

ESTABLISHING THE PEACE

THE IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE OF THE REGIONAL ASSISTANCE MISSION TO SOLOMON ISLANDS (RAMSI) IS THE RESTORATION OF LAW AND ORDER. RAMSI POLICE, WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE ROYAL SOLOMON ISLANDS POLICE AND SUPPORTED BY RAMSI'S MILITARY COMPONENT, ARE HELPING TO BRING BACK PEACE AND RESPECT FOR THE RULE OF LAW. BUT RAMSI IS ABOUT MUCH MORE THAN JUST RESTORING LAW AND ORDER. INCREASINGLY, ITS FOCUS IS ON NATION BUILDING.

Weathercoast, Solomon Islands. Sergeant Martin Wilks comforts eight-year-old Beatrice Bettyrise while Lieutenant Colonel John Turner treats her badly cut arm. The Australian-led mission to Solomon Islands is assisting with medical emergencies as well as law and order as part of the operation, *Helpem Fren* (Pijin for 'Help a Friend'). The Australian aid program will continue to help with the delivery of basic services.

Photo: Gary Ramage/Defence





THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S AID PROGRAM IS A CRUCIAL PART OF THE REGIONAL ASSISTANCE MISSION TO SOLOMON ISLANDS (RAMSI).



[1] Economic vitality. Fish market, Honiara. With the return to law and order the markets are once more bustling. Traders feel safe to travel and there are plenty of buyers as workers are getting paid again. Photo: Peter Davis
[2] Correctional services. Australian Philip Norris, Director General of Prisons in Solomon Islands with Bernice Wasia, a newly-trained prison officer. Australian aid is strongly supporting the law and justice sector. Photo: Peter Davis
[3] Customs. Helping to train Solomon Islander officials across all government sectors, including customs, is an area of

need. Photo: GaryRamage/ Defence
[4] Police. Members of the Participating Police Force at a reconciliation meeting on the Weathercoast. *Left to right:* Keshwa (Fiji), Faapine Lavi (Samoa), Darren (New Zealand) and Graeme (Australia). Police from around the Pacific are helping RAMSI to establish law and order and rebuild the nation. Photo: Peter Davis
[5] Peace. A young Solomon Islander displays her hope for the future. Photo: Gary Ramage/Defence
[6] Finance. Ms Decima Sesebo, personal assistant to the Minister of Finance says, 'During the tensions, many of us were

afraid to come to work but now things are much better. More money is flowing to the government and I can see very positive changes ahead.' Advisers from Australian Government departments are working with RAMSI through AusAID to reform the financial and public sectors of government and to stabilise the country's budget. Photo: Peter Davis
[7] Health. National Referral Hospital, Honiara. With support from AusAID, a visiting surgical team from the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and another surgeon from Papua New Guinea helps with complex surgical procedures.

Australian aid is rebuilding the health sector by providing staff training, medicines and emergency transport. It is also establishing regional clinics and installing radio communications. Photo: Allan Gilvear
[8] Law and Justice. Queenslander Jane Hamilton-White, Principal Magistrate and Jimmy Hanahunu, Clerk of the Court, at work. In partnership with Solomon Islands, RAMSI has now got the court system working again. Justice is a vital element in peace building. Photo: Peter Davis



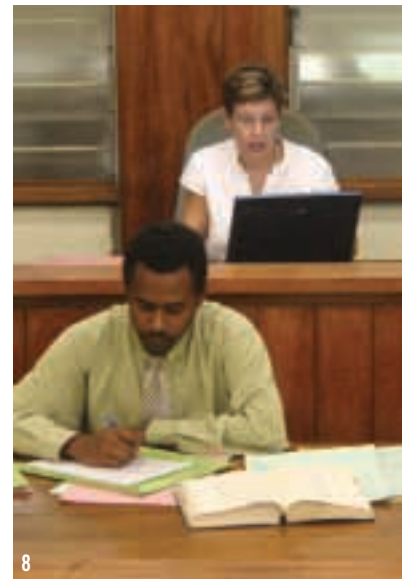
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