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## **STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE**

### **Review Report of the Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report January – July 2016**



**PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI  
Parliamentary Paper No. 25 of 2019**

*April, 2019*

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## Chair's Foreword

I am pleased to present the Review Report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence (FAD) on the *Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report January –July 2016*.

**The Standing Committee is established under Section 109 (2) (e) of the Standing Orders (SO) of the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.**

The purpose of the review was to scrutinise the Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report specifically on the Ministry's operations and administration.

This is the first report by the Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration (MoDNSI) to be reviewed by the Standing Committee at this session of Parliament. The Committee recognises that the report was put together in haste because of the change in the financial year of Government. The report is quite basic and does not discuss the Ministry's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). This made it difficult for the Committee to thoroughly and accurately evaluate the performance of the Ministry over the reporting period.

The Committee recognises the essential oversight role of the Ministry of Defence in the security, defence and well-being of the nation and our people. Therefore, the Ministry should be seen to be the leading agency for the issuance of policy guidance to shape the functions of all government departments under its umbrella.

Through the briefings of the Permanent Secretary of Defence and Office of the Director General of the National Security and Defence Review, the Committee was informed that the Ministry was undergoing extensive reform to ensure effectiveness of its role under the current legal frameworks. In particular, the Committee was aware that the Ministry under the proposed reform will be guided by the National Security Strategy which is now before Government awaiting tabling in Parliament.

The challenges faced by globalisation and its transnational effects have posed additional threats to the nation and as such the Ministry of Defence needs to strengthen its efforts in dealing with such challenges i.e. climate change and human security.

The Committee after reviewing the report identified pertinent issues confronting the Ministry of Defence today. Some of the issues are identified below and were witnessed during the site visits on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.

1. The Committee is aware of concerns raised at the gap created by Fiji Revenue and Customs Service (FRCS) performing immigration functions at the border versus the role of the Department of Immigration.

The Committee recognizes the number of illegal immigrants maybe due to the disconnect between FRCS and the department of immigration. (2,000 over-stayers in Fiji manned by 15 man compliance unit)

2. On the issue of Critical Asset Protection the Committee is concerned that there is little or no security policy, standard operating procedures and physical hardening of critical asset installations.
3. The Committee noted that little was done to ensure that the incident at Wailotua in Tailevu did not reoccur. The incident referred to here is where a container full of cyanide was placed at risk when the truck carrying this dangerous cargo was involved in an accident. The accident posed grave and immediate threat to personal lives and the environment.
4. The Committee notes that the report makes little mention of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in particular SDG 5 Gender Equality.
5. The Independent Auditors Report highlighted the unreconciled variance of \$94,197 on the Border Control Management System however, during the presentation by the Immigration Department, the matter was clarified adequately that there was no revenue loss.
6. The Security Division of Ministry of Defence noted in 2016 that the traffic situation on our roads would worsen if nothing was done to address it.

The Committee commends the good work of the organisation and achievements in its half fiscal year 2016 as captured in the Bi-Annual Report. While applauding the achievements of the ministry, the Committee had identified some opportunities for improvements; these are outlined in the report.

I take this opportunity to thank the Minister, Permanent Secretary including all staff and their families for a job well done and their dedication to securing the nation for all Fijians and visitors to our shores.

I take this opportunity to also thank members of my Committee for compiling this bipartisan report.

On behalf of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence, I submit this report to the Parliament.



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**Hon. Alexander O'Connor**  
**Chairperson**

## Acronyms:

<b>CI</b>	Critical Infrastructure
<b>CIA</b>	Critical Infrastructure Assets
<b>CBDs</b>	Central Business District
<b>CSD</b>	Corporate Services Division
<b>CTOG</b>	Counter Terrorism Official Group
<b>DOI</b>	Department of Immigration
<b>E-Passport</b>	Electronic Passport
<b>FRCS</b>	Fiji Revenue Customs Services
<b>FSDAC</b>	Fiji Security and Defence Advisory Committee
<b>GBSC</b>	Government Building Security Committee
<b>INSSP</b>	Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan
<b>NAD</b>	National Assessment Division
<b>NSC</b>	National Security Council
<b>NSDR</b>	National Security and Defence Review
<b>NSS</b>	National Security Strategy
<b>FPF</b>	Fiji Police Force
<b>MLO</b>	Military Liaison Officer
<b>MODNSI</b>	Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration
<b>NCLASA</b>	National Combine Law and Security Agencies
<b>PLO</b>	Police Liaison Officer
<b>RFMF</b>	Republic of Fiji Military Forces
<b>R&amp;D</b>	Research and Development
<b>RFN</b>	Republic of Fiji Navy
<b>SALW</b>	Small Arms Light Weapons
<b>SAR</b>	Search and Rescue
<b>SD</b>	Security Division
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goal
<b>SISC</b>	Security Industry Standard Committee

<b>SFD</b>	Security Forces Division
<b>SO</b>	Standing Orders
<b>SOLAS</b>	Safety of Life at Sea

## Recommendations

The Committee recommends the following:

### Recommendation 1:

- Government to consider reverting Immigration functions at the Border from Fiji Revenue and Custom Services (FRCS) to Department of Immigration in view that the Department of Immigration is the appropriate authority to enforce the *Immigration Act 2003*.

### Recommendation 2:

- The Committee recommends that relevant policies be put in place to safeguard and protect critical national assets such as, water catchments, petroleum storage facilities, power stations, sewerage treatment plants, telecommunication sites, seaports and airports. Vibrant and efficient monitoring and evaluation together with legislative framework for these critical national assets is the way forward for the Ministry.

### Recommendation 3:

- The Committee strongly recommends that the laws and regulations governing the security and safe movement of explosives and dangerous goods ordinance be reviewed to strengthen compliance to safety standards.

### Recommendation 4:

- The Committee notes that the report makes little mention of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Committee recommends that steps be taken to address this issue in its future reports in particular gender disaggregated data (SDG 5 – Gender Equality).

### Recommendation 5:

- The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Defence should follow up on observations made on excess vehicles on Fiji's roads. Furthermore, the Ministry should convey its concerns on matters of national security that affects the decisions of other government ministries and departments.

### Recommendation 6:

- The Committee recommends that the National Security Council Secretariat should be an independent entity.

**Recommendation 7:**

- The Committee commends the introduction of e-passports in the country, however, it recommends that Government should consider keeping the cost of new passports affordable.

## **1.0 Introduction**

### **1.1 Background and Terms of Reference**

The Committee had reviewed the Bi-Annual Report and identified key areas that need to be assessed and these included the Ministry of Defence budgetary allocation, policies, programs and projects of 2016 half fiscal year, human resource development and the overall administration.

On 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019, the Ministry of Defence Executives made a presentation to the Committee on the operations and administration of the organisation in 2016-2017.

In summary, the information for this report was obtained through a thorough Committee assessment of the Ministry of Defence Bi- Annual Report 2016 and an oral presentations by the FPF executives.

The Report is divided into three parts:

- I. **Part One** - focuses on the Committee recommendations
- II. **Part Two** - covers the Findings of the report to Parliament
- III. **Part Three** -covers the Conclusion.

### **1.2 Committee Remit and Composition**

Pursuant to Standing Orders 109(2) (e) that the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence is mandated to look into matters related to Fiji's relations with other countries, development aid, foreign direct investment, oversight of the military and relations with multi-lateral organisation.

The members of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence are as follows:

- 1.2.1 Hon. Alexander O'Connor – Chairperson
- 1.2.2 Hon. Dr. Salik Govind - Deputy Chairperson
- 1.2.3 Hon. Pio Tikoduadua – Member
- 1.2.4 Hon. Selai Adimaitoga – Member
- 1.2.5 Hon. Anare Jale – Member

### **1.3 Procedure and Program**

The Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence commenced its deliberation on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 and received a written and oral submission from the Ministry of Defence and National Security on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March, 2019 with the following attendees:

- Lt. Col. Ilai Moceica - Deputy Secretary;
- Mr. Joseph Ratumaitavuki – Manager Corporate Services;
- Mrs. Silina Cama – Manager Security Forces Division;
- SSP Josese Lako – Police Liaison Officer;
- Major Mesake Dautoko – Military Liaison Officer;
- Mr. Eroni Rokisi – Senior Administrative Officer;

- Mr. Lorima Sautu – Clerical Officer;
- Mrs. Litia Saumaka – Acting Assistant Director Immigration;
- Mrs. Laisani Kuru – Manager Passports and Citizenship;
- Mrs. Talei Yabakivou – Manager Compliance and Investigations;
- Mr. Ravinesh Nair – Manager Permits and Visa; and
- Mr. Umeshwaran Ram – Manager Accounts.

Date	Activity	Subject
<b>Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2019</b>	Referral of the Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report January – July 2016	
<b>Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2019</b>	Deliberation on the Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report January – July 2016 – Reading through the report and compilation of Committee’s questions;	Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report January – July 2016
	Business Lunch with the Australian High Commissioner at 12pm-1pm at his residence.	
<b>Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2019</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9.30am - Presentation by Ministry of Economy on the National Development Plans.</li> <li>• Briefing by Nr. Josua Namoce (MRL);</li> <li>• Continue deliberation on the Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report January – July 2016 – Reading through the report and compilation of Committee’s questions;</li> </ul>	Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report January – July 2016
<b>Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2019</b>	Compilation of the Committee’s Questions on the Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report January – July 2016	
<b>Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2019</b>		
<b>Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2019</b>	Draft and Finalisation of the Committee’s Questions	
<b>Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2019</b>		
<b>Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2019</b>	Compilation of discussion points to be included in the draft review report.	
<b>Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2019</b>	Brief Presentation on the National Security and Defence Review by Mr. Esala Teleni or Mr. Timoci Natuva	
<b>Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2019</b>	Draft review report of the Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report.	

<b>Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2019</b>	Submission from the MoDNSI (PS Ministry of Defence and National Security, MLO and PLO) on its Bi-Annual Report	Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report January – July 2016
<b>Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2019</b>	Deliberation on the Draft and Finalized Review Report of the MoDNSI Bi-Annual Report Jan – Jul 2016	
<b>Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2019</b>		
<b>Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2019</b>	Final Deliberation on the Review Report of the MoDNSI Bi-Annual Report Jan – Jul 2016;	
<b>Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2019</b>	Site Visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RFMF Black Rock Facility, Nadi;</li> <li>• Immigration, TCU, Customs &amp; Police Detector (K-9).</li> </ul>	
<b>Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2019</b>	Site Visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TCU Head Office, FRCS HQ, Nasese, Suva</li> <li>• RFMF Strategic Headquarters, Berkley Crescent, Suva;</li> <li>• Fiji Navy HQ, Stanley Brown Base, Walu Bay, Suva;</li> <li>• National Search and Rescue Coordination Center (NSRCC), Navy HQ;</li> <li>• CID Headquarters, Suva Street, Toorak</li> <li>• Intelligence Bureau HQ, CID HQ, Suva Street, Toorak</li> </ul>	

## **2.0 Committee Deliberation and Analysis**

### **2.1 Committee Findings**

The Committee's findings are outlined below:

#### **Ministry of Defence**

1. The Committee recognised there is no gender policy or disaggregated data in the report however, at the presentation of the ministry the committee was informed of its gender policy and the employee gender distribution.
2. The Committee is satisfied that the Ministry is taking positive steps to progress SDG 5. The Committee notes that the report makes little mention of other SDGs. The Committee recommends that immediate steps be taken to address this issue in its future reports. (SDG 5 – Gender Equality, SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities and SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institution).
3. The Committee noted that at the time of the report, not all compensation for Operation Grapple was paid. The Committee was briefed that the ministry faces several challenges in locating and identifying the beneficiaries. The Committee commends the decision by Government to compensate veterans and their dependents.
4. The Independent Auditors Report highlighted the unreconciled variance of \$94,197 on the Border Control Management System, however, during the presentation by the Immigration Department, it was clarified that there was a difference between the Integrated Border Control Management Systems and the Financial Management Information System. As such there was no revenue lost.
5. The report highlighted that there was an increasing trend on the number of vehicles on the roads leading to traffic congestion that could pose as a national security issue.
6. The Committee noted that Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were not used to evaluate the performance of the Ministry. As a result the Committee was limited in its assessment of the Ministry's performance.
7. The Committee is informed that the National Security Strategy (NSS), Defence White Paper and Police White Paper have been drafted and awaiting presentation to the Parliament.
8. The Committee noted that there is no security policy, standard operating procedures and physical hardening of critical assets installations including: EFL Monasavu Dam; EFL Vuda Power Station; EFL Kinoya Power Station; water catchments; WAF water and sewage treatment plants; TFL telecommunications sites; Fuel Depots particularly those located within the precinct of Central Business District (CBDs).

9. The Committee noted that following the incident of a cyanide truck accident at Wailotua, Wainibuka, Tailevu there were no measures taken to prevent such re-occurrence in the future.

### **Department of Immigration**

1. The Committee noted that the Immigration functions at the border is looked after by two (2) agencies – FRCS and Immigration Department. The Committee further notes that there is a gap in processing and monitoring of visitor arrivals and departures that could have contributed to the increase in the number of illegal immigrants and those breaching immigration laws.
2. The Committee notes that the Department of Immigration has since the writing of the report has been moved to the Office of the Prime Minister.
3. The Committee noted that since the report, the Department has moved forward in introducing electronic passport (E-passport). The Committee commends this move as a step in the right direction to improve the security features and compliance with international standards.

### **Republic of Fiji Military Forces**

1. The Committee noted that the report has made references to various units of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces, however the Committee notes with concern that the RFMF have not submitted an annual report since 2014.
2. The Committee is informed that the Government of Australia has committed a significant amount of funds towards the Black Rock Facility in order to enhance its peacekeeping training capability.

### **Republic of Fiji Navy (RFN)**

1. The Committee was impressed to see first-hand the functions of the Fusion Room at the RFN Headquarters particularly its overlaying functions of data collection and crisis management.
2. Of interest to the Committee, was the walk-through on board the Hydrographic vessel, RFNS Kacau.
3. The Committee recognises the great difficulty of the RFN to effectively respond to its maritime crisis within its Search and Rescue (SAR) region due to limitation of resources. SAR covers Kiribati, Tuvalu and Vanuatu waters bordering Fiji.

## **Fiji Police Force (FPF)**

1. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Committee was not given access to visit Police Intelligence Bureau (IB) and Criminal Investigation Department (CID) Headquarters, Toorak, Suva.

## **Challenges**

- The Committee recommends the latest satellite and geo-spatial technology with the appropriate training for military, navy, police and Ministry of Defence personnel to assist law enforcement, security and defence operations and crisis management.
- The Committee noted that in the absence of the National Security Strategy, the Ministry of Defence, the RFMF and the Fiji Police Force conduct their businesses with a degree of autonomy with minimal policy guidance from the ministry.

## 2.2 Oral and Written Evidence Received

### MoDNSI RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ON THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, NATIONAL SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION BI-ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY – JULY 2016

DATED: 27.02.2019

#### Department of Immigration

- 1.0 The Department of Immigration adheres to international conventions and treaties on the UN Convention on Refugees, UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols (TIP), ILO Convention (Labour Mobility), International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Passports and Travel Documents. What is the current level of compliance?

The Department of Immigration is fully compliant with all the International conventions and treaties as we deal with Refugees, Human Trafficking, Transnational Organized Crimes, Labour Mobility and Travel Documents.

- 2.0 In Border Control page 27 of the report please explain TELS entries into the controversial list, how effective is this measure and please explain.

The entries of TELS recipient's names into the controversial list are to ensure that all students under this scheme honor their Bond agreement. It has been effective as recipients need to get prior approval from FRCS before they can travel abroad. Anyone without prior approval are offloaded from their flights and advised to get approval before they can be allowed to travel. It is an internal control measure in place to monitor the movements of those bonded under TELS scheme.

- 3.0 What is the present status of X-ray facilities of Customs and Immigration capabilities at the Nadi and Nausori International Airport?

DOI would not comment on the status of the x-ray facilities as x-ray machines are under the responsibility of FRCS & BAF.

- 4.0 What are the future plans to strengthen above X-ray capabilities at the Nadi and Nausori International Airport?

DOI would not comment on the status of the x-ray facilities as x-ray machines are under the responsibility of FRCS & BAF.

- 5.0 What is the citizenship criteria in Fiji's Immigration Laws, this is a security matter, please explain?

In Fiji's Immigration Laws, there are 2 criteria in which applicants either have to meet in order to be eligible for citizenship. It is either through;

i) **Registration**

Minor (child of Fiji Citizen born overseas), Spouse, Former Fiji Citizen and Late Birth categories have to be registered initially prior to granting of Citizenship.

Under the Spouse and Late Birth categories, applicants have to meet the 3 of the 5 qualifying years prior to lodgement and processing of the applications.

Or

ii) **Naturalisation**

Applicants who have been working/residing/investing in the country or engaging expatriate contracted by government and have met the qualifying period of the five (5) of the ten (10) years together with the submission of the relevant required documents are eligible to apply under naturalization.

Submission of the relevant required documents as on the citizenship application checklist is very important prior to processing however; processing are not only confined as such but other checks and assessment are also carried out prior to granting of any citizenship.

6.0 In the Passport and Citizenship section pages 24 and 25 of the report, what is breakdown of the passport applications received and passports issued? From what countries and nationalities are successful citizenship applicants from?

The breakdown of the Passport application received and issued is reflected below:

**Total Number of Passport Applications Received.**

Month	Normal	Urgent	Total
January	2800	102	2902
February	2247	576	2823
March	2847	607	3454
<b>Total</b>			<b>9179</b>
April	3268	570	3838
May	3485	607	4092
June	3432	660	4092
<b>Total</b>			<b>12022</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>21201</b>

### Total Number of Passport Issued

Month	Normal	Urgent	Total
January	2200	582	2782
February	2698	480	3178
March	2553	623	3176
<b>Total</b>			<b>9136</b>
April	3369	654	4023
May	3287	632	3919
June	3609	660	4269
<b>Total</b>			<b>12,211</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>21347</b>

Successful citizenship applicants are from Australia, New Zealand, China, USA, Canada, India, UK, Korea, Western Samoa, Philippines, Bangladesh, Netherlands, France, Kiribati, Malaysia, Nauru, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Stateless (minor born overseas whose parents are Fiji nationals)

7.0 In the compliance and investigations section page 26 of the report in the table provided please give the breakdown of investigations?

Investigations included those who have breached the conditions of their permits. E.g. Those who were on visitor permit however found working without work permits; Those who have been issued work permits but working for another company; Over stayers – people who are currently in the country however do not have valid permits and Spouse of Fiji citizens who work without work permit.

Spouse of Fiji citizen working without a permit	1 – Indian national
Soliciting money from locals	2 (1– Indian national; 1 NZL)
Working without a permit	20 (1 – Tongan; 4 –USA; 3 Indian; 6 Aus.; 2 - Chinese; 1 Canadian; 1 NZL; 1 Pakistani; 1 Korean)
Studying without a permits	24 - Nepalese
Overstaying	7 (3 –Kiribati; 1 PNG; 3 Tongans; 1 Tuvalu)
Fraudulent passport	1 Indian

8.0 What type of surveillance intelligence was conducted?

- i). To locate the refugees who are in the Suva/Nausori area and get more information with regards to the work that they are doing or if they are studying.
- ii). Three [3] surveillances were carried out for the month of May to locate the refugees and over-stayers in the Suva & Nausori areas.
- iii). A special Taskforce team of 5 TRCOs have been appointed to physically check and verify over stayers Records retrieved from IBMS. The Team was tasked by the Hon.

Minister's office to locate all over stayers and have them removed by end of July 2016.

- v). From the updated records, C&I Team then carried out surveillance and physical checks on residential addresses which have been identified.
- vi). Locating a Solomon Islander who has breached his student permit.  
The operation was successful which resulted in the deportation of the concerned individual.

9.0 In terms of breaches on immigration laws, which countries or ethnicities recorded the majority of breaches?

Nepalese nationals

10.0 In terms of law enforcement agencies that conducted investigations, did that involve agencies outside Fiji?

No Local stakeholders e.g. Fiji Police Force

11.0 What are the figures and statistics on Trafficking in persons and people smuggling in Fiji over the period? What measures have the government taken to address the issues?

In Mar 2015, four (4) Bangladeshi nationals informed that they paid US\$10,000 to Mr. Govind Reddy, a Fiji citizen to assist them to obtain Fiji birth certificates, passports and driving licenses. Further investigation revealed that the trafficker absconded and had abandoned them in Fiji.

The case was referred to Police and DPP's office however Police failed to locate and apprehend Mr. Govind Reddy. The victim departed the country in 2018

12.0 Would the Ministry provide a breakdown of nationalities granted Fijian citizenship over the period?

No.	NATIONALITY	TOTAL
1	Australia	58
2	Stateless	34
3	New Zealand	30
4	China	18
5	Canada	11
6	USA	09
7	India	06
8	UK	06
9	Korea	05
10	Western Samoa	04
11	Philippines	04
12	Bangladesh	03
13	Netherlands	02
14	France	01

15	Kiribati	01
16	Malaysia	01
17	Nauru	01
18	Sri Lanka	01
19	Pakistan	01
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>196</b>

13.0 What is the status of investigations on Grace Road?

This is being handled by the Fiji Police Force.

14.0 In the summary of applications received and processed by the Permits and Visa Division in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2016, the figures of Quarter 2 do not add up, please explain.

The total will not balance as the remainders are either refused or not processed due to pending documents hence files are closed.

15.0 What are the functions of the Research and Development Unit of the Immigration Department as in page 28 of the report?

- i. Improve efficiency and the effective delivery of Immigration Services in the Department through the provision of up-to-date and analytical managerial information for planning and policy formulation.
- ii. Development of databases for relevant information sharing
- iii. Review of immigration policies and legislations
- iv. Coordinating with Corporate Section in capacity building within the Department in terms of training

16.0 What is the status of e-Passports? What are the benefits and risks?

- i. The department is in process for making the transition to e-Passports. There are lot of pre implementation work that needs to be carried out. The Department is working towards system realisation phase which includes vendor finalization, roll out plan, stakeholder engagement and other planned activities that will be commencing in due time.
- ii. An e-Passport is a biometric passport which includes a chip, which can be used at the automated e-Passport gates instead of having your passport checked by a border force officer (e.g. Customs Officer). The chip holds the same information that is printed on the passport's data page: the holder's name, date of birth, and other biographic information. E-Passports are designed to increase security, making it more difficult to change data recorded on a passport and therefore limiting the chance of fraud.

### Benefits:

- i. The e-Passport is highly secure, hence avoids passport reproduction and tampering. The e-Passport database is enhanced with biometric capabilities that guards against multiple passport issuances to the same person and enhances imposter detection.
- ii. It facilitates fast clearance of traveller's at immigration checks.
- iii. E-Passports provide travellers' benefits such as use of automated border clearance or "e-Gates", automated issuance of boarding passes, and faster travel arrangements with airlines.
- iv. The use of electronic passport also provides better border protection and security.

### Risks:

- i. The cost for implementation can be considered as a risk. Systems as such incur a lot of cost.
- ii. Implementation and planning needs to be carefully done.

## FINANCE/AUDIT

17.0 Independent Auditors Report findings on page 32 of the report stapled advise there is a recorded variance of \$94,197 exists between the Integrated Border Control Management; Auditor General could not substantiate the correctness the operating balance of \$7,197,414; please justify.

The variance of \$94,197 is due to the following reasons:

The manual receipting were not on the IBMS system such as PI uplift, Search fees, Appeal fees, Issue fees, 9(7) Authority fees. The revenue received from the Embassies [Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Industry and Trade are reflected in the FMIS system but not on the IBMS system.

Apart from the above, manual receipting are not reflected in the system as well.

18.0 Page 20 of the report suggests non-utilization of capital budget. Please justify.

There was non-utilization of capital budget for 2016 due to the changes in the new financial period from August 2016- July 2017. Since within 6 months (January – July 2016) the budget could not be fully utilised.

19.0 In this Bi Annual Report 2016 in the first six (6) months what percentage and value of the total budget was utilized?

For first six months 41% and \$2,556,824 of the total budget was utilized. (Budget 6.2 million (59% - 3.7 m).

### **3.0 Gender Analysis**

The Parliament of Fiji Standing Orders 110(2) requires the Committee to give full consideration to the principle of gender equality so as to ensure all matters are considered with regard to the impact and benefit on both men and women.

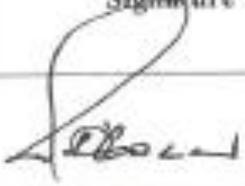
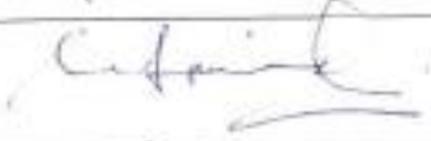
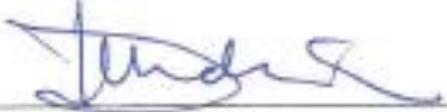
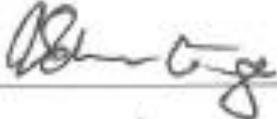
The Committee notes that the Bi-Annual Report does not provide gender disaggregated data. The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Defence and National Security provides a gender policy and gender disaggregated data in its future reports.

## **4.0 Conclusion**

The Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence has fulfilled its mandate approved by Parliament which was to examine the Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual Report for the 2016 half fiscal year. The Committee has conducted its review and formulated the findings with regard to the Ministry's performance. The Committee also took the initiative and opportunity to highlight in its report to Parliament issues that currently challenge the ministry today.

The Committee report is bi-partisan and contributions from both sides have provided the final report. The key areas highlighted by the Committee in its findings would improve the overall performance of the ministry in the future. We commend the report and the way forward.

## 5.0 Members Signature

Members of the Committee		Signature
Hon. Alexander O'Connor (Chairperson)	-	
Hon. Dr. Salik Govind (Deputy Chairperson)	-	
Hon. Pio Tikoduadua (Member)	-	
Hon. Selai Adimaitoga (Member)	-	
Hon. Anare Jale (Member)	-	

## 6.0 APPENDICES

No	Date	Agency/Organisation	Written Evidence	Oral Evidence
1	7 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Director General of the National Security and Defence Review Committee	✓	✓
2	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Ministry of Defence and National Security	✓	✓



# Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence

**6.1 Ministry of Defence, National Security and Immigration Bi-Annual  
Report Jan – Jul 2016 Site Visit Report**

## **STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE (FAD)** **SITE VISIT REPORT FOR TUESDAY 19- WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH,2019**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

### **RFMF BLACK ROCK SITE VISIT AND BRIEFING – 10am**

The Committee paid a courtesy call to the Commander of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) Rear Admiral Viliame Naupoto at Black Rock Facility, Votualevu, Nadi. After the welcome and formalities the Commander briefed the Committee on the status of the RFMF. Brief points noted from Admiral Naupoto's presentation are as follows:

- A historic day for the RFMF to receive and welcome the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence (FAD) to Black Rock Base Camp.
- A historic day yesterday 18/3/19 when the Commander and the Australian Ambassador farewell 149 troops for peacekeeping duties in Sinai with MFO.
- It was a historic day in which the Australian Government through the Australian Defence Force (ADF) assisted in flying the troops with a brief stopover in Australia then direct to Cairo, Egypt previously done through commercial Airlines.
- Black Rock is a facility for training of RFMF troops to be deployed on tour of duty to the Middle East and Africa.
- Black Rock is also a Humanitarian and Disaster Relief training centre not only for the Military but for all services.
- Last week 54 Police Officers were on a five days training in Black Rock on navigation, map reading, situations faced in peacekeeping missions, digging your own trench, communications etc.
- These police officers are going to be deployed to UN Peacekeeping missions in Africa.
- Admiral Naupoto noted that when he was Commander Navy he went to Parliament to ask the Committee to visit the Navy and understand their roles and function.
- The RFMF is happy that the Committee has decided to visit Black Rock as the military is for the people by the people.

### **ABSENCE OF RFMF DEFENCE POLICY**

- Commander Naupoto noted when he started as Commander RFMF two (2) years ago his role under the Constitution was clear but there was no defence policy for the RFMF.
- So Commander Naupoto devised a guiding document or the Commander's Intent that will guide and shape the RFMF.
- In a nutshell this guiding document is staffed by senior military officers who act as advisors that shape a kind of defence policy for the RFMF.
- The RFMF in the past, present and future is impacted by strategic challenges in its operating space which are transnational in nature, climate change, within

this spectrum of challenges and threats, lies extremism, non-traditional threats, racial.

- The challenge for the RFMF is its ability and having the capability and speed to face these emerging threats effectively and efficiently.
- It is about improving capabilities and firepower to respond effectively using minimum force.
- Firepower does not necessarily mean arms and bullets, it simply means responding effectively to a situation with a resources we have for e.g. in a cyclone emergency the RFMF must have the capability /weight and quick response to clear fallen trees without having to wait for people or allies to arrive.
- It must be able to analyse, deploy with speed and respond to the situation on the ground.
- This demands cooperative engagement with a lot of plenary extremes.
- Planning for the RFMF means joint policies for Government that should be in sync with the Ministry of Health and other line agencies.

## **RFMF CAPABILITIES**

- The RFMF needs to be effective in its operations use SMART technologies by way of investment in capabilities.
- Control at National level must be the ability to respond to natural disasters and respond to for e.g. crisis situation in Tailevu.
- This means progressive strengthening and fire power and not necessarily bullets.
- Having a AABR capabilities.
- The CRFMF Intent 2018 is about: (i) Capacity Building (transformation as current generation is individualistic) need to build soldiers of the future that are team players, (ii) Capability Modernisation (e.g. of his son who is independent and hi-Tec savvy and Commander is worried about how they connect as Father and Son, (iii) Organisational Structure Alignment.
- RFMF and Fiji Navy through China Aid have received RFN Kacau a hydrographic vessel with a deck that is re-configured like a catamaran, doubles as a heavy lift vessel.
- Fiji Navy expects a new vessel from Australia in 2020 and the next one in 2023 (Guardian Class).
- The Queen Elizabeth Barracks is expanding with TF Brigade now moved to FTG, before the TF Brigade was manned from a small office.
- The RFMF Organisation establishment stands at 4,030 of personnel.
- Under the Commander sits Deputy Commander Aziz and Chief of Staff Navy Captain John Fox, then I have the Directors under them are the Chief of the Navy, Commander Land Forces, Chief of Staff Deployable Forces and the Territorial Forces headed by Brigadier General Apakuki Kuruisiga.

## **RFMF ORGANISATIONAL RESTRUCTURE**

- RFMF Organisation Restructure in alignment to what the RFMF has to do: (i) serve the people well (ii) having the right structure.

- For 70/20 ratio – 70 is the required number of officers needed and 20 officers actual numbers on the ground.

### **RFMF ATTRITION RATE**

- There is a big attrition rate – Officers recruited in 1987 retiring from this year and next year 2020; as Commander I will be losing my best Warrant Officers.
- Soldiers recruited in 1987 were between the ages 18-26yrs old.
- 700 soldiers will be retiring soon at the age of 55 years.

### **RFMF RECRUITMENT**

- To counter this situation I have instructed my military recruiters to recruit young candidates between 17-30yrs – this will have an equal spread to counter the future effects of attrition on the RFMF.
- In 1987 an 18yr old recruited into the RFMF then was confident and mature.
- In comparison in 2019 an 18yr old recruited into the RFMF is not confident and mature compared to the recruits in 1987.
- The RFMF every year recruits a pool of 250 x personnel (pers) into the Territorial Force (TF) Brigade.

### **RFMF DEPLOYABLE FORCES**

- In Black Rock we are having 250 x pers under-going pre-deployment training whilst awaiting rotation to Iraq. If there are Visa delays then these soldiers will be used in humanitarian response in Fiji when a cyclone or climate change disaster strikes.
- Once Visa issues in Iraq are approved then 250 x pers will be deployed to UN missions in Iraq, Sinai and Golan Heights Israel and the Syrian side, whilst another batch of 250 x pers of TF soldiers undergoes pre-deployment training.

### **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

- RFMF Commander stated that the current tussle for global power is between China and the US.
- **Fiji and the RFMF has to be smart in its relations with the bigger countries and militaries.**
- RFMF needs to strike a balance and China is coming in very strong into the Region and Fiji.
- *If Fiji and the RFMF is not careful we can be squeezed out and become irrelevant.*

### **Australian Government Assistance**

- Australian Government is funding the Black Rock project as confirmed by the recent visit of the Australian Prime Minister to the tune of (FJD) \$33 million.
- The funding of the building of the physical structure of Black Rock which will begin in April 2019.

- This includes building of Level 1 Hospital, Mess Hall, Armoury, UN School of Peacekeeping, Bulk or Storage site for RFMF/ADF assets for quick deployment in humanitarian crisis and assistance.
- Australia will provide 2 x Guardian Patrol Boats
- Training of Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs)

#### **New Zealand Government Assistance**

- Training of Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (SNCOs)
- Maritime Security Assistance with New Zealand Navy vessels patrolling Fiji's EEZ with recently the HMAS Taupo and HMAS Hawea.

#### **US Government Assistance**

- Training of Officers and SNCOs
- Ship Ryder Arrangement in countering Illegal Fishing in the Pacific Ocean with multilateral agreements with South Pacific Countries.
- Global Peace Operations Initiatives

#### **Indian Government Assistance**

- Officers Training
- SNCOs Training

#### **Malaysian Government Assistance**

- Officers Training
- SNCOs Training

#### **Chinese Government Assistance**

- RFN Kacau Hydrographic vessel
- Military Equipment
- QEB Upgrades and refurbishments
- Training of Officers
- Training of SNCOs

#### **Sri Lankan Government Assistance**

- Staff College Training
- Cost Sharing

### **Indian Government Assistance**

- Staff College Training

### **United Arab Emirates (UAE) Government Assistance**

- MOU signed on military cooperation

### **Korean Government Assistance Government Assistance**

- Korean Hydrography Boat for Fiji Navy will be handed over by the Korean Government Ministry of Fisheries by end of March 2019.
- Fiji Navy will assist the Ministry of Fisheries survey Fiji Waters.
- Also assess capabilities of Super Yachts that frequent Fiji Waters in recent years and months.

### **Deployed Forces Peacekeeping**

- UNFIL – United Nation Forces in Lebanon Fiji first deployed to Lebanon in 1978 and finished in 2002.
- In 2010 Fiji was invited back to UNFIL in 2010 but later finished in 2017; 142 troops were withdrawn and later rotated to Golan and Sinai Multinational Force & Observers (MFO).
- Now only one officer is part of UNFIL in Naqoura HQ.
- In United Nations Disengagement Force (UNDOF) in the Golan Heights, Syria the RFMF has (249 troops X All Ranks).
- UNTSO – United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation is the oldest UN peacekeeping mission based in Israel since 1948, RFMF has two (2) officers on secondment.
- UNAMI – United Nations Mission in Iraq, RFMF has 168 x All Ranks.
- UNMISS – United Nations Mission in South Sudan has 6 x Officers serving in the mission area.
- There are 596 Deployed RFMF Troops.
- Hon. Lt. Col Pio Tikoduadua noted at the height of peacekeeping RFMF had 1,700 troops deployed overseas on peacekeeping missions.
- Commander RFMF prefers for Fiji to remain in the Middle East and not in Africa.
- For a RFMF Officer deployed to Africa due to the contrasting Area of Operations it will take a long time for them to adjust back to the Middle East peacekeeping missions.
- RFMF peacekeeping missions overseas is doing marvellous work to improve livelihoods across communities in Fiji, Commander RFMF has witnessed TF soldiers homes in the rural areas; they are very smart and wise.

### **RFMF Major Projects**

- Upgraded RFMF Infrastructure
- Upgrade of Sukanaivalu Barracks in Labasa
- Upgrading of armouries in military camps in Viti Levu and Vanua Levu

- RFMF will develop its land near the Ministry of Health Pharmaceuticals Facility in Jerusalem Road, Nabua to build a warehouse that will transform and enhance its procurement of equipment and supplies for the RFMF.
- Upgrade of the Lautoka VC Sukanaivalu Barracks
- Upgrade of the FTG Camp and Equipment including the TF Brigade HQ
- Upgrade of the RFMF George Mate Hospital and the procurement and installation of the latest X-ray Machine this would be better than the CWM Hospital.
- The RFMF Military Hospital off-sets most of the load from the Public Health Hospitals.
- This will complement the Ministry of Health FEMAT initiatives, this is part of better response to HADR needs in terms of deployment of assets and resources.
- Chair Hon O'Connor noted FEMAT initiatives by Ministry of Health has partnered with the LDS Church.
- Commander RFMF noted the RFMF deployed to Vanuatu in 2017 with troops and Ministry of Health staff to assist the local population in the aftermath of Cyclone Pam.
- Chair noted that Fiji has not experienced a major airline disaster. The RFMF Black Rock Hospital with assistance of the Ministry of Health must have a 200 x bed Level 1 Hospital with a mortuary to handle 200 x bodies. As and when the incident happens in the future the first responders and the RFMF can respond accordingly.
- Purchasing of scaffolds and equipment especially in catering for RFMF funerals of fallen soldiers, it is very costly to hire from business entities.

#### **RFMF /US NEVADA STATE NATIONAL GUARD PARTNERSHIP**

- MOU signed.
- RFMF to study the setup of the US Nevada State National Guard
- Adaptation to RFMF operation posture locally
- Hon. Lt. Col Pio Tikoduadua has stated the need for better coordination in operational capability.
- 2 UP preparation
- SEMIC capability
- Hon. Lt. Col Tikoduadua attended a course with US Marines in Honolulu, Hawaii the importance of coordination and augmentation.

#### **PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF THE RFMF**

- Issue on the perception of the RFMF is very important.
- Alleviating perceptions and public fears of the RFMF
- Hon. Lt. Col Tikoduadua stated that it is important that the RFMF embraces the Public.
- Scenario of a broken bridge
- NSS DG Navy Captain (Ret) Natuva has briefed the Committee on: NSS, Defence Force Review.
- To be tabled in Parliament – 1UP
- Admiral Naupoto noted that the RFMF in its Civic/Military Engagement it is trying to meet the -2 UP.

- Due to RFMF History it has always been branded a watch dog, this will mean a return to barracks. Go and tie up.
- Commander Naupoto wants the RFMF Public Perception to be one of a Home Dog.
- Admiral Naupoto noted the RFMF is a tool for Nation Building, if you push the RFMF back into its previous where it was pushed back after a national crisis. (tighten the dog chain)
- Good and positive engagements is important for the RFMF (Start – 2 UP not seen).
- A better model of Civil/Military Engagements is critical in moving the Nation Forward.

## RFMF ANNUAL REPORT

- Hon. Lt. Col Tikoduadua asked Commander RFMF why it has not submitted an Annual Report since 2014.
- Admiral Naupoto stated this is true, he faced similar challenges when he became Commander RFMF two (2) years ago.
- In the last 2 years, the RFMF has kept within its' budget and in the past it had always busted it's budget.
- All the policy processes, budget and KPIs will need to be factored into the RFMF Annual Report.
- *Commander RFMF Admiral Naupoto invited the FAD Committee to the Queen Elizabeth Barracks (QEB), Nabua for a site visit.*

## CONSTITUTIONAL ROLE OF THE RFMF

- Commander RFMF Admiral Naupoto noted the Constitutional Role also encompasses Border Security, this opens up gaps in FRCS and Immigration functions at the border.
- Importance of strengthening Fiji's Border Force.
- Admiral Naupoto noted that as a former Director Immigration and Commander Navy he always emphasized the importance of the security at sea ports.
- Most of Fiji threats are maritime based and not those coming through two Fiji's International Airports (Nadi and Nausori).
- A lot of Fiji's border security efforts are presently concentrated at Nadi International Airport.
- In Fiji's EEZ and the High Seas a lot of vessels are transferring cargo which will arrive in Fiji through its sea ports.
- In Nadi an aircraft cannot transfer cargo in mid -air it will fly from point of departure to point of destination. Planes cannot transfer in mid-air.
- Ships and vessels transfer a lot of their cargo in the high seas.
- Vessels drop transponders in the ocean with their intended cargo, other vessels locate the transponder and move the cargo to the intended destination.
- Customs and Immigration use the same IT systems for processing passengers and cargo at the sea and air ports.
- Black Rock Facility will also have UN School of Peacekeeping for all services including HADR training.

- This will strengthen Force Protection of all RFMF troops deployed on overseas missions to make sure their eyes, ears and bodies get the proper level of protection that is needed in peacekeeping theatres of operation.



## DIRECTOR PSO COLONEL PACOLO LUVENI – BLACK ROCK CAMP BRIEF

- Directorate was established in early 2015
- Under HQ DPSO comes Admin, Logistics, Training and Black Rock Peacekeeping Support.
- History of RFMF Deployment:
- Deployment of 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandos, 1FIR & 3FIR in Guadalcanal and Bougainville – April 1943-August 1944
- Last RFMF Combat Deployment – Malayan Campaign 1952-56 (appro 1600 troops).
- The RFMF has been providing peacekeepers to the United Nations since 1978.
- Lebanon (UNFIL 1) - 1978-2004
- Lebanon (UNFIL 2) - 2015-2018
- Rhodesia (FOGA) - 1979
- Sinai (MFO) - 1982 – on-going
- Afghanistan (UNGOMAP) -1988-1993
- Iraq/Kuwait (UNIKOM) - 1991-2003
- Somalia (UNISOM) - 1992-1993
- Bougainville (SPKKF) - 1994
- East Timor (INTERFET) - 1999-2000
- East Timor (UNTAET) - 2000-2002
- East Timor (UNIMISSET) - 2002-2006
- Sudan (UNMIS) - 2000-2011
- South Sudan (UNMISS) - 2011 –on-going
- Solomon Islands(RAMSI) –2003-2006
- Iraq (UNAMI) - 2004-on-going
- Syria/Golan Heights (UNDOF) – 2013-on-going
- Golan Heights/Lebanon/Syria (UNTSO) – 2015 –on-going

### Iraq Government Visa Issues

- RFMF still has Visa Issues with the Iraqi Government, long processing time.
- Australian Government and ADF still face the same visa issues with the Iraqi Government.

### **Training Summary**

- 6 weeks of pre-deployment training at Black Rock Camp
- 2 weeks synchronised units training not infantry especially for soldiers who do not come from infantry units.
- Theoretical exercise
- Good hardship training
- Sexual exploitation of women and children training
- New Zealand Army Medical Training
- 5 x days non-stop scenario training
- Officer Training – OC Captain Dugu with assistance from the ADF
- Commander RFMF Admiral Naupoto that the Australian Government and the ADF are assisting in pre-deployment training with 4 x new subjects.
- Strengthen Force Protection for soldiers under-going training and those on deployment to peacekeeping missions abroad.
- SOPs
- TTPs

### **Commander's Guidance**

- Initiative of the Commander saw Fiji Police Force (FPF x 45 pers) 10-16 Mar 19 training at Blackrock over 5 days on Basic Survival Skills, Leadership and Team Building training.
- Facilitation of IMF Security Training at Black Rock facility (19-21 Mar 19)
- Delivery of instructions (CIED, Mine Awareness and Fire Fighting).
- Provision of Role Players for Training Scenarios.



## DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION BRIEF – 12pm



- Acting Manager Immigration Western Mr Deepak Karan briefed the Committee at the International Arrivals at Nadi International Airport.
- Front line – FRCS
- Second line- Immigration
- Since 2005 reforms has resulted in a kind of border force
- Department of Immigration provide training and gazetted FRCS as immigration officers.
- For example high risk flights i.e. Singapore flight
- Primary line officers go through immigration training i.e. Bio-Security
- Front-line security officers
- FRCS Reforms by training and empowering 26 x officers to service the front line.



## FIJI CUSTOMS/ FIJI POLICE FORCE DETECTOR PROGRAM – 12.20PM

- Profiling and targeting at the border according to Team Leader Corporal Mosese Fatiaki.
- Sea port and airport coverage covering ships, vessels and aircraft and all its cargo.
- Coverage of all international and domestic flights



### **DETECTION CAPABILITY**

- Detection of all white powder and substances by the K-9 and the handlers.
- K-9 not trained to detect explosives
- Concealment methods
- Concealment of Cocaine in the linings of a suitcase in 31/7/17
- Since the inception of the program in 2016 there are 71 seizures with a street value of \$81.3 million.
- In recent times there has been an increase in the detection and seizure of Cocaine, Amphetamine and Ephedrine (pre-cursory the manufacture of amphetamine which is smuggled out of China).
- The Unit has three teams (3 K-9 and 3 X Handlers) which is 1 team down when one dog was retired late last year 2018.
- The Unit daily has to process on average 2,400 passengers on a daily basis and concurrently look after Police Operational issues in the Western Division.
- Recent case and seizure of 13kg Cocaine, 65 Ecstasy tablets and US\$95,000 on board the yacht Shenanigans on 4/8/19 at Port Denarau.

### **BREEDING PROGRAM**

- Hard to find re-placement dogs since 2018
- Dogs sourced from New Zealand
- In May 2019 the unit will receive re-placement dogs and training for handlers.
- Dogs as young as 8 weeks is trained to be a K-9 Dog

- Chair Hon. O'Connor noted that with the demands on Port Denarau, Vuda Marina and Lautoka Wharf it will put a strain on the K-9 unit.
- DCP Tudravu noted the importance of intelligence driven capability in responding better to the demands of security at the border.
- Chair Hon. O'Connor noted the dire need to increase the K-9 capability of the unit by 3 fold.
- This is to meet the influx of Drug Trafficking on 1 24/7 basis.



## TRANSNATIONAL CRIME UNIT (TCU) NADI AIRPORT OFFICE – 12.50pm

- Briefing by Detective Inspector Sekove Vuniwaqa whereby there are currently 3 x officers in the TCU Nadi Office.
- Team made up of police and customs officers.
- TCU Mission is to (i) Detect (ii) Disrupt (iii) Dismantle Transnational Crime Issues at the border on sea and airports.
- TCU role and function is on intelligence gathering and surveillance of persons of interest (POI) and cargo at the border.
- Investigations is undertaken by Police CID for the cases to be deposited by the Courts.

## Concealment Methods

- Concealment methods in DVD decks in June 2018
- K-9 tracks used to detect drugs, foreign currencies and contrabands
- Fail to declare foreign currency
- Customs spot fine as deterrence counter the above offences

## TCU Needs

- Need for improvement in TCU related training
- More TCU related surveillance training locally and overseas
- Submission before High Court on authorization to install listening devices, this process takes time.
- For Search Warrant signed by the sitting Magistrate compared to the above.
- Risk you don't the people in between
- Need for Intelligence gathering training locally and overseas.
- Better resourcing of IT/Surveillance equipment for the TCU Teams
- Hon. Selai Adimaitoga noted a major transformation in modernizing capabilities across the board.
- PTCC Headquarters in Apia, Samoa since 2004; also coordinates with all TCU Offices in the Pacific Region.
- Hon. Pio Tikoduadua noted the importance of timely information for TCU and look at how this can be channelled to Navy, Army and Police.



## TCU HEAD OFFICE, FRCS HEADQUARTERS 20/3/19- 9.50am



- Briefing by OC TCU ASP Saimoni Naicegucegu
- TCU established in 2002 and consists of personnel from Police and Customs.
- TCU Role is to manage and compile TCU generated intelligence
- Exchange intelligence and targeting POIs in the Pacific Region.
- Liaison with law enforcement agencies in the region and AFP, New Zealand and US.
- TCU is controlled by a Board of Management from Fiji Police, Customs and Australian Federal Police (AFP).
- TCU Fiji Area of Operation (AOR): 6 X Officers based in Suva, 4 x Officers in Nadi, 1 Officer based in Lautoka and 1 Officer based Savusavu.
- TCU focus is to (i) Detect (ii) Disrupt (iii) Dismantle

### **LEGAL STATUTES**

- Customs Laws
- Customs Regulation
- Crimes Decree of 2009
- Illicit Drug Act
- Money Exchange Control Act
- Immigration Act
- Proceeds of Crime Act
- Financial Transaction Act
- Police Act

### **PRIORITY CRIME TRENDS**

- Methamphetamine
- Heroin
- Cocaine

Methamphetamine is intercepted through via air freight. Meth packs sells for \$50 per pack. All of the Meth are sourced from US markets. Deported Fiji nationals from overseas are currently sharing their knowledge in the local manufacture of methamphetamine and other precursor for other drugs.

## **TCU Operations and Seizures**

- Operation Outrigger in 2004 whereby 2kg Methamphetamine and 4 tonnes of Cocaine were found worth in seizures worth \$1 billion (FJD).
- Operation Wado (2012) – 2.4kg seized
- Operation Ucuiwai (2015) joint operation with New Zealand Customs, heroin seized were worth 357kg.
- Operation Ricksaw (2007) Mexican lady conceals drugs on her body
- Operation Cleaner (2012) drugs soaked in towels on the carry-on baggage. Gaps exist on security checks and X-ray machines.
- Operation Mass (2014) Korean nationals involved in which 20kg cocaine concealed in bags.
- Operation Tai (2017) in which a controlled delivery from the Fiji side in which a tracking device was mounted on the vessel caring the cargo and was intercepted by the Australian Navy in International waters.
- Operation PASAM 1 (2019) – 39 bars of Cocaine hidden in the wooden frames of a bed. Rahman (Canadian National) 14/2/19.

## **Other Crime Trends**

- Funding of terrorism
- Fail to declare currency
- ATM Skimming
- Contraband smuggling
- Money Laundering
- Fraud
- Human Trafficking
- Prostitution

## **Organised Members Crime Gangs (OMCG) Members**

- OMCG established in Fiji
- OMCG visiting in Fiji
- Comancheros
- Head Hunters
- Hells Angels
- Mongrel Mob
- Rebels from Thailand, Australia and Fiji targeting for a rally at Nadi in August 2017.

## **MARITIME ISLANDS DRUG PROBLEMS**

- Hon Anare Jale noted that in the Lau province it is very critical to counter the threat of drugs in remote Islands in the Lau Group.
- Chair noted in 1978 whilst he was in the Fiji Navy they noticed so many gas tanks were lying idle in empty island beaches, which promoted concerns of drugs smuggling.

## **CEO FRCS MR VISVANATH DAS**

- Thanks FAD Committee for tour of TCU and FRCS Headquarters, TCU HQ and FRCS are humbled by the gesture.
- FRCS/TCU staff are doing what they do for all Fijians
- There are some short-comings, yet FRCS, TCU and partners will do all it can to improve its services across all levels especially alleviating security at all borders at sea ports and air ports.
- Resources are never enough
- Sharing of Information and resources is the way forward.
- Chair thanks CEO FRCS, OC TCU and the Team for the big efforts made to improve and strengthen security at the borders, the Committee notes the short comings and the way forward in the report committee report that will be tabled in the next sitting of the House



## Fiji Navy Maritime Integrated Search and Rescue Center – 1105am

- Brief by the Chief of the Navy Captain Humphery Tawake
- Fiji Navy was formed on 25 July 1975
- 75 pers & 3 Mine Sweeper Class
- Based at Walu Bay in Suva
- 1985 Acquisition of RFNS Viti- Training Base

### **FIJI NAVY GOALS**

- Protect Fiji's Maritime
- Sovereignty
- Protect Maritime Resources
- Provide Maritime Search and Rescue
- Support Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief
- Provide a Hydrographic Service
- Provide Coastal Radio Station

### **Search and Rescue (SAR) Functions**

- SOLAS – Safety of Life at Sea
- MSAF – Marine Safety Authority of Fiji Coordination
- Link to International Hydrographic Organisation
- Protect Fiji's Maritime Sovereignty
- Protect Marine Resources
- Fiji's Area of Operation (AO) is it's EEZ of 1.3 million square kilometres
- Ratio 1:27 covering 18,000 land and 1,200 km coastline
- SAR Area is 6 times more the size of Fiji's EEZ
- This covers Kiribati, Tuvalu, Vanuatu waters bordering Fiji.
- There are 6 x Watchers on a 24/7 basis, they will rapidly respond to any situation.

### **Diving Operations**

- Based at RFN Togalevu with 2 x Dive Teams
- 2hrs notice for sea
- Supposed to be 3 x Dive Teams and are presently doing selection for the 3<sup>rd</sup> team.
- Navy Divers need to be Physically, Mentally and Medically Fit at all times
- Presently there is no Recompression Chamber at CWM Hospital
- Plans to have a portable recompression chamber a 1 x man at the Navy Base at Stanley Brown and 1 x portable.

### **Operations**

- Only two vessels RFN Kula and RFN Kikau are operational
- Fiji Navy has total of 344 personnel which also includes the Fiji Hydrographic Service.
- Hydrography

- Cartography
- Oceanography
- Ocean Management
- Climate Change is changing the face of operations plus re-shaping new security threats that are maritime based.
- UNCLOS – Fiji Maritime Reserves
- ICJ rally with Philippines and China.

## Challenges

- Maritime Assets Capability
- Modernisation and Expansion of Operational Base
- Technology Modernisation to tackle Security Challenges

## Way Forward

- Improve capabilities of Fiji Navy across all levels
- Improve Systems and Processes
- Minerva Reef is part of Fiji's territory even though Tonga has made counter claims in light of potential mineral deposits.
- Reforms Phase 1
- New Capability
- Hydro vessel (ROKODA) Jan 2019
- Guardian Class Patrol Boat- 2020/2023
- Multi Role Vessel
- Forward Basing Concept
- Aerial Surveillance Capability
- Capability Enhancement
- Relocation of 3DP Suva Radio, Hydrographic Service and FMSRCC to Lami
- Valencina Project



Fiji Police Director Police Intelligence Bureau and Director CID Brief and Site Visit at CID Headquarters, Toorak, Suva – 1pm

- *Commissioner of Police Brig. Gen Sitiveni Qiliho cancelled the Committee site visit and briefings by the above two (2) Police Directors for Intelligence (IB) and CID.*

## 6.2 POWERPOINT PRESENTATION BY THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, NATIONAL SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION

BI-ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY – JULY 2016

**PRESENTATION TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE**

**11 MARCH, 2019**



### SCOPE OF PRESENTATION



- Role of the Ministry
- Legislations that governs the Ministry
- Organization Chart
- Divisions in the Ministry
- Department of Immigration



# MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY



- The Ministry of Defence and National Security is mandated by His Excellency, the President of Fiji, to provide a safe and secure environment that we can all live in peace and harmony in.
- The core responsibility of the Ministry is to manage the nation's security through the formulation and implementation of policy initiatives, programmes and projects on matters of defence, national security, and intelligence.



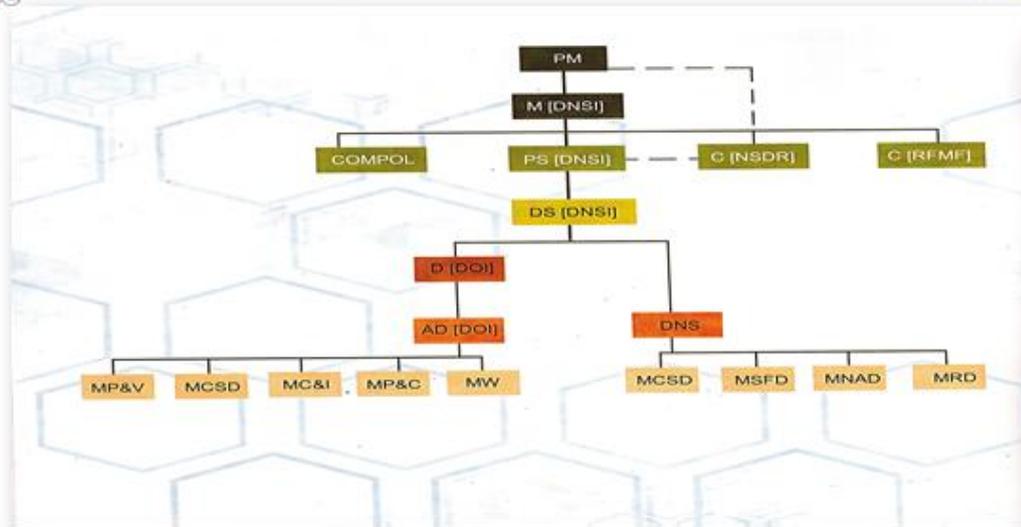
## LEGISLATION THAT GOVERNS THE MINISTRY



- Defence and National Security
- Anti-Personnel Mines Decree 2011
- Arms and Ammunition Act 2003
- Biological and Toxin Weapons Decree 2011
- Chemical Weapons Conventions Act 2005
- Geneva Conventions Promulgation 2007
- Police Act (Cap. 85)
- Public Order Act (Cap. 20)
- Public Safety Act (Cap. 19)
- Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1997 (Irrelevant Convictions Act)
- Republic of Fiji Military Forces Act (Cap. 81)
- Security Industry Act 2010
- Visiting Forces Decree 1991



# ORGANIZATION



## DIVISIONS IN THE MINISTRY



- Corporate Service Division (CSD)
- National Assessment Division (NAD)
- National Security Defence Review Secretariat (NSDR)
- Security Forces Division (SFD)
- Security Division (SD)
- Research and Development (RD)



## **CORPORATE SERVICE DIVISION (CSD)**



- Post Processing Unit
- KPI's
- Strategic Objective
- Gender
- Accounts



## **SECURITY FORCES DIVISION**



- Hydrographic Services
- Maritime Security – EEZ
- SAR – RCC/NCC
- Christmas Island
- MLO/PLO CELL
- Fiji Police Special Constable
- Capability to combat terrorism – RFMF/FPF
- Legislative Enablers



## PROJECT



- Relocation of the Naval Base
- RFMF Blackrock Facility



## ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS POSED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019



- How will the \$30m be used on the Blackrock Project
- Concerns on the Nabua Police Station security?
- How does the Ministry deal with Asymmetric threats?
- Drugs – how is the Ministry approaching this
- What is the status regarding security cooperation with stakeholders



## SECURITY DIVISION



- Counter-terrorism
- Counter-CTOG
- Fireworks and Explosive
- NCLASA
- Critical Infrastructure
- Information Security
- Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP)



## DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION



- International Conventions and treaties
- Border Control
- Investigation-Grace road
- Permits and Visa
- e-Passports
- Reorganization





**PRESENTATION TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE 11 MARCH, 2019**

## **LEGISLATION THAT GOVERNS THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY**



### **SCOPE OF PRESENTATION**



- Background
- Legislation
- Conventions
- Legislated Conventions



## BACKGROUND



- Ministerial Assignment - Legal notice 52 (2014)



## LEGISLATION



- Defence and National Security
- Police Act (Cap 85)
- RFMF Act (CAP 81)
- Public Order Act (CAP 20)
- Public Safety Act (CAP 19)
- Rehabilitation of Offenders (Irrelevant Convictions) Act 1997
- Security Industries Act 1991
- Visiting Forces Decree 1991
- Arms and Ammunition Act (CAP 188) 1962



## CONVENTIONS



- Small Arms and Light Weapons
- Enabling United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) that are Under the Disarmament Affairs
- International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)
- Search and Rescue

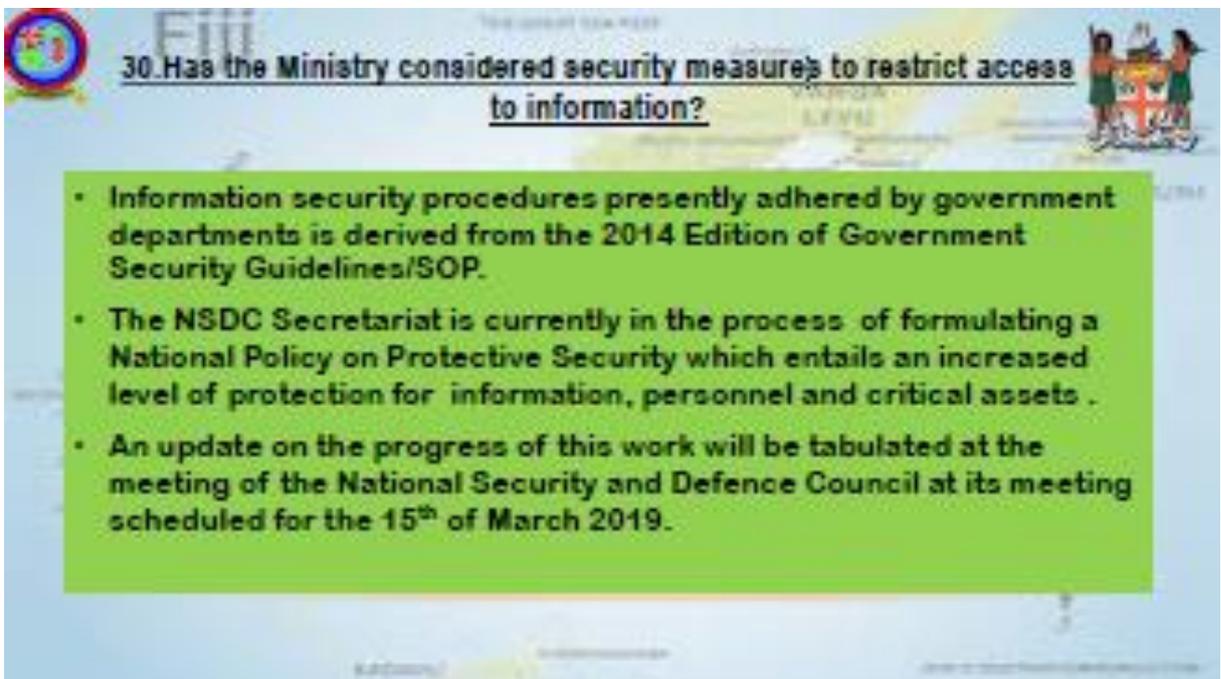


## LEGISLATED CONVENTIONS



- Anti-Personnel Mines Act 2011
- Biological and Toxin Weapons Act 2011
- Chemical Weapons Convention Act 2005
- The Geneva Conventions Promulgation (2007)

### 6.3 National Security and Defence Council Presentation





**Fiji**

**45. What is the status of the NSS? How widely did the Ministry consult?**

- There were extensive consultation undertaken during the formulation process for the National Security Strategy (NSS) 2016
  - I. 22<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017 - Consultation & Awareness throughout the four (4) divisions with government teams and community reps.
  - II. Government Agencies & Departments @ Holiday Inn , Suva - 02<sup>nd</sup> June 2017
  - III. Cabinet Endorsement - 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016
- In January 2018, the NSDC commissioned a review of the NSS and the current review process also involved extensive consultation with relevant stakeholders including Civil Society Organization (CSO)
- The Secretariat has almost completed its work and will be providing an update to the NSDC at its meeting scheduled for the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2019.



Fiji



### 46. What is the status of the Defence White Paper?

- Work on the Defence White Paper is still in progress. The draft was submitted to the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) in June 2017 for comments/advise.
- In addition , whilst awaiting OSG advise, and as part of the review of the National Security Strategy (NSS) , the NSDC Secretariat is reviewing the current draft because of the linkages between the Defence White Paper & the NSS .
- The 2018/2019 Ministry of Defence Operation Plan anticipates the completion of this process by the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2019

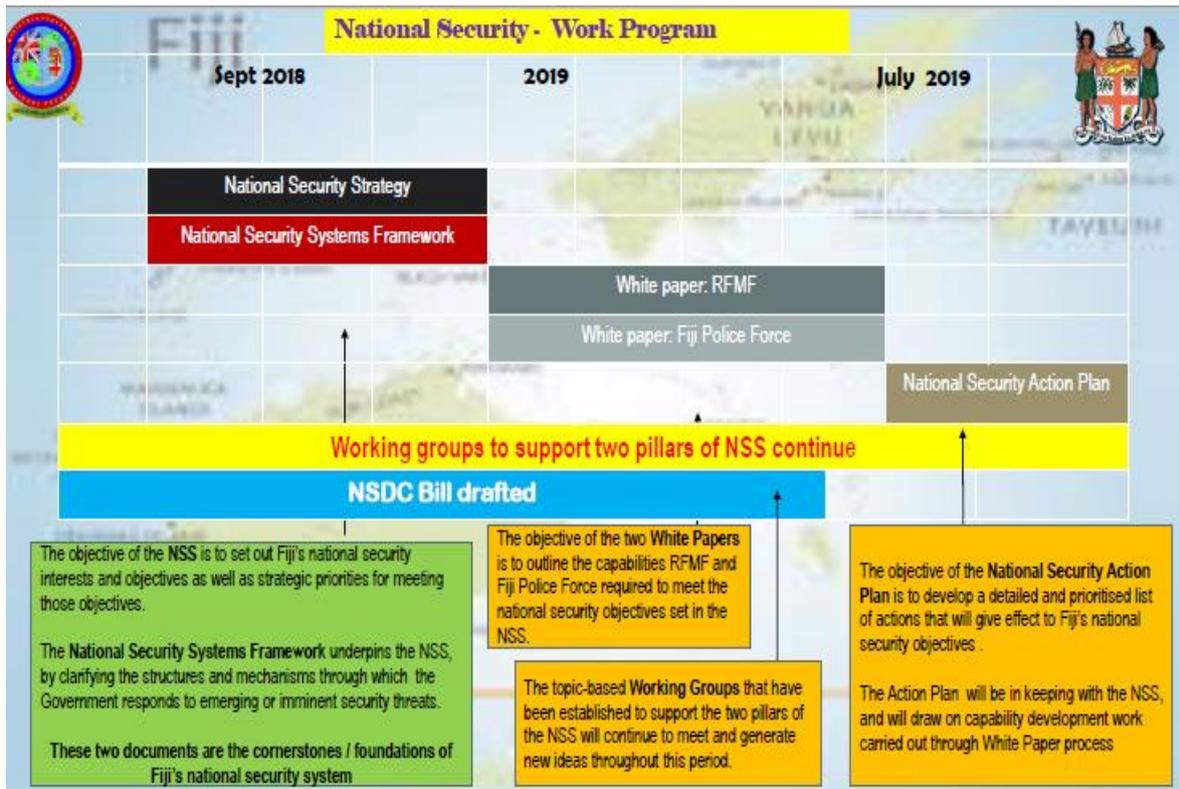


Fiji



### 47. What is the status of the Police White Paper?

- Work on the Police White Paper is still in progress. The draft was submitted to the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) in June 2017 for comments/advise.
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- The 2018/2019 Ministry of Defence Operation Plan anticipates the completion of this process by the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2019



**52. The Committee recognizes the conduct of Intelligence Assessments on Climate Change within the Ministry. Does the Ministry have Climate change expert within its establishment?**

- No, the Ministry does not have in house expertise in climate change, however, it consults extensively with agencies that do have expertise when preparing its assessment papers and/or policy advise.
- *e.g The Director Climate Change & Team were part of the consultations in the formulation of the draft NSS (2019 to 2023)*