

## Kate Hacking

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**From:** Neryl Lewis  
**Sent:** 21 September 2009 5:18 PM  
**To:** Kirsten Bishop; Kate Hacking  
**Cc:** Katherine Krilov; Sarah Goulding  
**Subject:** FW: Pacific Island small arms UNPoA reporting [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]  
**Security Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED

Hi Kirsten and Kate (and Katherine if you've got time!)

Just FYI at this stage - below is some information about a website that Oxfam, IANSA and Sydney Uni (Philip Alpers) have started up in support of the UN Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects (UN PoA). Promo for the site states:

"There are thousands of small arms-related sites on the web which present essentially evidence-free assertions. Our site's point of difference is that we display the full range of literature from a comprehensive, and truly cross-disciplinary variety of actors — not just governments, and not just lobby groups. Importantly, we offer citations and source documents for every assertion we make. For example, our Country Page for the Solomon Islands now includes 128 cited sources. Although this is not a campaigning web site, our sole aim is to support implementation of the UNPoA. We began with the Pacific because that's our closest region — basically, we built the first region for New Zealand — but this month we're also developing our 12-nation coverage of South East Asia."

I've taken a quick look at the site — it looks good. Instructions are below — you should be able to use my user name and password to access the site. Let me know if you have any problems (I'll ask Philip Alpers to give you your own username and password if mine can't be used). Any feedback appreciated (esp. if its useful from a law and justice perspective Kirsten) as a funding proposal's bound to come our way shortly.

Cheers,

Neryl

### Neryl Lewis

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The Australian Government is committed to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals

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**From:** Philip Alpers [mailto:alpers@gunpolicy.org]  
**Sent:** 08 September 2009 4:34 PM  
**To:** Neryl Lewis  
**Subject:** Pacific Island small arms UNPoA reporting

Neryl,

As you'll be aware, since the UN small arms process began in 2001, the world region which has consistently ranked dead last in UNPoA national reporting is Oceania.

As noted in the most recent UNIDIR/UNDP global summary of UNPoA implementation, Vanuatu, Samoa, Micronesia, Nauru, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga and Tuvalu have never reported. Of the four remaining UN-member island nations in the Pacific Islands Forum, only Fiji and the Solomon Islands have reported twice since 2001, while PNG and the Marshall Islands filed a single report each.

The UNCASA PoA-ISS web site makes this lack of information clear. Of the 12 Country Profiles for Pacific island territories on the CASA web site, eight are empty. The most common entry in almost every field is: 'No Information Has Been Found.' Only Fiji, the Solomons and PNG have volunteered enough information to be at all useful.

(See <http://www.poa-iss.org/CountryProfiles/CountryProfiles.aspx>)

By contrast, the web site under development here in Sydney already includes draft country reports for every Pacific island UN-member state, along with nine extra jurisdictions in the south-west Pacific, plus all 12 nations of South East Asia. Today I finished editing the Vanuatu report – only 28 to go. It's this finishing process which we're asking AusAID to enable.

With support from Australia, this locally-built web resource will reverse Oceania's ranking in time for the Biennial Meeting of States in June, 2010.

Regards,

Philip Alpers

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On our web site, these Pacific island nation reports are now ready for viewing:

Vanuatu  
Solomon Islands  
Samoa  
American Samoa  
Cook Islands  
Wallis & Futuna

INSTRUCTIONS:

Neryl,

To login, [Click here](#)

Enter your User Name: [neryl.lewis@ausaid.gov.au](mailto:neryl.lewis@ausaid.gov.au) , then your Password: **blta9830**

In the orange menu bar at the top of the page, click on 'Regions'

A 'Go To...' menu should appear in the left hand column. Click on 'Oceania'

In the 'Go To...' menu which appears on the Oceania page, click on 'Melanesia'

Finally, in the 'Go To...' menu which appears on the Melanesia page, click on 'Solomon Islands.'

Recently we completed our Country Pages on Brunei, Ireland, Ukraine, Vanuatu, Samoa, American Samoa, Cook Islands, and Wallis & Futuna. These can be found under their relative regions and sub-regions.

As of this week our web site contains a total of 267 UN Member States, non-UN territories, states, provinces and cities. Every one of these is a separate jurisdiction, with its own small arms legislation.

As to the web site you mention, I'm a member of the PoA-ISS Small Arms Advisory Network of UNCASA. Both you and I can gain access to the ISACS Consultation, but this is closed to the public, and accessible only to consultants and governments involved.

CASA's wider PoA-ISS Small Arms Advisory Network does contain publicly accessible Country Profiles, at: <http://www.poa-iss.org/CountryProfiles/CountryProfiles.aspx>

In our region, as you'll see, the most common PIC entry is blank, or 'No information has been found.' Even as information is slowly volunteered by States, these Country Profiles only display material which governments get around to reporting to the UN. The PoA-ISS web site has no plans to offer the multi-disciplinary and NGO-friendly coverage we provide, nor does it offer our extensive country-by-country comparisons of small arms legislation, particularly in regard to the Nadi Framework.

In terms of usefulness, comprehensibility and accessibility, especially for the mass audience unfamiliar with UN jargon, we feel the two sites have very different audiences: one specialist, the other much more inclusive.

I hope you can reach our Country Pages. If for some reason our 'Go To...' menu is not visible in your browser, then we really are in trouble.

Cheers,

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