



**Inquiry into the main economic and security  
challenges facing Papua New Guinea and the Island  
States of the Southwest Pacific**

**Parliament of Australia Senate Standing Committee on Foreign  
Affairs, Defence and Trade**

**Australian Federal Police Submission**

**October 2008**

## **SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE**

### **INQUIRY INTO THE MAIN ECONOMIC AND SECURITY CHALLENGES FACING PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND THE ISLAND STATES OF THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC**

#### **AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE SUBMISSION October 2008**

#### **1. Introduction**

1.1 The Australian Federal Police (AFP) welcomes the opportunity to provide the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade (the Committee) with information on the economic and security challenges facing Papua New Guinea (PNG) and the island states of the Southwest Pacific.

1.2 This submission provides information on Pacific regional economic and security challenges from a law enforcement perspective and an update of AFP-related activities that support law enforcement in Pacific island countries. This document complements an AFP submission made to an earlier Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade inquiry on Australia's aid to the Pacific (June 2006).

#### *Summary*

1.3 The three areas of police capacity development and institutional reform; security response; and tackling transnational crime, form key capabilities to which Australia and the international law enforcement donor community can make positive contributions in PNG and the Southwest Pacific. The AFP considers that its current activities supporting law enforcement agencies in the Pacific have significant flow-on benefits for Australia through contributing to development outcomes and to stability of Pacific islands communities. The support AFP provides can be further enhanced in future through expanding AFP bilateral capacity building support programs and through expanding and enhancing mechanisms that provide region-wide support such as the Pacific Transnational Crime Network and Pacific Policing Partnerships.

#### **2. Economic and Security Challenges**

2.1 The Southwest Pacific is characterised by island countries with small populations and limited resources. In Melanesia (with the exception of Fiji), populations are mostly concentrated in rural areas, with limited access to state services. National security concerns often focus upon issues such as resource security (forestry/fisheries), food security, urbanisation, land ownership, deteriorating law and order (both formal and traditional sectors), long-term economic sustainability, and vulnerability to natural disasters. Emerging issues such as increasing rates of urban drift, global warming (drought and rising sea levels), and increasing global demand

for energy resources (diesel fuel etc) are likely to represent significant challenges for many Pacific States.

2.2 The security challenges faced by Pacific island states have been increasing steadily since the 1960's (Refer Attachment 1). Since 1998, Australia has answered requests from its regional neighbours and the international community to respond to major civil or political unrest in the Solomon Islands, East Timor, Fiji, Tonga and Nauru.. Despite Australia's long history of aid delivery to many of these states, the region continues to underperform against most international development, economic, and social indicators. Insecurity and instability, neither of which shows signs of significant long-term or sustainable improvement, are major contributors to this regional stagnation. Furthermore, this fragile environment can be exploited by both organised and opportunistic criminal entities. Increased criminal activity and the corrupting influences such activity can exert will further impact upon state functioning and the ability of indigenous law enforcement agencies to respond to these challenges.

2.3 The link between security and poverty is demonstrable in the small communities of the Pacific islands. Lack of confidence in the security situation will reduce both local and international investment in economies; hinder the development of tourism, and adversely impact upon essential infrastructure, including transport systems, schools and hospitals. Without investment and a sustainable economy, a Government's ability to collect revenue is impaired. Furthermore as a result of demographic factors such as the youth bulge and urban drift; the breakdown of traditional justice mechanisms particularly within urban areas large numbers of unemployed youth are now vulnerable to the lure of criminal entities promising to alleviate their poverty and boredom, while corrupt politicians may seek to leverage dysfunctional in order to strengthen their own power bases and undermine democratic processes.

### *Economic Challenges*

2.4 Several Pacific island countries face significant challenges to the long-term viability of their national economies. Historically this has left some of them exposed to the influences of individuals and organisations (including transnational organised crime groups and corrupt officials) and States seeking to capitalise on poor governance and regulation, or to influence key local political leaders to contribute funds or facilitate their activities.

2.5 Such activity in the Pacific can serve to destabilise entire communities. Given that the 'rule of law' underwrites confidence in investment, the effect of criminality and ongoing threats to political security can pose serious consequences for regional/national stability and development. The scale of small Pacific island economies leaves them open to systemic shocks to which they have limited capacity to respond without external expertise and assistance.

2.6 The search for viable long-term economic sustainability in some cases saw the advent of financial havens, scams and trade in fraudulent identity documents, including passports. In some areas, limited controls and regulation permitted a thriving industry in activities that, while not always illegal domestically, almost

always brought international condemnation, and occasional blacklisting, of a number of Pacific island countries. The situation has improved, but the region remains susceptible to similar activities given the level of regulation and effectiveness of local compliance efforts.

2.7 Corruption is another major inhibitor of development and law enforcement challenge in the Pacific. Economic consequences of corruption include lower levels of investment and growth, discouragement of foreign investment, unequal income distribution, criminalisation of industry and an erosion of compliance with standards and regulations. Current levels of corruption in some Pacific island states will inhibit the achievement of national development if left unchecked.

2.8 Economic mismanagement, while at times not deliberate, is also a contributing factor to jeopardising long-term economic sustainability. Nevertheless such situations require investigation as to whether or not such mismanagement was indeed deliberate in terms of misappropriating government funds, or whether the situation arose owing to poor regulation or accountability within the local financial and budgetary systems.

2.9 Many Pacific island states also rely on remittances as a major source of income. Any threats to the sustainability of remittances as a result of criminal activity will have long-term consequences for the economic stability of some states.

2.10 The fish resources and extensive maritime zones governed by the Pacific island countries have been similarly exploited, often by foreign companies. Reports caution against overfishing and its impact upon the sustainability of fish stocks, both for local consumption and export. The ability to monitor and ensure compliance of fishing operators is a critical challenge for Pacific island countries. The looming viability of undersea mining operations raises is also of particular concern for Pacific nations which are known to possess vast untapped resources within their exclusive economic maritime zones. This issue has the real potential of presenting Pacific nations with governance, environmental and law enforcement challenges.

2.11 Tropical forests are being logged at an unsustainable rate in several Pacific island countries. While presently a significant source of national revenue in Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands, long-term sustainability can be jeopardised by illegal logging and through inadequate regulation of forest stocks. Abuse of traditional land rights through the illegitimate authorisation of logging may also trigger tribal conflict, risking further economic decline through increased instability.

2.12 In addition to the economic challenges posed by resource extraction activities, the inequitable distribution of resource income, environmental externalities, and the sexual exploitation of vulnerable groups by foreign nationals and indigenous personnel involved in resource extraction poses tangible security challenges.

2.13 The issue of native land and of land ownership in general is a difficult legal issue in some Pacific island countries. This uncertainty, or outright dispute, over land ownership further adds to economic uncertainty and political instability.

2.14 In many communities there is also a range of general community criminal activity, including theft, drug use and sale, bribery and fraud, which have a serious

negative effect upon small communities' economies and assets. Unemployment and lack of educational opportunities can lead to increased risk of criminal activity in communities if not addressed, as does the general lack of deterrence which results from poor state functioning and the weakening of local systems of social control. Economic activity can also be adversely impacted upon by ineffective or corrupt law and justice services which impede normal business activities such as the enforceability of contracts or resolution of wider civil disputes.

### *Security Challenges*

2.15 Security is a broad term but is considered here at the level of the individual, community and nation. The Pacific island countries share a number of security challenges.

2.16 At the level of the individual, Pacific island countries share global challenges. Local law enforcement should be sustainably resourced to protect individuals from physical harm, to investigate local crime and address individual complaints in a manner consistent with the country's socio-economic realities and traditional justice mechanisms. This is essential to provide a foundation for stable communities where even small-scale criminal elements can have an extraordinary impact if left unchecked. This is particularly challenging in states with limited capacity and reach. For example, throughout most of Melanesia, approximately 85% of people live in rural areas, with minimal state presence. A sound understanding of traditional law and justice systems can inform the coordination and appropriate scope of service provision in these remote areas.

2.17 Community policing is a major focus of Pacific island law enforcement agencies, and the community focus of Pacific communities lends them to being receptive to this type of law enforcement engagement. The Pacific island peoples are resilient and traditional social structures often serve as an alternative or additional mechanism to ensure community harmony and to engage criminal offenders outside the formal justice processes. Conversely, traditional social structures can sometimes impede effective law enforcement as some local agencies and individuals must overcome kin loyalties when attempting to enforce the law. Members of law enforcement and border security agencies must be aware of customary laws and cultural diversity while still enforcing government legislation.

2.18 Whilst acknowledging the strength of community conflict resolution mechanisms, it must be noted that in many countries such mechanisms are inequitable, involving practices which conflict with human rights standards and basic rule of law principles. High rates of domestic violence are tolerated throughout the region, impacting upon the participation of women in social, economic and political life, as well as upon the national economy, by placing high demands on health and legal services.

2.19 Moreover, in some states community conflicts causes or have the potential to cause, serious harm, with automatic weapons being available and being used in some intra community violence. Owing to the isolated and rugged terrain of these countries and low state capacity to service such areas, there are serious limitations on the ability of local law enforcement agents to intervene in such conflicts.

2.20 In some countries, noting Fiji and the Solomon Islands as recent examples (also Refer Attachment 1), political instability can also impact upon the overarching stability and structure of national law enforcement agencies. In recognition of the links between political, security and development objectives, a process of security reform would help improve the delivery of basic security and justice services while establishing effective governance, oversight and accountability system of and within these agencies.

2.21 At the national level are the issues of climate change-related rising sea levels, resource depletion and pollution. External military threats are not considered to be significant and, with the exception of Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Fiji and Vanuatu (Paramilitary), the Pacific island countries do not have dedicated military organisations.

2.22 The Pacific islands cover a vast area, the majority of which is maritime waters. This geography makes the islands vulnerable to the undetected movement of people and goods. While the Australian Defence Force provides support through the Pacific Patrol Boat program, the vast distances and areas involved coupled with minimal presence of maritime police due to inability to meet running costs remain a security challenge for the whole Southwest Pacific region.

2.23 This geography, coupled with often limited government resources and infrastructure can provide favourable conditions for transnational crime groups to operate with limited potential for detection and disruption of their illegal activities. In turn, the State's inability to maintain law and order impacts negatively upon socio-economic development.

2.24 Within all Pacific island countries there are 'trigger points' that can quickly destabilise communities and lead to potentially disastrous outcomes through rioting and property damage. Recent examples include the 2006 riots in Solomon Islands and Tonga. Nauru and Vanuatu have had smaller scale situations whereby local groups have taken action that challenged the ability of law enforcement agencies and governments to maintain control, even if for a short period of time.

2.25 Rioting, which history shows can be generated from a wide range of factors, not all of them political, will remain a key security concern of Pacific island countries. Corruption and lack of transparency can also serve to weaken and undermine state institutions and rule of law, including efforts to bolster law enforcement and regulatory institutions and is a further point that can generate instability.

2.26 How local governments and international donors can prepare their capabilities and response mechanisms for these events will be a major factor in ensuring long-term stability in the Southwest Pacific.

### **3. Emerging Challenges**

3.1 Food security is of concern internationally and the Pacific island countries are particularly susceptible in terms of both food scarcity and rising food prices. External pressures can easily impact upon food supplies for the Pacific and can lead to instability if the shortage exists for an extended period (e.g. rice imports restricted due

to storm damage in exporting countries). This applies to surety of local production and supplies, as well as to the importation of foodstuffs by plane or ship.

3.2 Fuel and energy production decreases and price increases similarly can be amplified in the Pacific. The reliance on imports of diesel fuel for national energy supply and long transport travel times means that entire economies and countries could be put at risk. While energy supply can be unreliable at present, deterioration in the international environment for fuel supply and costs could become a significant primary cause for community unrest and community pressure on local governments. Combined with other factors it could exacerbate political tensions and community concerns over their government's ability to provide basic services to the people.

3.3 The controversial topic of global warming (both ongoing drought and rising sea levels) is of interest to law enforcement organisations as an issue now (in Tuvalu and to some extent, Kiribati) and for the region in the future in terms of the pressure that might be applied should a need to relocate individuals or whole communities eventuate.

3.4 Issues such as overcrowding on some islands, high levels of pollution, high rates of unemployment and erosion can all potentially be triggers in future for large scale relocations. Indeed, high internal migration is already a key issue for many Pacific island countries, leading to problems of law and order in urban centres to which people have moved in search of employment opportunities.

3.5 These and various other socio-economic pressures contribute to the increasing urbanisation of many Pacific island countries. As populations move away and become disconnected from their traditional social structures and the behavioural obligations such structures impose, traditional law and justice mechanisms lose their reach and become less effective. In countries such as PNG, where traditional systems deliver the majority of law and justice services to over 80% of the population, the movement of people to urban areas out of the reach of these systems places increased pressure on the state to fill the vacuum. A breakdown in traditional social structures is often matched by increased criminality in such situations. Similarly, if traditional dispute resolution processes are inaccessible and state services are weak, irrelevant or non-existent, family or land disputes in urban areas may increasingly be resolved through violence. Escalation of these violent disputes has the potential to trigger more widespread conflict.

3.6 Increasing migration, high rates of domestic violence, and sexual assault are deemed to be a major factor in the spread of HIV/AIDS across the Pacific. Of particular concern the practices of traditional justice and formal law enforcement are seen to contribute to the transmission of the disease through acceptance of, or in extreme cases, perpetrating of sexual assault.

3.7 Significant resource depletion, particularly forests and fish, if continued at present rates will exhibit an increasing destabilising effect on local communities. The subsequent decline in government revenue and degradation of the environment will lead to an increasing dependence on imports and external assistance for the essentials of daily living. This will potentially leave communities even more exposed to the other more immediate shocks outlined above.

3.8 The potential destabilising effects of transnational crime cannot be underestimated in the strategic context. Whilst not predominant in the Pacific, where cannabis remains the drug of choice, widespread narcotics use would have a devastating effect on communities, health care infrastructure and policing resources. Sophisticated transnational frauds have the potential to undermine fragile economies and systems of government, exploiting the unique, open culture of the Pacific and the desire of its governments and communities to break free from poverty and limited wealth.

#### **4. Implications for Australia – law enforcement perspective**

4.1 Australia's experience in the Pacific suggests a trend towards increasing instability across the Pacific which reflects the magnitude of economic and security challenges faced. These issues demonstrate the need for law enforcement agencies to utilise contextually appropriate policing principles to build resilience and confidence among local communities in Pacific island countries so that they can better respond to and prevent such challenges in future. Similarly, there are larger scale security concerns, primarily triggers for widespread rioting, that dictate a need for a more robust security and response capability to ensure that property is protected and individuals are safe from mob violence. A third issue is the need for local law enforcement to develop its sustainable capacity to tackle transnational crime.

4.2 These three areas of police capacity development and institutional reform; security response; and tackling transnational crime, form key capabilities to which Australia and the international law enforcement donor community can make positive contributions. The Australian Federal Police has, and will have in future, a key role on behalf of the Australian Government in this regard.

#### **5. Overview of AFP Role and Function**

5.1 The AFP is the major instrument of Commonwealth law enforcement. Its role is to enforce Commonwealth criminal law and protect Commonwealth and national interests from crime in Australia and overseas. The AFP is Australia's primary international law enforcement and policing representative and the chief source of advice to the Australian Government on policing issues.

5.2 The AFP has a number of personnel deployed within the Pacific region, manages or advises on a range of law enforcement capacity building programs in the Pacific, and also is the Australian Government lead (at officials level) in a range of Pacific-related international forums.

5.3 The AFP's International Network comprises 36 posts in 27 countries and over 80 Liaison Officers are deployed overseas as part of the International Network.

5.4 The AFP's International Network acts to:

- Represent Australia's law enforcement interests internationally;
- Fulfil a critical role in establishing relationships of confidence with international law enforcement and other agencies;

- Gather intelligence on criminal activities or groups in support of AFP crime management strategies and national intelligence collection priorities;
- Share intelligence on criminal activities and groups in support of international law enforcement efforts;
- Broker collaboration with international law enforcement for multi-agency investigations; and,
- Provide advice and coordination, where appropriate, on training and technical measures for international law enforcement to combat transnational crime.

## **6. AFP Role and Function in PNG and the Southwest Pacific**

6.1 AFP activity is focused on improving the rule of law across the Pacific through capacity development and institutional reform efforts as well as through combating transnational organised crime including narcotics, money laundering, people smuggling, transnational sexual exploitation, online child-exploitation, child sex tourism and illegal logging (PNG and Solomons).

6.2 The AFP maintains the following postings in the Pacific:

- Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea: Senior Liaison Officer (SLO)
- Honiara, Solomon Islands: SLO
- Port Vila, Vanuatu: SLO, Also responsible for: New Caledonia
- Suva, Fiji: SLO, Liaison Officer (LO) Countries of responsibility include, American Samoa, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Niue, Kiribati, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Wallis and Futuna
- Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Suva: SLO (Law Enforcement Capacity Development Advisor) \*Position ceases 30 September 2008
- Pacific Islands Chief of Police Secretariat, Wellington: LO, Project Manager.
- Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre Advisor, Apia, Samoa
- Micronesia Transnational Crime Unit Advisor, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (from late March 2008).

6.3 The AFP Liaison Post for Papua New Guinea, Port Moresby has a geographic responsibility solely for Papua New Guinea. The Senior Liaison Officer (SLO) in Papua New Guinea provides a conduit between Australian and Papua New Guinea Law Enforcement Agencies on matters of law enforcement and transnational crime as they relate to mutual assistance. The AFP contributes to whole of government initiatives at post and in the broader law and justice sector wherever possible. AFP at Post also supports the PNG Transnational Crime Unit and in turn the Pacific Transnational Crime Network through the provision of advice and support on criminal matters and through financial support and capacity development programs. Training programs are also facilitated for the broader law enforcement community through Law Enforcement Cooperation Program (LECP) funding.

### ***AFP International Deployment Group***

6.4 The AFP's International Deployment Group (IDG) was established in 2004. The IDG manages Australian overseas police deployments to capacity building missions, regional post-conflict reconstruction missions and UN peacekeeping missions. Through participation in these missions, the IDG contributes to regional and international stability and security on behalf of the Australian government.

6.5 The IDG has more than 600 staff members, approximately 350 of whom are deployed offshore. The IDG also manages the contribution of 14 Pacific islands police organisations to the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI).

6.6 The IDG seeks to contribute to improved rule of law outcomes in Papua New Guinea and the Southwest Pacific. Given the close association between rule of law and development, the IDG plays a fundamental role in Australia's whole-of-government support for socio-economic development in the region.

6.7 Recognising that prevention is less costly (in both human and economic terms) than post-conflict restoration, the IDG is increasingly focussing on proactive activities aimed at strengthening the capacity of Pacific islands law enforcement agencies to maintain law and order and contribute to regional stability. These activities are undertaken within the context of Australian whole-of-government support for law and justice sector strengthening in Pacific island countries.

6.8 In undertaking capacity development and restoration missions, the IDG is cognisant of best development practice, including the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, seeking to strengthen local ownership of law and order responses in a sustainable manner.

6.9 Current IDG projects in the region include the:

- Pacific Police Development Program, which incorporates existing and future bilateral programs (Nauru, Samoa and Phase One of the PNG-Australia Policing Partnership), as well as a forthcoming regional program (tentatively known as the Pacific Policing Partnerships) to replace the existing Pacific Regional Policing Initiative from January 2009 which will support the remaining Pacific Island Forum countries;
- Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands;
- Vanuatu Capacity Building Project;
- Computer Based Training Centres; and
- Assistance to the Tonga Police Force.

6.10 In addition to these specific projects, the IDG contributes to whole-of-government thinking on law enforcement and capacity building issues such as context-relevant and regionally appropriate police development, performance

monitoring and evaluation, violence against women, the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions (e.g. 1325), law and justice sector reform and security system reform.

### ***AFP Criminal Intelligence support***

6.11 In 2006 a project commenced to develop the criminal intelligence capability for local law enforcement agencies in Pacific Island countries. The first phase of the project was in Fiji. The second phase of the project was in Vanuatu and has proved to be quite successful, with all performance measures met. The project manager undertakes extensive liaison with key stakeholders including the AFP, both in-country and in Australia, AusAID and the Police Commissioner of the country. This is followed by a scoping phase where the individual needs of the police force are determined. A training and mentoring package is then prepared with further follow-up and adjustment as required. The next country in the project will be Samoa followed by Tonga. Depending on the availability of funding the project may continue in additional countries.

### ***Regional forums and organisations***

#### **Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)**

6.12 PIFS activities are driven broadly by the Pacific Plan. The Forum Regional Security Committee directs regional security initiatives. Future security initiatives identified for implementation under this pillar will target improved regional information collection and management (linked via the Pacific Transnational Crime Network framework), capacity development, counter terrorism, natural disaster management and broader security issues.

6.13 Australia contributes funding to the Forum Secretariat including two positions within the Law Enforcement Unit, one being a seconded AFP officer (Law Enforcement Capacity Development Advisor – AFP funded position that ceases 30 September 2008). The main role of this position is to create and drive the strategic context and setting of transnational crime and security frameworks on a regional basis. The other position is the Regional Security Adviser funded by AusAID.

#### **Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police (PICP)**

6.14 The PICP is an organisation comprising 21 member countries and territories in the Pacific. It aims to share information, discuss issues, devise and promote strategies on policing in the Pacific islands. The PICP meet annually and play a significant role in promoting cooperation in the Pacific region.

#### **Pacific Transnational Crime Network (PTCN)**

6.15 The PTCN is a major initiative of the Australian Government against transnational crime in the Pacific.

6.16 The PTCN is a proactive, tactical transnational criminal intelligence network for Pacific law enforcement agencies. Criminal Intelligence is centrally coordinated through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre, based in Samoa, and Transnational Crime Units (TCU's).

6.17 TCUs have been established in Fiji (2002), Samoa and Tonga (2003), Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu (2004), and now in Micronesia. All TCUs have received training and development to enhance their inter-operable capacity, including intelligence, investigations, operational security and specialist training.

6.18 The establishment of the PTCN has significantly improved and enhanced relationships across Pacific law enforcement agencies resulting in a greater exchange and sharing of law enforcement intelligence.

#### *Other AFP Specialist assistance*

6.19 In addition to the AFP International Network and the International Deployment Group there are a number of other areas within AFP that provide more tailored specialist support to criminal investigations or towards capacity building within PNG and the Southwest Pacific. Some of this support is conducted bilaterally by AFP with local law enforcement agencies while some tasks complement work done for Pacific island governments by other agencies such as AusAID (e.g. capacity building and regional development) and the Attorney-General's Department (e.g. legislative reforms and anti-money laundering advice support).

#### Forensics and Ballistics

6.20 The AFP provides support to local law enforcement agencies through the deployment of subject experts from various technical fields. This support includes forensics investigative assistance, law enforcement intelligence, crime scene analysis and information exchange.

#### Economic and Special Operations (ESO)

6.21 The AFP provides investigative advice and support to Pacific island countries in relation to some specific crime activities including identity fraud and financial crimes, through the ESO portfolio. Specialist areas within ESO include Economic Crime, Financial Investigations, Identity Security Strike Teams, Intellectual Property, National Missing Persons and Special Operations – Project Wickenby.

#### High Tech Crime Operations (HTCO)

6.22 The High Tech Crime Operations portfolio consists of Technical Operations, Technology Enabled Crime, Online Child Sex Exploitation Team (OCSET), Child Sex Tourism, the Australian High Tech Crime Centre and the Special Operations Support Team.

6.23 HTCO provides a focal point for AFP's international role and supports capacity building activities in these areas. OCSET performs a central contact point,

coordination and investigative role for Australian and international online child sex exploitation referrals.

### Attachment 1: Historical Overview of Major Events in the Pacific Region



1960-1965	1966-1970	1971-1975	1976-1980	1981-1985	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	2006-2010
A		B, C	C, D,	C, D, E, F	C, D, F, G, H	C, H, I, J, K, L,	C, H, M, N, O, P	M, Q, R, S, T, U	V, W, X, Y, Z, A1, B1

- A 1960 *Papua* Papuan resistance against Indonesia
- B 1975 *East Timor* Two week civil war and Indonesian invasion
- C 1975-1999 *East Timor* Armed guerrilla resistance against Indonesia
- D 1980-1989 *Vanuatu* Santo Rebellion and major political instability **Aust Response**
- E 1984 *Papua* 10,000 refugees crossed PNG border
- F 1984-1988 *New Caledonia* Cycle sporadic violence
- G 1987 *Fiji* Two military coups **Aust Response**
- H 1988-1997 *Bougainville* Secessionist movement and violent conflict **Aust Response**
- I 1991 *East Timor* 'Dili Massacre' of East Timorese by Indonesian forces
- J 1993 *Papua* Indonesian forces responsible for one-sided conflict
- K 1994 – 1995 *Papua* Human rights abuses
- L 1995 *Vanuatu* Attempted coup
- M 1998 – 2003 *Solomon Islands* Conflict between ethnic groups **Aust Response**
- N 1999 *East Timor* Post-Independence Vote conflict **Aust Response**
- O 2000 *Fiji* Civilian coup **Aust Response**
- P 2000 *Solomon Islands* Coup **Aust Response**
- Q 2001 *Vanuatu* Constitutional crisis
- R 2002 *New Caledonia* Sporadic violence in regards to nickel mining
- S 2002 *Vanuatu* Attempted police mutiny and inter-institutional disputes
- T 2002 *PNG* Election violence and disruption
- U 2005 *Tonga* Public sector strike
- V 2006 *East Timor* Violence between rebel soldiers, troops and gangs **Aust Response**
- W 2006 *Solomon Islands* Election riots **Aust Response**
- X 2006 *Tonga* Pro-democracy movement march and subsequent riots **Aust Response**
- Y 2006 *Fiji* Military coup
- Z 2008 *East Timor* Attempted assassination of President and PM **Aust Response**
- A1 2008 *Nauru* Police Station burnt down **Aust Response**
- B1 2008 *Marshall Islands* State of (Economic) Emergency declared