeting of this grouping to: 1) coordinate and prioritize activities; and 2) develop the Pacific Transnational Crime Assessment, which identifies current and emerging transnational crime trends.

Legally binding regional instruments

- None

Other official documents of interest

- Aitutaki Declaration on Regional Security Cooperation (1997)
- Nadi Framework (2000)
- PoA Regional Implementation Guidelines (2010)
- PIFS Model Weapons Control Bill (2003; amended 2010)

PoA-related programmes and initiatives



■ Current members

Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

Bold = founding member

■ Former members: None

■ Membership pending: None

Profile updated March 2016