

From: [Leah Mottram](#)
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: s 47E(d) : early departure for AHC staff [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 3:27:01 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good afternoon,

Following the activation of Post's s 47E(d) , all staff (including LES and A-based) should depart the office from now as a safety precaution.

The Transport team has adjusted timings for the AHC shuttle bus as follows:

- Abase Shuttle 1: 15:45
- Hotel: 16:00
- Abase Shuttle 2: 16:15
- Abase Shuttle 3: 16:45

Security escorts will be provided to accompany the AHC shuttle services, and self-driving A-based staff are encouraged to 'convoy' in line with these services.

We understand PMVs and taxis are still operating for locally engaged staff who do not self-drive, or you may wish to carpool with colleagues who live in your area. Any LES who find themselves stuck with no transport options to get home should contact the Security Duty Officer (number below).

Please remain vigilant, and keep windows up and doors locked. A-based staff and spouses should keep radios on at all times when in your vehicles. Please call the Security Duty officer on

s 22(1)(a)(ii) if assistance is required.

As a refresher, s 47E(d) protocol is as follows:

FYI – an s 47E(d) protocol as follows:
s 47E(d)

Kind regards

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea

T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: [Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer](#)
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Important Message from Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 5:08:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender.



Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer sent you an important message.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

10 JAN 24 (1602hrs): Security Alert: s 47E(d) : The Australian High Commission has elevated its s 47E(d) . Staff are to access a safe haven as soon as possible. Staff already at the AHC or residential compounds are to remain in place. Further advice to follow.

If you need assistance, call or text the **Australian High Commission Security Duty Officer:** s 22(1)(a)(ii) .

To update your profile, please [click here](#).

s 47E(d)



s 47E(d)



s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Leah Mottram
Sent: Friday, 12 January 2024 10:10 AM
Subject: 12 Jan morning security update - still at ^{s 47E(d)} [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning AHC colleagues and spouses

No doubt you will have seen the media reporting about the 14-day **State of Emergency** imposed last night for Port Moresby NCD. We will provide further advice about the details of the State of Emergency and what it might mean for staff and families later today.

I am pleased that **supermarkets** are being encouraged by RPNGC to re-open today. While this is a positive step towards a return to normalcy in Port Moresby, our Post Security team continues to monitor this closely, and there is already a large increase in pedestrian and vehicle traffic at the Waterfront complex. Large crowds are expected and the environment is still quite tense.

As such, Post Security ^{s 47E(d)} , and staff and spouses will need to remain in a secure location. Please do not attempt to access Waterfront or other shopping centres.

We anticipate shopping centres will be operating under more normal conditions soon, and staff will be able to access food in a safe manner. Thank you for your patience!

We continue to keep the situation under close review and will provide further advice as soon as we can.

Warm regards

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T ^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)} | M ^{+s 22(1)(a)(ii)}
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer s 47E(d)
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 12:04 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Important Message from Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender.



Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer sent you an important message.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

11 JAN 24 (1101hrs): Security Update s 47E(d) The Australian High Commission remains at s 47E(d) owing to ongoing civil disorder concerns. Staff are reminded to remain at approved compounds (AHC, Residential Compounds, s 47E(d) until further notice.

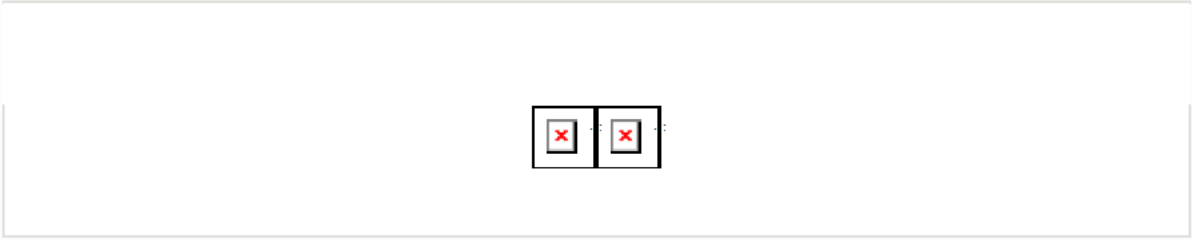
Essential travel (such as airport pickup/drop-off) will continue under controlled circumstances.

Further advice to follow.

If you need assistance, call or text the **Australian High Commission Security Duty Officer:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

To update your profile, please [click here](#).

s 47E(d)



s 47E(d)



s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer **s 47E(d)**
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 12:48 PM
To: **s 22(1)(a)(ii)**
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Important Message from Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender.



Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer sent you an important message.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

10 JAN 24 (1145hrs): Security Update: Independence Drive and Magani Crescent (Parliament Precinct) blocked owing to protest activity. Staff should exercise caution if travelling near the area.

If you need assistance, call or text the **Australian High Commission Security Duty Officer: s 22(1)(a)(ii)**

To update your profile, please [click here](#).

s 47E(d)



s 47E(d)



s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer s 47E(d)
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 12:38 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Important Message from Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender.



Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer sent you an important message.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

10 JAN 24 (1136hrs): Security Alert: Protest activity observed at Unagi Oval. Staff should exercise caution if travelling through the area. Post security is monitoring.

If you need assistance, call or text the **Australian High Commission Security Duty Officer:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

To update your profile, please [click here](#).

s 47E(d)



s 47E(d)



s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Leah Mottram
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 1:53 PM
To: s22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: Activation of s 47E(d) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Dear A-based Colleagues

We have activated s 47E(d)

Please familiarise yourselves with the s 47E(d) which is available on the Port Moresby intranet site here:
s 47E(d)

In particular, if you have an identified role or back-up role in the s 47E(d), please ensure you understand your responsibilities in the event we need to call on you.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea

T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

Timeline/Event Log – Key Decision Points, PNG Unrest January 2024

Date / Time	Decision
Wednesday 10 January	
1001	Post s 47E(d) _____ to monitor unrest and protests in key strategic locations.
1136	Post alerted staff to protest activity via s 47E(d) _____
1412	Post (A/g HOM, RSO, PSO) s 47E(d) _____ in response to protests and civil disorder via s 47E(d) _____
1527	s 47E(d) _____ activated and transmitted via s 47E(d) _____ and Whatsapp: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All staff (including LES and A-Based) advised to depart the AHC. - Security escorts arranged.
1607	Post (A/g HOM, RSO, PSO) s 47E(d) _____ and transmitted via s 47E(d) _____ and Whatsapp in response to deteriorating security environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All AHC staff, attached agencies, dependents and families advised to immediately lock down, remain in a safe location and await further advice.
1812	Travel Advice for PNG updated.
1840	Commenced transporting remaining LES home (or close locations) via AHC buses with security escorts.
1930	s 33(b) _____
2030	s 47E(d) _____ utilised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LES advised to work from home on Thursday 12 January. - A-Based advised not to go in to AHC on Thursday 12 January unless received advice it was safe to do so.
2035	Sitrep 1: s 22(1)(a)(ii) _____ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post operating at s 47E(d) _____ - Welfare of all A-based staff and dependents and LES confirmed.
Thursday 11 January	
0900	Post Response Committee established and first meeting convened <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - s 47E(d) _____
1120	Post activated s 47E(d) _____ s 33(b) _____
1149	AHC Facebook page updated to reflect travel advice update and to note that the Chancery remains open with limited services.
1158	Sitrep 2: s 22(1)(a)(ii) _____

Timeline/Event Log – Key Decision Points, PNG Unrest January 2024

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post operating at s 47E(d) - Activated s 47E(d)
1211	<p>Consul-General emailed security update to AHC A-Based staff and spouses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AHC remaining at s 47E(d) – no movements unless approved by A/g HOM and RSO - Advice on food availability, internet connectivity and SFO support.
1253	<p>s 47E(d)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A-based notified via email with intranet link to the s 47E(d)
1300	<p>Second Post Response Committee meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreed to remain at s 47E(d) - Agreed LES not to come into work on Friday 12 January
	<p>s 47E(d) utilised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LES advised to WFH on Friday 12 January.
1400	<p>s 47E(d) held</p>
1603	<p>Travel Advice updated – Exercise high degree of caution – civil disorder spread beyond Port Moresby.</p>
1620	<p>Sitrep 3: s 22(1)(a)(ii) s 47E(d)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AHC (and Lae) remain operating at s 47E(d) - Lae Consulate not activated s 47E(d), but still under review. - Welfare of all A-based staff and dependents and LES reconfirmed.
1624	<p>Consul-General emailed advice on security situation for AHC A-based staff and spouses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AHC remaining at s 47E(d) - Review security situation in the morning - LES to work from home Friday 12 January - A-based to consult supervisors on attending AHC Friday 12 January.
Friday 12 January	
0739	<p>Travel Advice updated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 14-day state of emergency declared - Exercise high degree of caution
0904	<p>Sitrep 4: s 22(1)(a)(ii)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AHC and Lae Consulate remain at s 47E(d) . Will review s 47E(d) today. - s 47E(d) - All staff in PoM and Lae accounted for and safe

Timeline/Event Log – Key Decision Points, PNG Unrest January 2024

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No consular requests - 14-day state of emergency declared
0910	<p>Consul-General emailed advice on security situation for AHC A-based staff and spouses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advised State of Emergency, further advice on ramifications to follow. - Supermarkets access opening up. - Reminder, Post remains at s 47E(d)
0915	<p>Third Post Response Committee meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreed to move to s 47E(d) – Corporate team to finalise approved conditions (food security for staff key concern). - AHC FB page update to be released – AHC remains open with reduced staff, status will be reviewed on Monday. - Decision regarding LES return to office still pending based on security assessments. - No consular cases - Increased communication with Australian business in PNG to be established.
1138	<p>s 47E(d) sent to AHC A-based staff and families – decreased s 47E(d) . Only essential travel, further instructions to follow.</p>
1139	<p>Consul-General email to AHC A-based staff and families – moving to s 47E(d) , advice regarding precautions to take if visiting retail outlets.</p>
1300	<p>Fourth Post Response Committee meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update on political and security situation - Agreed that the Post Response Committee would not meet on the weekend and there would be one Sitrep on Saturday 13 and one on Sunday 14 January. - Consul-Gen to provide further advice for managers on LES working arrangements for next week.
1555	<p>Consul-General email to AHC A-based staff and families:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AHC will resume normal operations from Monday 15 January - LES directed to return to work Monday, miscellaneous leave approved
1555	<p>Sitrep 5: s 22(1)(a)(ii)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AHC and Lae Consulate moved to s 47E(d) . - AHC remains at s 47E(d) . - All staff in Port Moresby and Lae remain accounted for and safe. - Port Moresby remains under State of Emergency.
<p>Saturday 13 January</p>	

Timeline/Event Log – Key Decision Points, PNG Unrest January 2024

	<p>Sitrep 6: s 22(1)(a)(ii)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - s 47E(d) - AHC remains at s 47E(d) - State of Emergency still in place. - All staff in Port Moresby and Lae remain accounted for and safe. - No consular cases. - s 33(a)(iii)
Sunday 14 January	
1419	<p>Sitrep 7: s 22(1)(a)(ii):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - s 47E(d) - AHC remains at s 47E(d) - State of Emergency still in place – specific measures announced – ban on large gatherings, search and seizure powers. - All staff in Port Moresby and Lae remain accounted for and safe. - No consular cases.
Monday 15 January	
0900	<p>Fifth Post Response Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decision to move from s 47E(d) - Decision to move from s 47E(d) - PRC to meet again Tuesday 16 January. - Agreement to postpone Australia Day event noting during State of Emergency period.
1048	s 47E(d) advice sent to all AHC staff – moving from s 47E(d)
1407	<p>Travel Advice Updated (technical update – not pushed to subscribers)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary edited to remove reference to heightened security measures at AHC - Includes outline of SOE impacts.
1629	<p>Sitrep 8: s 22(1)(a)(ii):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - s 47E(d) - s 47E(d) - Travel Advice updated. - Post returned to normal s 47E(d) - No consular requests for assistance. - State of Emergency continues.

Timeline/Event Log – Key Decision Points, PNG Unrest January 2024

Tuesday 16 January	
1000	<p>Final Post Response Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- No change to s 47E(d)- No further PRC meetings required.- All Staff debrief to be held this week.- No further Sitrep cables to be sent (after Tuesday 16 Jan).- Lessons-learned session to be held next week (encouraged feedback from all staff).- State of Emergency continues. Further advice on the terms of the SoE will be provided.
1557	<p>Sitrep 9: s 22(1)(a)(ii)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- No security incidents overnight.- s 47E(d) and post operations returned to normal.- State of Emergency will remain in place in Port Moresby until 26 January.- s 47E(d) . All staff in Port Moresby and Lae accounted for and safe.- Last scheduled sitrep. Future reporting would be on thematic issues.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Leah Mottram
Sent: Thursday, 25 January 2024 6:37 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: FW: Lessons learnt points for PRC meeting in the morning [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Here are the notes from s 22(1)(a)(ii) for your consolidated lessons list.

I'll forward some others also.

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 9:43 PM
To: Leah Mottram <Leah.Mottram@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Lessons learnt points for PRC meeting in the morning[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi Leah,

Sorry - I have just seen this. Apologies for the rubbish formatting, I'm on my phone.

s 47E(d)

s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)

Overall, I thought we handled this period of unrest a lot cleaner than last time. I was also very appreciative of how closely the Corporate and Security Teams worked together.

I hope that helps!

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: "Leah Mottram" <Leah.Mottram@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Wednesday, 24 January 2024 at 18:45:28
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Lessons learnt points for PRC meeting in the morning [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Would you be able to please send me your dot points on lessons learnt from our crisis response in the week of 10 Jan for our PRC meeting in the morning? Particularly anything around s 47E(d) ? Joanne said you'd noted to her that s 47E(d) . Any other points?

Many thanks

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Leah Mottram <Leah.Mottram@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 4:44 PM
Subject: s 47E(d) please lock down [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good afternoon

As you will have seen from the security team's s 47E(d) notification, we have now s 47E(d) . Please immediately lock down and await further advice.

Transport plans for staff still at the AHC are being developed for when it becomes safe to travel. Further advice will be provided when possible. In the meantime, please move to and remain in a safe location and await further advice.

s 47E(d)

Regards

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M** s 22(1)(a)(ii)
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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Leah Mottram
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 9:23 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Diane Barclay; Joanne Loundes; John Feakes; Leah Mottram; Penny Morton
Subject: Messages for A-based staff about work arrangements in the morning [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Dear Branch and Agency heads

Please activate the s 47E(d) (or whatsapp message if it's working) to advise A-based staff of the following points regarding work arrangements for tomorrow:

- LES have been advised not to come to work
- The AHC will open with A-based staffing only
- Please do not come to work until you receive advice that it is safe to do so
- Messages will be sent via s 47E(d) and/or Whatsapp (or s 47E(d) if data services are down) to advise staff of arrangements
- We expect to operate shuttle buses and convoy/escort arrangements – details will be advised in the morning
- If you are not comfortable attending work tomorrow that is fine, please just let your supervisor know
- If internet connectivity is good in the morning, and you can work from home, you can do that
- Please cancel any meetings you may have booked at the AHC
- Belo café will not be open so if you come to work tomorrow, please bring your own lunch/coffee/snacks

Let me know if you or your teams have any questions.

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Title: PNG: Security: Civil disorder: Sitrep 1
MRN: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: Canberra
Cc:
From: Port Moresby
From File:
EDRMS
Files:
References:
Response: Routine, Information Only

Summary

Port Moresby is experiencing civil disorder that has disrupted operations and delayed staff movements. All staff are confirmed safe. Post will continue to monitor the security environment and will apply appropriate security protocols as necessary.

Post is currently operating at a s 47E(d), requiring staff to remain in secure locations, in response to civil disorder across Port Moresby.

2. At approximately 1430 on 10 January 2024 Post (via RSO/PSO) elevated its s 47E(d) s 33(b), s 47E(d)

s 47E(d)

At 1527 Post advised staff to depart the mission early as a safety precaution. Some A-based staff attempted to return to their residences via a convoy but were forced to return to the AHC due to road closures.

3. At 1615, Post elevated its s 47E(d) in response to a severe deterioration in the security environment, including wide-spread looting, civil unrest, and lack of police response. s 47E(d)

4. As at 1930 the situation remained tense with reports of sporadic ongoing looting, businesses damaged or destroyed, large numbers of people gathering (with some brandishing weapons) and some gunfire. s 33(b), s 47E(d)

5. At 1840 LES commenced being transported home, or close locations, via Post buses s 47E(d). Arrangements to move A-based staff in escorted convoys will be put in place tonight.

s 47E(d)

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47E(d)

Staff welfare

7. Post has confirmed the welfare of all A-based staff and dependents and LES.

8. As a precautionary measure, LES have been advised not to attend work tomorrow. Post expects to operate with reduced A-based staffing.

Consular

9. Post has not received any requests for consular assistance.

Basis for action

10. Civil disorder appears to have been sparked by protests and claims of strikes by security services regarding an underpayment of salary.

11. At approximately 1000 Post was alert to protest action at Unagi Oval by disgruntled security forces (police and defence) regarding an underpayment of salary. Tsiamalili addressed protestors who demanded to speak with PM Marape. Protestors then moved to parliament house and Prime Minister Marape's office (Sir Manasupe Haus). s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)

. s 33(b)

Several agency heads, including Police Commissioner Manning and the Secretary for Personnel Management, have issued official statements seeking to clarify the situation and restore calm.

s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)

text ends

Sent by: s 22(1)(a)(ii)**Prepared
by:****Approved** a/g HOM
by:**Topics:** CONSULAR/Crisis Management, POLITICAL-ECONOMIC/Domestic Political, SECURITY/Reporting,
SECURITY/Threats & Risks▼ New Distribution

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

[REDACTED]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Title: PNG: Security: Civil disorder: Sitrep 2
MRN: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: Canberra
Cc:
From: Port Moresby
From File:
EDRMS
Files:
References: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Response: Routine, Information Only

Summary

The Australian High Commission (AHC) is open today (11 January) with A-based staff working from the chancery and home. Post remains at s 47E(d) with all staff accounted for and safe. Post has not received any requests for consular assistance. LES have been directed not to attend the chancery. In the absence of LES reception staff, phones remain directed to Canberra. Post is limiting external movements and visitors to chancery and residential compounds.

Post is currently operating at a s 47E(d), requiring staff and dependents to remain in secure locations, in response to civil disorder across Port Moresby. The chancery is open today, however LES have been directed to stay at home. A-based staff are using security escorts to travel between residences and the chancery.

s 47E(d)

Staff welfare

5. Post has confirmed the welfare of all staff. LES were directed not to attend the AHC today (11 January 2024). Post will facilitate eight airport movements under security escort.

[REDACTED]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

6. s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)

Consular

7. Post has not received any requests for consular assistance. The s 47E(d) has reported sporadic unrest and fragility in Rabaul, Lae, and Goroka. Most commercial centres across PNG remain closed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Critical infrastructure

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Post is confirming the status of POMGEN. s 22(1)(a)(ii)

AHC has been damaged impacting Post's wifi.

The Telikom link to the

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Damage

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

21. Post will monitor possible impacts of this damage on food security over coming days.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

[REDACTED]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Title: PNG: Security: Civil disorder: Sitrep 3
MRN: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Buka, Lae
From: Port Moresby
From File:
EDRMS
Files:
References: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Response: Routine, Information Only

Summary

Port Moresby and Lae remain calm but tense. The Australian High Commission (AHC) and Lae Consulate both s 47E(d) with all staff accounted for and safe. Both the AHC and Lae Consulate continue to limit staff movements and visitors. Neither Post has received any requests for consular assistance. A-based staff are still working from the chancery and the consulate. For Port Moresby Post, in the absence of LES reception staff, phones remain directed to Canberra. The situation in Buka is currently calm, with Buka office maintaining normal operations.

In response to ongoing fragility and tensions from 10 January's civil disorder across Port Moresby and Lae, the AHC and Lae Consulate remain at a s 47E(d), requiring staff and dependents to remain in secure locations. The situation in Buka in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, is currently calm, with Buka office maintaining normal operations.

s 47E(d)

Key Post Actions

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

4. Key post actions have included maintaining the s 47E(d), advising LES to remain at home on Friday (12 January) and updating Post's Facebook page to reflect updated travel advice and that the chancery was open (but with limited services).

Staff/volunteers welfare

5. All staff in Port Moresby and Lae remain accounted for and safe. LES in both Port Moresby and Lae will be directed not to attend work tomorrow (12 January). A-based staff will move between the chancery and residences utilising security escorts.

Consular

6. Neither Port Moresby nor Lae have received any requests for consular assistance.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Situation in Port Moresby

7. The situation in Port Moresby is calm but tense. Many commercial premises remain closed. s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47E(d)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

[REDACTED]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Title: PNG: Security: Civil disorder: Sitrep 4
MRN: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Buka, Lae, Pacific Posts
From: Port Moresby
From File:
EDRMS
Files:
References: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Response: Routine, Information Only

Summary

PNG has implemented a State of Emergency (SOE) in Port Moresby for 14 days, although details are unclear. Police Commissioner David Manning and the secretaries of Finance, Treasury and Personnel Management have been suspended for a least 14 days pending an investigation into the recent unrest. The Australian High Commission (AHC) and Lae Consulate both remain at s 47E(d), with all staff accounted for and safe. Both the AHC and Lae Consulate continue to limit staff movements and visitors. Port Moresby and Lae were calm overnight, with both seeing increased presence of police and military and some businesses re-opening this morning.

Port Moresby and Lae remained calm overnight with a visible increase in security forces presence and businesses starting to cautiously re-open.

s 47E(d)

Staff/volunteers welfare

4. All staff in Port Moresby and Lae remain accounted for and safe. LES in both Port Moresby and Lae have been directed not to attend work on 12 January. Port Moresby staff moved between the AHC and residences under security escort with no security issues encountered. Minimal pedestrian and vehicle traffic was observed.


[REDACTED]
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Consular

5. Neither Port Moresby nor Lae have received any requests for consular assistance.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Situation in Buka, Autonomous Region of Bougainville

17. The situation in Buka in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville is currently calm, with Buka office maintaining normal operations.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Critical infrastructure and private sector

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

As at time of writing, the internet is still available.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



[REDACTED]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Title: PNG: Security: Civil disorder: Sitrep 5
MRN: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Buka, Lae, Pacific Posts
From: Port Moresby
From File:
EDRMS
Files:
References: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Response: Routine, Information Only

Summary

The AHC and Lae Consulate have moved to s 47E(d) with staff limited to essential travel. Both Port Moresby and Lae have remained calm throughout the day with visible security presences – particularly around supermarkets and any banks that have opened. The AHC is working with staff to ensure access to supermarkets. SITREPs provided over the weekend will focus on staff welfare and consular with political reporting provided separately.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47E(d)

[REDACTED]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47E(d)

Staff/volunteers welfare

5. All staff in Port Moresby and Lae remain accounted for and safe. LES in both Port Moresby and Lae have been directed to attend work from Monday 15 January.

Consular

6. Neither Port Moresby nor Lae have received any requests for consular assistance.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Situation in Port Moresby

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A-based staff are able to access secure supermarkets and ATMs (in large hotels and at the Port Moresby Yacht Club) with Post's security provider s 47E(d) located at most supermarkets frequented by A-based.

10. Waterfront (the supermarket and retail centre closest to AHC residences) has told Post that its supermarket and warehouses are well stocked and that it anticipates regular ongoing deliveries of supplies. Normal business hours will operate from today.

s 47E(d)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

[REDACTED]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Situation in Buka, Autonomous Region of Bougainville

17. The situation in Buka remains calm, with Buka office maintaining normal operations.

Situation across PNG

18. s 47E(d) continue to provide updates to the AHC about the situation across PNG. s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**Post Response Committee Meeting 7 – Port Moresby Civil Disorder
Port Moresby Post
9am 25 January 2024**

Attendees

Crisis Controller	1. Dr Joanne Loundes	<i>Apology</i>
Political	2. s22(1)(a)(ii)	<i>Apology</i>
Consular Policy	3. Leah Mottram (chair)	
Consular Operations	s 22(1)(a)(ii)	
Corporate Services/Logistics		
Humanitarian		
Security		<i>Apology</i>
Public Diplomacy		
Defence Liaison		
Home Affairs		
AFP		<i>Apology</i>
Medical Clinic		
Austrade		<i>Apology</i>
DFAT	15,16. Penny Morton	
DFAT	s 22(1)(a)(ii)	
DFAT		

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Introduction (Mottram)

- Purpose of debrief to discuss lessons learned on crisis response and subsequent period
- Some things we did well, some things we can do better next time
- Notes and proposed action items to be circulated after meeting
- A/g HOM's feedback was overall Post's response was effective; she thanked staff for responsiveness and professionalism; noted the need to always refine measures

Situation update s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- s 22(1)(a)(ii)
-
-
- Post s 47E(d) was back to s 47E(d) so operations were BAU
- Noted monthly meeting with s 47E(d) at 10am 25 January – Security team would report back to PRC any debrief content as appropriate
- s 22(1)(a)(ii)
-

Debrief (All)**Post security posture/assessment**

- AHC Security ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} who provided written input for discussion) assessed **s 47E(d)**

had also operated with a reduced footprint on the day of the unrest (putting additional pressure on ^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)}); **s 47E(d)** ; AHC Security

- MC Morton clarified whether AHC Security triangulated information from PNG Government, managing contractors, UN etc. Security confirmed it did. **s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)**

- ^{s 22(1)(a)(iii)} questioned whether police involvement in a civil unrest situation (eg police strikes) should be an instant trigger for AHC Security to consider sending staff home.
- ^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)} noted LES can leave anytime they want – if **s 47E(d)**, but before that point LES can exercise their own judgement to leave.
- PRC members noted some staff tried to get home during **s 47E(d)** and failed; could AHC have moved to **s 47E(d)** earlier?
- Chair noted situation on the day had escalated rapidly and there were time lags between getting situational information in, verifying it, PRC making the decision to change alert levels, and communicating that change to staff.
- General consensus among PRC members that AHC should have moved from **s 47E(d)** earlier; broader point to assess thresholds and triggers for alert levels.
- A/g HOM (who provided written input for discussion) noted practical limitation in number of road routes to get staff from AHC to residential compounds and suburbs.
- Members noted the volume of LES **s 47C(1)**, information on situation received through local contacts and questioned how this could be better utilised to shape Post's security assessments.

Management response – Security Alert Levels

- Some PRC members raised a lack of clarity by staff on what different security alert levels meant; important to explain to staff^{s 47C} what different levels mean, including on compounds and what exceptions apply and to who (eg A-based coming to work).
- PRC member also noted the wording of the alert levels are clearly directed at A-based, and less relevant for LES; can we adjust the language for LES staff.
- Chair: AHC has^{s 47E(d)} alert levels – on 10 Jan there was a period that^{s 47E(d)}
- Chair: A-based staffing footprint depends on the situation; hard to pre-set who is essential when^{s 47E(d)}; communications is key so need to tell staff clearly who is required in consultation with managers.
- PRC member noted that the picture of the^{s 47E(d)} alert levels were sent in the emails but harder to transmit in Whatsapp.
- Activating the^{s 47E(d)} has a positive communications impact on staff – shows responsiveness and gives people comfort; also sets clear parameters on Post's measures.
- MC Barclay: On transport response, can AHC do pre-planning for^{s 47E(d)} on resourcing needs and allocations – eg fortunate school was not in term 10 January; if kids needed to go home from school there would not have been vehicles for LES and A-based.
- For^{s 47E(d)} exercise, agreement to undertake calculation to estimate transport timings/resources if school in term.
- Giving LES green light to leave earlier in crisis would make transport resourcing and logistics simpler as crisis unfolds.
- ^{s 47E(d)}
- Would be sensible to have pre-identified drop off points for LES – main logical hubs for drop offs in key suburbs LES live – then during a crisis we can task^{s 47E(d)} to check these pre-set locations safe prior to doing drop offs.
- Question raised by LES, if LES have to stay at AHC for extended period outside business hours, does Post we have supplies and stocks for staying overnight? Giving LES assurance would be beneficial – what is and isn't provided by the AHC in a^{s 47E(d)} situation.
- Question from Defence families who have kids at non-DFAT schools, what is the guidance for Defence families in terms of transport? Do families need to coordinate with AHC Security for convoys?
- If AHC is in^{s 47E(d)} lock down situation, suggestion to establish 'holding areas' on each floor, where staff can cluster in smaller groups and have access to essential items and updates.
- AHC to do boost additional stores for lockdown situation (long life food, water, bedding).

Communications

- MC Morton noted the^{s 47E(d)} was utilised in practice but managers were not formally instructed to do so. Moving to^{s 47E(d)} – should that activate the^{s 47E(d)} ?
- Informal^{s 47E(d)} exercise occurred in practice given the crisis unfolded in business hours – if it had happened after hours then it could have been more necessary to utilise formal^{s 47E(d)}.
- A/g HOM conveyed feedback that Post should have formally activated the^{s 47E(d)} even though Post had informally accounted for everyone.
- Communications with Canberra –important to agree rhythm of sitreps, including to give certainty to A-based staff who are providing input.

- Need to make clear to staff primary communications platform – ie s 47E(d)

Post Response Committee

- s47E(d) roles and responsibilities; alternate officers in the s47E(d) is key as we will never have all primary officers at work during a crisis.
- Also need to have mechanism to identify spare capacity for security/corporate surge support.
- Gaps in the PRC roles/responsibilities is a secretariat for meeting logistics and record keeping (eg minutes, Crisis Log), as well as internal communications.
- Lae/Buka Posts would need staffing supplementation or some other support arrangements from AHC in event of protracted crisis.

Lessons learned

- Staff responded professionally and calmly in the crisis situation.
- s 47E(d)
- s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)
- Feedback received that the s 47E(d) changes could have happened quicker – both from s 47E(d)
- Instructing LES to leave the AHC earlier would have made transport resourcing and logistics simpler later in the day.
- Feedback received that communications for s 47E(d) could be clearer, including for LES, and clearly outline what exceptions apply (if any) and to who.
- The s 47E(d) should have been activated formally (noting all staff were accounted for informally).
- Important to clarify early in crisis the primary communications platform – ie s 47E(d) (and ensure staff have the platforms already operating on their devices).
- Transport logistics would have been more complicated if school was in term, and need for Post to better understand transport resourcing limitations for future crisis planning.
- Varying levels of convoy driving competence among A-based and LES drivers.
- Post Response Committee membership would benefit from a secretariat function and internal communications lead.
- Task responsible officer for sitrep reporting at start of crisis .
- Establish expectations of sitrep reporting to Canberra early in crisis.
- Clarify from start of crisis primary communications platform – ie s 47E(d)

Action items arising

Security

1. s 47E(d) for existing s 47E(d) - Security/PSO
2. Assess if an additional s 47E(d) is required (s 47E(d)) - Security/PSO
3. Review language of existing s 47E(d) to ensure instructions are clear, appropriate and relevant to staff, including LES - Security/PSO/SAO
4. Review communications that accompany s 47E(d) changes and clearly stipulate what exceptions apply (if any) and to who - Security/PSO/SAO

5. Consider protocols for early departure of LES staff at s 47E(d) to alleviate pressure on AHC transport resources if situation worsens – PSO/SAO
6. s 47E(d) – Security/PSO
7. Investigate enabling s 47E(d) to send on s 47E(d) – Security/PSO/SAO
8. Review current s 47E(d) and s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d) – Security/PSO

Transport

9. Investigate transport resourcing requirements for s 47E(d) , including in the contingency AHC children are in school – PSO/SAO
10. Establish pre-set drop off points for LES staff in key locations in Port Moresby – PSO/SAO
11. Consider providing refresher convoy driver training for A-based staff and LES drivers – Security/PSO

AHC lockdowns

12. Consider designating 'holding areas' on each floor of the Chancery in event of lockdowns where staff can cluster in smaller groups and have access to essential items (water, food etc) and receive updates from managers – PSO/SAO
13. Purchase additional stores for lockdown situation (long life food, water, bedding) –SAO
14. Remind staff to have at least three days of food in their house, including long life items as replacements for fresh food – PSO/SAO

Communications

15. Agree trigger point for activating s 47E(d) in a crisis (for example, at s 47E(d)) - PSO/SAO
16. Ensure all staff have s47E(d) downloaded on phones if s47E(d) becomes primary platform

Staffing

17. Establish a mechanism to identify spare capacity during crises for security/corporate surge support – SAO
18. Establish a roster for staff supplementation for Lae and/or Buka Posts in event of a protracted crisis (including one affecting Port Moresby) – SAO/Lae Post/Buka Post

Post Response Committee

19. Introduce a Secretariat position (HOM Office – EO primary/ EA backup) for the Post Response Committee to lead on meeting coordination, minutes and Crisis Log – PSO
20. Assign an internal communications lead in the Post Response Committee – either as a duty of an existing member or by introducing a new position – PSO
21. Consider including both DHOM and Deputy Consul General as primary members of the Post Response Committee under the Crisis Action Plan (DHOM is only listed as alternate Crisis Controller) – PSO

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Joanne Loundes
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 4:01 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Leah Mottram
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] demonstration [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Dear s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Given your earlier recommendation that "Staff (particularly LES) would have the opportunity of departing for home early as a safety precaution", please go ahead and put in place the necessary communications to allow that to happen. I thought we might be doing that anyway, given I agreed to your recommendations, but better late than never!

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Best regards

Joanne

Dr Joanne Loundes

Acting High Commissioner
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 2:56 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Joanne Loundes <Joanne.Loundes@dfat.gov.au>; Leah Mottram <Leah.Mottram@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] demonstration [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

I suggest we encourage non-essential staff (including LES) to depart early as a safety precaution.

We have the option to deploy an AHC shuttle for LES at time of heightened risk (such as this!)

Either way, an all-staff email should be circulated by CG or PSO (I can draft if you like?)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Counsellor ^{s 47E(c), s 47E(d)}

Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

<https://png.embassy.gov.au>



From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:dfat.gov.au)>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 2:50 PM
To: Joanne Loundes <Joanne.Loundes@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:dfat.gov.au)>; Leah Mottram <Leah.Mottram@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] demonstration [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Just got off the phone with s 33(b)

Unofficial word from our LE cohort is that PMV's and taxis may soon cease for the day. If this is the case do we need a contingency for LES without private vehicles?

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Counsellor s 47E(c), s 47E(d) —
P s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 33(a)(iii), s33(b)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Monday, 22 January 2024 11:37 AM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: Feedback - crisis response [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

As someone who was not in the office that day, I seem to have received a bit of feedback that I share for PRC's consideration. Noting that mostly is around the perceived lack of communication, I have tried to distil it a bit further:

- **Lack of communication:** some staff felt that the perceived requirement by SES at post to have firm information or iron out processes before being shared with staff was not conducive to feeling 'we' had a handle on things. This made staff look out for family or social media messages to try to make sense of the situation
 - o Suggestions provided to me by staff include providing updates on the situation on a regular basis, despite not having full grasp of it. More communication is better than less, and being open on what 'we' know and don't know would ensure a bit more sense of transparency on the situation.
- **Questioning AHC security's assessment:** The lack of information meant staff were questioning AHC's security assessment / position. Staff heard about violence since 10am that day and many had received notifications from contractors closing their offices and sending staff home by 1pm, and yet people were still at work.
 - o By the time people were given the OK to leave the AHC the first time, the situation had escalated so quickly staff were unable to leave and had to turn around.
 - o Concerns for LES' families (some waiting outside AHC to pick them up) did not appear to be given the consideration it needed for the PNG context.
 - o The events of the week of 15 Jan with the change of police command, saw staff receiving information of stores closing down as a safety measure and potential escalation of violence was circulating in social media. A few staff told me that due to the events from the previous week, they didn't trust AHC's assessment of the situation. Whilst thankfully nothing eventuated, it showed things need to be done in this space.
- **Transport considerations – "better than last time":** People's experience from the election in 2022 was that LES were not taken into consideration and were stranded in the AHC. Because of this, some people decided this time around to leave as soon as they could, fearing they would be left stranded by the AHC again.
 - o The feedback I received, included that LES were grateful for the transport support, but the communication that this was being put into action arrived very late and "almost just as they were putting people in buses or convoys"
 - o If this option had been thought of earlier and communication handled better, an earlier announcement of this proposed approach would have prevented several LES leaving the AHC scared on how to get home and being stranded on the roads with no taxis or PMVs available and walking for long time. Thankfully nothing happened to them, but a lot of this stress could have been prevented.
- **Lack of clarity on roles and responsibilities:** whilst there is the ^{s47E(d)} available and it was circulated (but not updated), it is not until pg.77 that the PRC roles and responsibilities are outlined. Some staff were unclear on the roles of SES at post. As the *Crisis Controller*, A/g HOM was not visible and a newly promoted newly arrived MC & Consul-General as the *Consular Policy* function was the one providing updates to staff and therefore appeared to be leading the situation. Perhaps a shift of roles and responsibilities was decided, but staff were not aware of it, which contributed to that feeling of "not knowing" by numerous staff.

Thanks

From: s22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 January 2024 3:16 PM
To: s22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Feedback - crisis response [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi All,

A/HOM will hold an all-staff debrief on Friday at 2pm. You should have received an invite.

The AHC is encouraging all staff to provide feedback on Post's response. You can provide that feedback through someone you feel comfortable to share with. It can be your team leader, to me s22(1)(a)(ii) or to a senior LE or anyone else you know who will pass it on.

This is your opportunity to provide constructive input to how AHC can better manage staff welfare in crisis situations.

Team leaders – if you have feedback from yourself or your team, can you please let me know if you want to send through me or if you will send directly to s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Thanks

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Counsellor s 47E(c), s 47E(d)
Australian High Commission, Port Moresby
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
P s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

<John.Feakes@dfat.gov.au>; Leah Mottram <Leah.Mottram@dfat.gov.au>; Penny Morton
<Penny.Morton@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: Messages for A-based staff about work arrangements in the morning [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Dear Branch and Agency heads

Please activate the **s 47E(d)** (or whatsapp message if it's working) to advise A-based staff of the following points regarding work arrangements for tomorrow:

- LES have been advised not to come to work
- The AHC will open with A-based staffing only
- Please do not come to work until you receive advice that it is safe to do so
- Messages will be sent via **s 47E(d)** and/or Whatsapp (or **s 47E(d)** if data services are down) to advise staff of arrangements
- We expect to operate shuttle buses and convoy/escort arrangements – details will be advised in the morning
- If you are not comfortable attending work tomorrow that is fine, please just let your supervisor know
- If internet connectivity is good in the morning, and you can work from home, you can do that
- Please cancel any meetings you may have booked at the AHC
- Belo café will not be open so if you come to work tomorrow, please bring your own lunch/coffee/snacks

Let me know if you or your teams have any questions.

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M s 22(1)(a)(ii)**
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Joanne Loundes
Sent: Monday, 15 January 2024 1:55 PM
To: Leah Mottram
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: Miscellaneous leave for LES - civil unrest in Port Moresby - January 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Dear Leah

I approve the arrangements as outlined below.

Best regards

Joanne

Dr Joanne Loundes

Acting High Commissioner
 Australian High Commission
 Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M** s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: Leah Mottram <Leah.Mottram@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2024 10:49 AM
To: Joanne Loundes <Joanne.Loundes@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Subject: Miscellaneous leave for LES - civil unrest in Port Moresby - January 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Dear Joanne

This email seeks to document your approval as A/g HOM of miscellaneous leave arrangements for locally engaged staff in Port Moresby during the recent period of civil unrest.

Under the LES Terms and Conditions of Employment 2022, miscellaneous leave can be approved by HOM as follows:

Miscellaneous/ Special leave	Subject to HOM discretion and may be approved with or without pay	May be granted to cover exceptional and unexpected absences from work including leave for emergencies and natural disasters and where serious circumstances beyond your control make it impossible for you to continue your day-to-day work.
---------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Given the post's s 47E(d) on the afternoon of Wednesday 10 January following the significant escalation of civil unrest, violence and looting, LES were advised not to attend work on Thursday 11 January and Friday 12 January 2024.

This email documents your verbal approval for LES to be deemed to be on paid miscellaneous leave for those two days. The HR team will process these two days of miscellaneous leave in s 47E(d) on behalf of staff – LES will not need to submit s 47E(d) applications.

We are aware some staff continue to experience ongoing disruption caused by last week's events, including police searches of residential areas for looted goods, and may need to access additional time off. These staff should submit applications via s 47E(d) for any miscellaneous leave taken from today, Monday 15 January, to Friday 19 January. I recommend any leave taken after Friday 19 January be taken as normal recreation or personal leave, rather than miscellaneous.

Grateful your approval of these arrangements.

Regards

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Leah Mottram
Sent: Monday, 5 February 2024 5:23 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: Post Response Committee Debrief - Minutes and Action Items [REDACTED]
Attachments: Post Response Committee Minutes - Meeting 7 - 25 January 2024.docx; FW: Post Response Committee Meeting 7 - Debrief [SEC=OFFICIAL]; RE: Post Response Committee Meeting 7 - Debrief [SEC=OFFICIAL]

[REDACTED]

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Many thanks for this and apologies for the delay in getting back to you. I've added a few tracked changes – attached.

Also attached are emails with some follow up points from Penny and s 22(1)(a)(ii)

I think having a longer list of action items is fine, but Joanne may have a different view. Happy for you to share this with her before circulating to the broader PRC for comment.

Would you mind also filing the feedback emails, final talking points for Joanne for the all-staff session on 19 Jan, and the PRC minutes on lessons learned in s 47E(d) ? This will keep everything in one place.

Thanks again

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 4:16 PM
To: Leah Mottram <Leah.Mottram@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Post Response Committee Debrief - Minutes and Action Items [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hi Leah

See attached draft minutes and action items arising from last week's debrief. I've divided the record into meeting minutes, key lessons learned, and action items.

The action items I've listed are fairly numerous (21) - not sure if optically that shows we're serious about our improving our systems, or that our systems were lacking. We could consider streamlining them more if you think that's more appropriate.

Happy to discuss. Once you've reviewed, we could share with PRC membership for views, including Joanne.

Thanks
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

First Secretary s 47E(c), s 47E(d)

Australian High Commission, Port Moresby

P s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M s 22(1)(a)(ii)**

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

From: [Leah Mottram](#)
Subject: Security Situation Update for AHC A-based staff and spouses [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 11 January 2024 1:11:07 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Dear AHC A-based staff and spouses

We continue to monitor the situation in Port Moresby and other parts of PNG very closely. The situation in POM is quiet but tense and, as we saw yesterday, the security environment can deteriorate very rapidly.

s 47E(d)

As per the latest s 47E(d) notification, we remain at s 47E(d). The Post Response Committee will meet again later this afternoon, to consider updates on the security situation, and we will provide further advice after that.

Movements

Being at s 47E(d) means no movements other than those expressly authorised by A/g HOM and RSO and coordinated through the transport team and security for escorts. Exceptions have been approved for:

- Transport between residential compounds and AHC for A-based staff who are attending work
- Airport drop off/pick up
- Essential meetings for A-based staff (non-essential meetings must be postponed)

We will provide further information about transport from AHC back to residences later today.

Food

Most supermarkets and shops are closed. There are concerns circulating about reduced food availability and it is possible there may be some food shortages. However, we will monitor this closely and provide further advice in the coming days about when it will be possible to go to supermarkets.

We are aware that some newly arrived/returning staff may need supplies. If you are in this situation please contact s 22(1)(a)(ii) with a list of essential items only. s 22(1)(a)(ii) will coordinate a grocery shop on behalf of those who need it, when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, please help out your compound neighbours where you can.

Internet connectivity

We understand Whatsapp may become unavailable. The chosen internet backup for comms is s 47E(d). If you don't already have s 47E(d), please download it now. s 47E(d) arrangements will remain in effect if internet/data connectivity is lost.

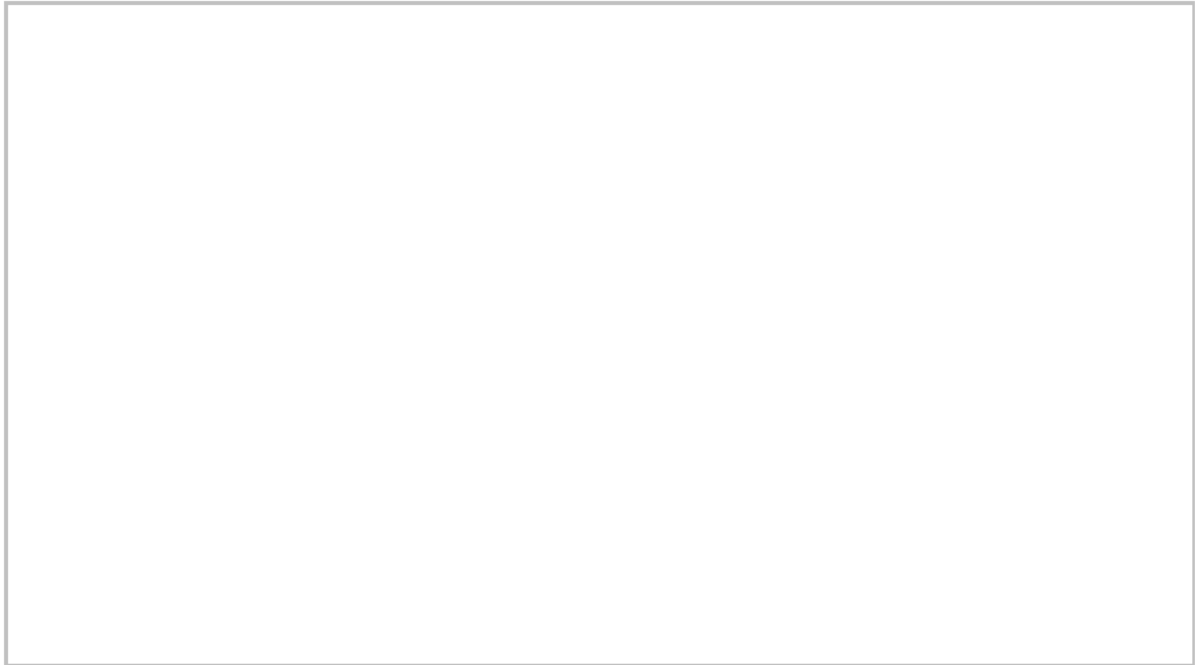
Support

Remember that support is available. For DFAT staff and spouses, the Staff and Family Support Office (SFO) is available on s22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:sfo@dfat.gov.au), or the EAP provider, Lifeworks, is available on s22(1)(a)(ii). Other agency staff should contact your agency's EAP provider.

If you have any questions or concerns about the AHC's arrangements, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Warm regards

Leah

**Leah Mottram**

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
Ts 22(1)(a)(ii) | Ms 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: [Leah Mottram](#)
Subject: Further Security Situation Update for AHC A-based staff and spouses [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 11 January 2024 5:24:09 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon everyone

The situation remains tense but quiet this afternoon. Thankfully we have not seen a further escalation of widespread violence today. However, the situation remains unsettled and most shops, banks, restaurants and other businesses remain closed.

As a precautionary measure we will remain at **s 47E(d)** for this evening and review the situation again in the morning. This is consistent with **s 33(a)(iii)** and many other organisations in Port Moresby.

AHC work attendance tomorrow

Locally engaged staff should be requested not to attend work again tomorrow. A-based staff can choose to work from home tomorrow, in consultation from supervisors. A-based staff who need to work at the AHC tomorrow are requested to use the shuttle services rather than self-drive – this is to avoid having long vehicle convoys (which we assess as less safe), reduce the demand on **s 47E(d)** escorts, and avoid having to leave private cars at the AHC in the event things deteriorate tomorrow and we need to make alternative arrangements to get people home. **s 22(1)(a)(ii)** has sent out the shuttle schedule for this afternoon and tomorrow.

All other information remains current as per my previous email (below). As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm regards

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: Leah Mottram
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 12:11 PM
Subject: Security Situation Update for AHC A-based staff and spouses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Dear AHC A-based staff and spouses

We continue to monitor the situation in Port Moresby and other parts of PNG very closely. The situation in POM is quiet but tense and, as we saw yesterday, the security environment can deteriorate very rapidly.

s47E(d)

As per the latest **s47E(d)** notification, we remain at **s47E(d)**. The Post Response Committee will meet again later this afternoon, to consider updates on the security situation, and we will provide further advice after that.

Movements

Being at s47E(d) means no movements other than those expressly authorised by A/g HOM and RSO and coordinated through the transport team and security for escorts. Exceptions have been approved for:

- Transport between residential compounds and AHC for A-based staff who are attending work
- Airport drop off/pick up
- Essential meetings for A-based staff (non-essential meetings must be postponed)

We will provide further information about transport from AHC back to residences later today.

Food

Most supermarkets and shops are closed. There are concerns circulating about reduced food availability and it is possible there may be some food shortages. However, we will monitor this closely and provide further advice in the coming days about when it will be possible to go to supermarkets.

We are aware that some newly arrived/returning staff may need supplies. If you are in this situation please contact s22(1)(a)(ii) with a list of essential items only. s22(1)(a)(ii) will coordinate a grocery shop on behalf of those who need it, when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, please help out your compound neighbours where you can.

Internet connectivity

We understand Whatsapp may become unavailable. The chosen internet backup for comms is the s47E(d) If you don't already have s47E(d) please download it now. s47E(d) arrangements will remain in effect if internet/data connectivity is lost.

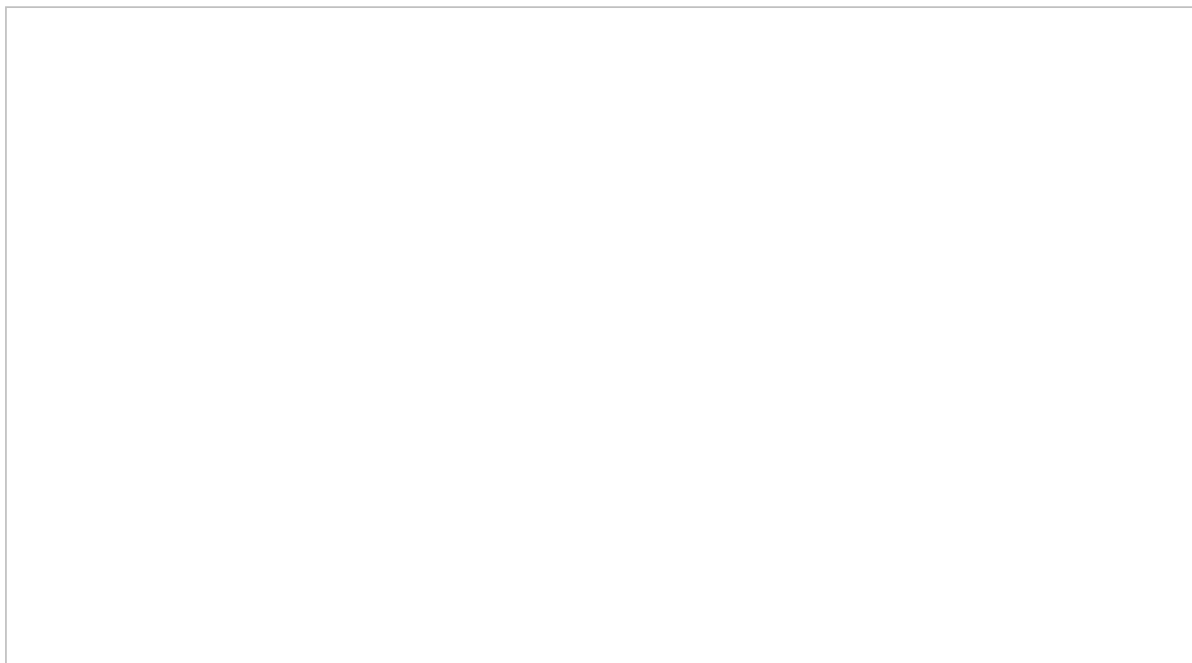
Support

Remember that support is available. For DFAT staff and spouses, the Staff and Family Support Office (SFO) is available on s22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:dfat.gov.au), or the EAP provider, Lifeworks, is available on s22(1)(a)(ii) Other agency staff should contact your agency's EAP provider.

If you have any questions or concerns about the AHC's arrangements, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Warm regards

Leah



Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
Ts22(1)(a)(ii) | Ms22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: [Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer](#)
To: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Important Message from Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer
Date: Friday, 12 January 2024 12:37:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender.

Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer sent you an important message.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

12 JAN 24 (1135hrs): Security Alert: s 47E(d) :
The Australian High Commission has decreased its s 47E(d)

Staff and spouses are reminded that only essential travel should be conducted, and heightened vigilance observed at all times.

Further instructions will be circulated via email to A-based and spouses immediately.

Separate advice will be provided for LES covering arrangements for next week.

If you need assistance, call or text the **Australian High Commission Security Duty Officer**: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

To update your profile, please [click here](#).

s47E(d)

s47E(d)

From: [Leah Mottram](#)
Subject: FW: 12 Jan morning security update - DOWNGRADE TO ^{s 47E(d)} [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 12 January 2024 12:42:18 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Apologies – correction to subject line – downgrade to ^{s 47E(d)}

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M s 22(1)(a)(ii)**
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

Leah Mottram

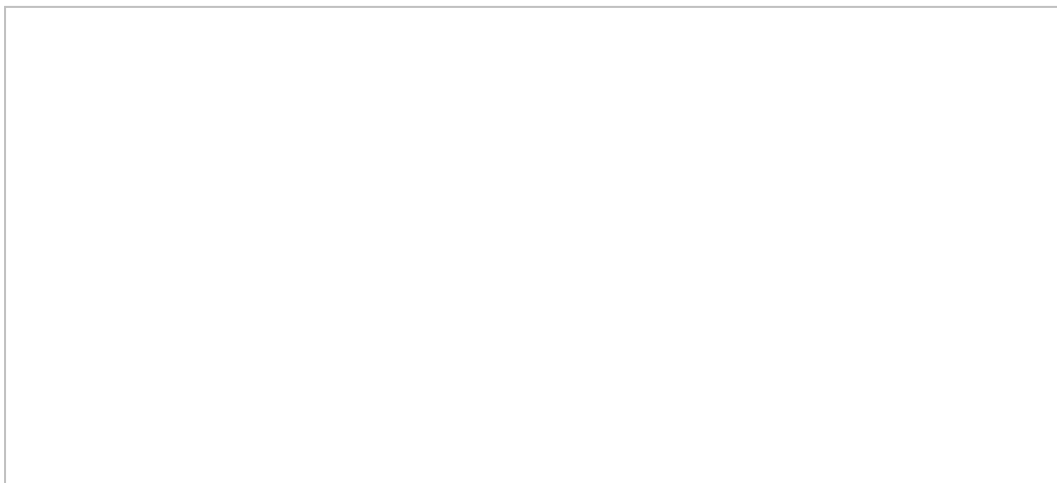
Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M s 22(1)(a)(ii)**
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: Leah Mottram
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 11:39 AM
Subject: FW: 12 Jan morning security update - still at ^{s 47E(d)} [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning again AHC colleagues and spouses

I am pleased to advise that based on the latest security advice, we have made the decision to downgrade to ^{s 47E(d)}



This means staff and families can resume movements off compounds, but please limit these to essential moves only.

Supermarkets

There are long queues at Waterfront and other supermarkets. At Waterfront traffic is being controlled on a one car out, one car in basis. We recommend staff plan to car pool and shop in groups where possible, to reduce the number of cars in the queue. Queues are expected to ease over coming days.

Waterfront owners have advised the supermarket is well stocked and will have regular ongoing deliveries. They expect to operate normal business hours (open to 8pm tonight and over the weekend). So there is no need to panic buy. Please only buy what you need.

Vision City and Boroko Foodworld at Gordons are also open for business. Again, please carpool and shop in small groups.

Security Escorts

We have a limited number of s 47E(d) . We are unable to provide escorts for grocery shopping, but s47E(d) will be conducting regular patrols of the main shopping centres. If the situation deteriorates, an s 47E(d) notification will be sent out advising staff and families to return to compounds. Please notify s 47E(d) and the Security Duty Officer immediately of any security incidents via s 47E(d) and s47E(d) .

Other locations

Most shops and restaurants are expected to return to normal operation over the weekend. However, the security environment remains tense and you are reminded that under s 47E(d) , you should limit unnecessary movements and remain close to compounds. If in doubt, please contact the Security Duty Officer on s 22(1)(a)(ii) .

Shuttles/transport

If you came to work on the AHC shuttle bus this morning and would like to go home to collect your car (or your car is at the AHC but you are working from home), we will run one round trip shuttle departing the AHC at **1400** to each compound and back to the AHC. Please let s 22(1)(a)(ii) know if you would like to access this service.

Shuttle services from AHC to compounds later this afternoon will be as per the transport schedule s 22(1)(a)(ii) sent out yesterday (i.e. 1615, 1645 and 1715). The shuttle schedule will return to normal from Monday morning.

Regards

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General

Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M s 22(1)(a)(ii)**
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: Leah Mottram <Leah.Mottram@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 9:10 AM
Subject: 12 Jan morning security update - s 47E(d) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning AHC colleagues and spouses

No doubt you will have seen the media reporting about the 14-day **State of Emergency** imposed last night for Port Moresby NCD. We will provide further advice about the details of the State of Emergency and what it might mean for staff and families later today.

I am pleased that **supermarkets** are being encouraged by RPNGC to re-open today. While this is a positive step towards a return to normalcy in Port Moresby, our Post Security team continues to monitor this closely, and there is already a large increase in pedestrian and vehicle traffic at the Waterfront complex. Large crowds are expected and the environment is still quite tense.

As such, Post Security settings will remain at ^{s47E(d)} this morning, and staff and spouses will need to remain in a secure location. Please do not attempt to access Waterfront or other shopping centres.

We anticipate shopping centres will be operating under more normal conditions soon, and staff will be able to access food in a safe manner. Thank you for your patience!

We continue to keep the situation under close review and will provide further advice as soon as we can.

Warm regards

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M s 22(1)(a)(ii)**
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: [Leah Mottram](#)
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
[Joanne Loundes](#); s 22(1)(a)(iii); [Penny Morton](#)
Cc: [Diane Barclay](#); s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: Messages for LES for return to work next week - Port Moresby [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 12 January 2024 4:54:00 PM

OFFICIAL

Dear Branch and Agency Heads

Could you please disseminate the following points to your locally engaged staff regarding AHC work arrangements in Port Moresby from next week?

- AHC will resume normal operations from Monday 15 January
- That means LES can return to work as normal
- A/g HOM has approved paid miscellaneous leave for Thursday 11 and Friday 12 January
- Miscellaneous leave can also be accessed if required to attend to essential personal commitments related to the recent unrest
- Appreciate some staff may continue to be affected by disruptions to food/water/power/transport
- If you need additional time off this should be discussed and agreed with your supervisor
- Interested to hear about any particular issues in your residential area, including if any violence flares up again over the weekend
- Belo café will reopen from Monday but may need to provide a reduced menu
- Looking forward to having you back in the office next week

Let me know if you or staff have any questions.

Warm regards

Leah

Leah Mottram

Minister-Counsellor (Management) & Consul-General
Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: [Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer](#)
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Important Message from Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer
Date: Monday, 15 January 2024 11:47:38 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender.



Australian High Commission Regional Security Officer sent you an important message.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

15 JAN 24 (1046hrs): s 47E(d) : The Australian High Commission has returned to s 47E(d) status.

Staff and families should continue to exercise vigilance, and report any security concerns/incidents to the DFAT Security Duty Officer or s 47E(d)

An all-staff/spouse email will be circulated shortly.

If you need assistance, call or text the **Australian High Commission Security Duty Officer**: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

To update your profile, please [click here](#).

s47E(d)



s47E(d)



From: [Leah Mottram](#)
To: [Global Watch Office](#);
Cc: [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) ; [Alan Copeland](#); [Joanne Loundes](#)
Subject: Re: Port Moresby protests[SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 7:09:39 PM

UNOFFICIAL

Thanks [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

Draft sitrep is being reviewed by A/g HOM now.

We have the checklist but thanks for sending again.

Current priority is assessing safety of main transport routes so we can get remaining staff home safely before dark.

[s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) has departed post (lucky him!).

Leah

From: "Global Watch Office" <[s 47E\(d\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#)>
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 at 6:03:21 pm
To: "Leah Mottram" <[Leah.Mottram@dfat.gov.au](#)>, [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#), [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#), [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#),
Cc: "Global Watch Office" <[GlobalWatchOffice@dfat.gov.au](#)>, [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#), [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#), "Alan Copeland" <[Alan.Copeland@dfat.gov.au](#)>
Subject: Port Moresby protests [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

Hi Leah and team,

We understand the difficult circumstances you are under at the moment however we are touching base to provide you with the HOM checklist (attached) which will provide you with some guidance with your response.

GWO will continue to monitor and report on the situation. If you are able to advise on timings for cabled Sitreps it would be most appreciated.

Kind regards,

GWO

Australian Government Global Watch Office

Crisis Preparedness & Management Branch | Consular and Crisis Management Division

E | [s 47E\(d\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#) T | [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) M | [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

Always notify the GWO in the first instance of a potential crisis event and include GWO in all subsequent messaging.

s 47C(1), s 47E(d)

From: [Simon Johnstone](#)
To: [Fiona Webster](#); [Alan Copeland](#)
Cc: [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: CSO Update - Sitrep 1 Port Moresby (Civil Disorder)[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 5:57:02 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Fiona

Further update, have also included CCD.

Regards

Simon

From: [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#)>
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 at 17:14:47
To: [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#)>
Cc: [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#)>, [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#)>, [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#)>, [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [@dfat.gov.au](#)>
Subject: RE: CSO Update - Sitrep 1 Port Moresby (Civil Disorder)
[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

[s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
et al,

Given the volatile situation in Port Moresby at the moment, RSO has recommended and PSO has agreed to [s 47E\(d\)](#)

. All staff currently at compounds must shelter in place, staff outside compounds have been instructed to access the nearest safe haven or hotel and shelter in place.

RSO assesses it is not safe for staff to travel between locations. [s 33\(a\)\(iii\)](#)
Widespread civil unrest is occurring.

Standby for further details.

[s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

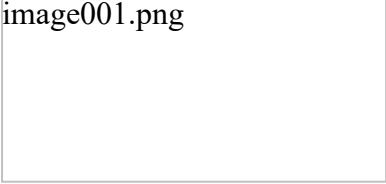
Counsellor [s47E\(c\), s47E\(d\)](#)

Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

T [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) | M [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

image001.png



From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 3:07 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: FW: CSO Update - Sitrep 1 Port Moresby (Civil Disorder)
[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Following update has been sent FYI. Substantial updates now through ^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)} who will keep Simon updated s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Fiona Webster <Fiona.Webster@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 4:01 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Cc: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 47E(d) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: CSO Update - Sitrep 1 Port Moresby (Civil Disorder)
[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Many thanks ^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)} – your ongoing tracking of this is really appreciated. It sounds volatile and unpredictable.

Fiona Webster

Chief Security Officer | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

p s 22(1)(a)(ii) | m s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 3:59 PM
To: Fiona Webster <Fiona.Webster@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

@dfat.gov.au>; s 47E(d)

@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: CSO Update - Sitrep 1 Port Moresby (Civil Disorder)
[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Fiona

Further to grey band alert please note:

//

Note: All staff and dependents are safe.

Note: We are engaged with RSO who is coordinating the security response at Post in consultation with PSO and Senior post staff.

Note: Security arrangements at Post and residential compounds are effective. Increased risk of harm to staff in-transit has been mitigated by restricting non-essential movements as a precaution.

Background

Post reports the current situation is tense with reports of looting, businesses closing, large numbers of people gathering - some brandishing weapons, and gunfire. Police are implicated in the protest, s 33(a)(iii)

s 47E(d)

//

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director Middle East, Africa and Eurasia Security Section

Operational Security Branch

Diplomatic Security Division

P s 22(1)(a)(ii)

M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 47E(d) @dfat.gov.au <s 47E(d) @dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 3:14 PM
To: s 47E(d) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: ALERT : GREY : PNG : Security personnel protest
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

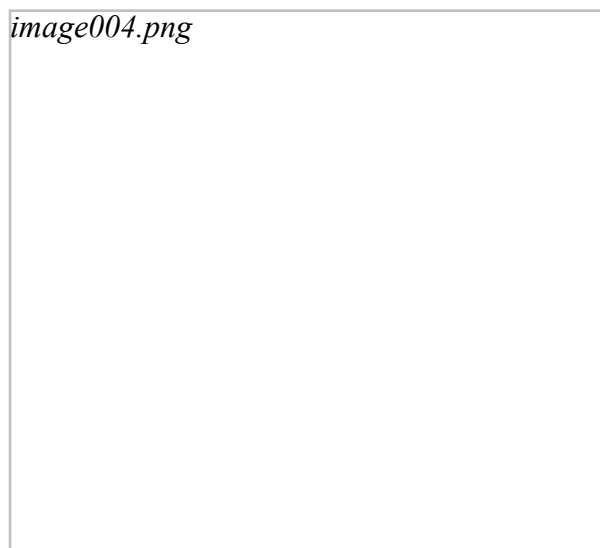
image003.png

About 1000 on Wednesday 10 January 2024 local time (1100 AEDT) , up to 200 police, corrections and army personnel gathered at the Unagi oval in Port Moresby to protest over deductions to their salaries. Some of the protestors drove to Parliament House (approximately 2km) where they blocked a road before being addressed by the defence minister. Protestors were informed that the wage deductions were caused by 'tax glitches'.

Sporadic looting has occurred in Port Moresby and post has reported that some police have stopped working. Post s 47E(d) which will restrict unnecessary movement by staff and as a precaution against further protests.

Media

- [RNZ](#): Papua New Guinea's security personnel storm parliament
- [Post Courier](#): Sporadic looting across the city
- [Post Courier](#): Disciplinary forces enter parliament
- [PNG Bulletin](#): Technical glitch led to deduction: IRC



Source: Google Maps

GWO will continue to monitor and provide updates should there be any significant developments.

Australian Government Global Watch Office
Crisis Preparedness and Management Branch | Consular and Crisis
Management Division

T s 47E(d) | M s 47E(d)

The Global Watch Office issues Grey Band alerts to draw attention to international incidents/events that may or are likely to have an impact on Australians or Australian interests.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To:
Subject: FW: s 47E(d) Papua New Guinea: Expected protest activity and civil disorder
[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Friday, 23 August 2024 11:32:19 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

From: s 47E(d)
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 9:02 PM
To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: s 47E(d) : Papua New Guinea: Expected protest activity and civil disorder[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Simon,

Post is about to release a SITREP via cable. I will advise details shortly.

All staff (with the exception of executive) is now safe at residential compounds. Executive and RSO will remain at the Mission. s 47E(d)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 at 19:28:42
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Subject: Re: s 47E(d) Papua New Guinea: Expected protest activity and civil disorder[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

For your awareness SEC and COO briefed as well as CSO.

Would welcome a further SITREP in the next hour please

Regards

Simon

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 at 5:10:03 pm
To: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: s 47E(d) : Papua New Guinea: Expected protest activity and civil disorder [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

FYI – the situation has deteriorated and Post has s 47E(d) . Which means a lockdown essentially.

I will provide further advice to s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 3:51 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: s 47E(d) : Papua New Guinea: Expected protest activity and civil disorder [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Already done thanks

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 at 3:56:51 pm
To: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: s47E(d) : Papua New Guinea: Expected protest activity and civil disorder [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks Simon,

It is probably worthwhile briefing CSO as well.

I am available any time on s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 2:49 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; Joanne Loundes <Joanne.Loundes@dfat.gov.au>; s 47E(d) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: s 47E(d) : Papua New Guinea: Expected protest activity and civil

disorder[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Acknowledged. Will await further updates as the situation develops, or not

Regards

Simon

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 at 3:28:49 pm
To: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>, "Joanne Loundes" <Joanne.Loundes@dfat.gov.au>, s 47E(d) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: s 47E(d) : Papua New Guinea: Expected protest activity and civil disorder [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good afternoon Simon,

Port Moresby Post (via Regional Security Officers/PSO) has s 47E(d)
s33(b), s 47E(d)

Post reports the current situation is tense with reports of ongoing looting, businesses closing, large numbers of people gathering with some brandishing weapons, gunfire. Police are implicated in the protest, s 33(a)(iii)

All staff are confirmed safe. Post will continue to monitor the security environment and will apply appropriate security protocols as necessary.

s 47E(d)

s 47E(d)

I will keep you updated.

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Counsellor ^{s47E(c), s47E(d)}

Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M** s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 2:40 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Yep - tracking that mate. I have been in contact with s 22(1)(a)(ii) last night and again this morning.

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Date: Thursday, 11 January 2024 at 13:32:32
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Sorry to bother you again, just confirming you are aware s 22(1)(a)(ii) was meant to be flying into PNG today?

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g Director | Pacific and Technical Security Section
Operational Security Branch | Diplomatic Security Division
Ph s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 1:18 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

I think Simon has received it (its in his calendar) so I'll let him attend.

Cheers

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g Director | Pacific and Technical Security Section
Operational Security Branch | Diplomatic Security Division

Ph s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 1:09 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

I don't have anything in my calendar yet

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 12:08 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hey s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Are there details to dial into s 47E(d)

Cheers

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g Director | Pacific and Technical Security Section
Operational Security Branch | Diplomatic Security Division
Ph s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 1:01 PM
To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Post has released another SITREP – s 22(1)(a)(ii) refers.

There will be s 47E(d) at 1500hrs Canberra time. I will provide a read-out following the meeting for your awareness.

Regards,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 9:29 AM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Thanks, very useful.

If we can keep a rough 1030 / 1830 (AEDST) SITREP that would be useful. Only need a quick update / few dot points. Of course any urgent information, critical incidents always welcome.

Regards

Simon

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 10:17 AM
To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good morning Simon,

I am working with Post to distribute an updated SITREP (via cable) by 1030hrs Canberra time.

Still lots of moving parts at the moment, here is a brief snapshot:

Security Posture:

- s 47E(d)
- This will be reviewed at 1030hrs Canberra time
- All locally engaged staff will work from home today
- Limited A-based will work from the AHC
- s 47E(d)
- All staff movements via convoy with security escorts (and limited to residential compounds and AHC)

Staff incidents:

- All staff remain safe
- In a two car convoy with security escort, RSO and Head of Defence conducted a recce yesterday afternoon (prior to releasing staff from the AHC). While completing the recce, non-direct gunshots were observed in very close proximity to the convoy. Convoy

employed defensive techniques and diverted to the nearest safe haven (approximately 500metres away)

- ***Unverified*** – potentially a stray bullet has impacted one A-based residence. RSO will investigate today.
- ***Unverified*** – reports of two locally engaged safe having bags snatched yesterday afternoon.
- RSO will cable security incidents once the situation normalises.

RSO arrangements:

- One RSO in PNG s 22(1)(a)(ii)
- One RSO on leave s 22(1)(a)(ii)
- One RSO arriving at Post today s 22(1)(a)(ii)

PNG response

- PNG Police deployed additional resources from Lae last night
- Police Commissioner released a statement last night condemning actions and a promise to hold those responsible to account

Other Diplomatic Missions/Businesses

- Multiple businesses looted and/or destroyed yesterday – RSO is compiling a list
- Shops remain closed
- Supplies (milk, bread, flour) mostly depleted
s 33(a)(iii)

- Qantas requested advice from RSO this morning. It will operate flights today.
- Internet services are disrupted. Post is still able to operate effectively.

Other cities in PNG

- Lae Consulate staff safe
- RSO assesses that violence is likely to materialise in Lae today. This is owing to a combination of news from Port Moresby filtering through, and a reduced Police Force (who have been deployed to Port Moresby)
- Security incidents reported in Mount Hagen last night (nil staff in the city)

Canberra response/comms

- Travel advice has been updated
- RSO will continue to provide assistance to Post, as well as communicate with DSD/Canberra
- Post (HOM, CG, RSO) briefed Office of the Pacific executive yesterday afternoon
- s 47E(d) ?

I will advise once Post's latest SITREP has been cleared. RSO will continue to work closely with Post (HOM & CG primarily).

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Counsellor^{s47E(c), s47E(d)}

Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M** s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 7:54 AM
To: Fiona Webster <Fiona.Webster@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Alan Copeland <Alan.Copeland@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Fiona,

s 22(1)(a)(ii) provided excellent advice to post and kept us well informed.

Nothing additional this morning. I expect an update around 1030 (AEDST).

Regards

Simon

Simon Johnstone

Assistant Secretary
Operational Security Branch (OSB) | Diplomatic Security Division (DSD)
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Fiona Webster <Fiona.Webster@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 8:51 AM
To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Alan Copeland <Alan.Copeland@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

A belated thank you Simon, have you heard anything further this morning, or are we expecting a sitrep at some point?

Fiona Webster

Chief Security Officer | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
p s 22(1)(a)(ii) | m s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 9:54 PM
To: Fiona Webster <Fiona.Webster@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Alan Copeland <Alan.Copeland@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Fiona

Cable attached. No plan for additional SITREP tonight unless escalates or urgent

Regards

Simon

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 at 9:39:29 pm
To: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good evening Simon,

Eventful day....

Post has released a SITREP covering today's civil disorder event. s 22(1)(a)(ii) refers.

I have also exported and attached for convenience.

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Counsellor^{s47E(c), s47E(d)}

Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:16 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Ack thanks

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Date: Thursday, 11 January 2024 at 7:55:08 pm
To: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Some further developments tonight. But just for your/CSO awareness for now as not confirmed/official.

State of Emergency declared for National Capital District only. We anticipate this lasting for 14 days. Announcement imminent but not official.

PNG Secretaries of Finance, Treasury, Personal Management, and Police suspended for 14 days.

Police Commissioner to be suspended for 14 days.

PM Marape to make the announcement.

From: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Thursday, 11 January 2024 at 18:08:08
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Ack all thanks

Simon

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Thursday, 11 January 2024 at 6:35:45 pm
To: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Post SITREP has been circulated – s 22(1)(a)(ii) refers.

The next SITREP will be released tomorrow morning (following Post's Response Committee meeting).

I am contactable via email or on s 22(1)(a)(ii) if required.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 4:44 PM
To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good afternoon Simon et al,

Just a quick update from me tonight:

- Port Moresby remains quiet, yet tense
- Prime Minister Marape Press Conference scheduled for 1700hrs (Canberra time) has not commenced
- s 47E(d)
-
- s 33(a)(iii)
- All locally engaged staff will remain at home tomorrow
- A-based officers will be given the option to work from home (with the exception of the Post Response Committee)
- A-based who choose to work from the AHC are encouraged to use AHC shuttle services rather than self-drive (to avoid long convoys)
- Airport is heavily protected and operating international and domestic services
- All compounds remain on high alert s 47E(d) (this includes maximum voltage on electric fencing, increased patrols, and quick response force units on standby)

- I am working with Post to provide a comprehensive SITREP tonight and will advise once this has been released
- Post Response Committee will meet again at 0900hrs (Canberra time) tomorrow

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Counsellor ^{s47E(c), s47E(d)}

Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M** s 22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 9:17 AM
To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au); s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au); s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good morning Simon,

I am working with Post to distribute an updated SITREP (via cable) by 1030hrs Canberra time.

Still lots of moving parts at the moment, here is a brief snapshot:

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- s 47E(d)
- This will be reviewed at 1030hrs Canberra time
- All locally engaged staff will work from home today
- Limited A-based will work from the AHC
- s 47E(d)
- All staff movements via convoy with security escorts (and limited to residential compounds and AHC)

Staff incidents:

- All staff remain safe
- In a two car convoy with security escort, RSO and Head of Defence conducted a recce

yesterday afternoon (prior to releasing staff from the AHC). While completing the recce, non-direct gunshots were observed in very close proximity to the convoy. Convoy employed defensive techniques and diverted to the nearest safe haven (approximately 500metres away)

- ***Unverified*** – potentially a stray bullet has impacted one A-based residence. RSO will investigate today.
- ***Unverified*** – reports of two locally engaged safe having bags snatched yesterday afternoon.
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- One RSO on leave s22(1)(a)(ii)
- One RSO arriving at Post today s22(1)(a)(ii)

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- PNG Police deployed additional resources from Lae last night
- Police Commissioner released a statement last night condemning actions and a promise to hold those responsible to account

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- Multiple businesses looted and/or destroyed yesterday – RSO is compiling a list
- Shops remain closed
- Supplies (milk, break, flour) mostly depleted

s 33(a)(iii)

- Qantas requested advice from RSO this morning. It will operate flights today.
- Internet services are disrupted. Post is still able to operate effectively.

Other cities in PNG

- Lae Consulate staff safe
- RSO assesses that violence is likely to materialise in Lae today. This is owing to a combination of news from Port Moresby filtering through, and a reduced Police Force (who have been deployed to Port Moresby)
- Security incidents reported in Mount Hagen last night (nil staff in the city)

Canberra response/comms

- Travel advice has been updated
- RSO will continue to provide assistance to Post, as well as communicate with DSD/Canberra
- Post (HOM, CG, RSO) briefed Office of the Pacific executive yesterday afternoon
- s47E(d)

I will advise once Post's latest SITREP has been cleared. RSO will continue to work closely with Post (HOM & CG primarily).

Kind regards,

s22(1)(a)

;;\

Counsellor^{s47E(c), s47E(d)}

Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
T s22(1)(a)(ii) | M s22(1)(a)(ii)
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 7:54 AM

To: Fiona Webster <Fiona.Webster@dfat.gov.au>

Cc: s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Alan Copeland <Alan.Copeland@dfat.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>

Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Fiona,

s22(1)(a)(ii) provided excellent advice to post and kept us well informed.

Nothing additional this morning. I expect an update around 1030 (AEDST).

Regards

Simon

Simon Johnstone

Assistant Secretary
Operational Security Branch (OSB) | Diplomatic Security Division (DSD)
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
T s22(1)(a)(ii) | M s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Fiona Webster <Fiona.Webster@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 8:51 AM
To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Alan Copeland <Alan.Copeland@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby -s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

A belated thank you Simon, have you heard anything further this morning, or are we expecting a sitrep at some point?

Fiona Webster

Chief Security Officer | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
p s22(1)(a)(ii) | m s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 9:54 PM
To: Fiona Webster <Fiona.Webster@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Alan Copeland <Alan.Copeland@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: SITREP - Port Moresby s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Fiona

Cable attached. No plan for additional SITREP tonight unless escalates or urgent

Regards

Simon

From: s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 at 9:39:29 pm
To: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: SITREP - Port Moresby s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good evening Simon,

Eventful day....

Post has released a SITREP covering today's civil disorder event. **s22(1)(a)(ii)**

I have also exported and attached for convenience.

Kind regards,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Counsellor ^{s47E(c), s47E(d)}

Australian High Commission

Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

T s22(1)(a)(ii) | M s22(1)(a)(ii)

<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 11:59 AM
To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Subject: Re: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks Simon,

Nil assistance required. s47E(d) at 3-4pm Canberra time. By this stage, unless something unexpected occurs, Post s 47E(d)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Friday, 12 January 2024 at 09:52:00
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s 22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks, sounds like all under control from DSD security side. Do you need any assistance or shaping from here

SJ

From: s22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Sent: Friday, 12 January 2024 10:11 AM
To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby - s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good morning,

Post has circulated the latest SITREP – **s22(1)(a)(ii)**

Key points include:

- PNG Government has implemented a 14-day State of Emergency
- Police Commissioner, and Secretaries of Finance, Treasury, Personnel Management suspended for at least 14 days.
- PNG investigation continues
- Post remains at **s47E(d)** . This will be reviewed at 1015hrs Canberra time
- Supermarkets and businesses are gradually (very cautiously!) re-opening
- Port Moresby and Lae calm overnight

Kind regards,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Counsellor ^{s47E(c), s47E(d)}

Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
T s22(1)(a)(ii) | **M s22(1)(a)(ii)**
<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: **s22(1)(a)(ii)**
Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 5:36 PM
To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: **s22(1)(a)(ii)** <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; **s22(1)(a)(ii)** <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; **s22(1)(a)(ii)** <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>
Subject: RE: SITREP - Port Moresby -**s22(1)(a)(ii)** [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Post SITREP has been circulated – **s22(1)(a)(ii)** .

The next SITREP will be released tomorrow morning (following Post's Response Committee meeting).

I am contactable via email or on **s22(1)(a)(ii)** if required.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: **s22(1)(a)(ii)**

Sent: Thursday, 11 January 2024 4:44 PM

s22(1)(a)(ii) - duplicate

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Sent: Saturday, January 13, 2024 3:19 PM

To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: Re: PNG - daily rhythm and plan for this weekend [REDACTED]

Good afternoon Simon,

Post has released today's SITREP (s 22(1)(a)(ii) refers).

There has been small outbreaks of violence so far this weekend, but is quickly being contained by RPNGC and PNGDF.

I will let you know if things escalate.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>

Date: Friday, 12 January 2024 at 13:44:24

To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>

Subject: Re: PNG - daily rhythm and plan for this weekend [REDACTED]

Ack thanks

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>

Date: Friday, 12 January 2024 at 1:58:26 pm

To: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: FW: PNG - daily rhythm and plan for this weekend [REDACTED]

Simon – FYI.

No IDETFS likely this weekend.

s 47E(d)

following an easing in security

conditions. We continue to monitor closely.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Brek Batley <Brek.Batley@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 11:40 AM
To: Jennifer Mason <Jennifer.Mason@dfat.gov.au>; Nicholas Kay <Nicholas.Kay@dfat.gov.au>; Joanne Loundes <Joanne.Loundes@dfat.gov.au>; Leah Mottram <Leah.Mottram@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 47E(d) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 47E(d) <@dfat.gov.au>; Max Willis <Max.Willis@dfat.gov.au>; Jamie Isbister <Jamie.Isbister@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a) <@dfat.gov.au>; Kate Logan <Kate.Logan@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: PNG - daily rhythm and plan for this weekend [REDACTED]

Colleagues, as discussed, here is our daily rhythm. Ideally things calm down and we move away from this as soon as possible. But important we have a shared sense of daily reqs. Thanks everyone. Especially team at post for helping us with a daily sitrep this weekend – much appreciated, I assure you they are being ferociously consumed. Brek

For Weekdays
s 47E(d)

For this Weekend
s 47E(d)

Brek Batley

A/g First Assistant Secretary
Melanesia Division
Australian Department of Foreign Affairs
(W) s 22(1)(a)(ii) **(M)** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

My working day may not be your working day. Please don't feel obliged to reply to this email outside of your normal working hours.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2024 1:58 PM
To: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au;
Subject: CIVIL UNREST: POM Post returns to s 47E(d) status [REDACTED]

Good afternoon Simon,

I am pleased to report that based on the latest security advice, we have made the decision to s 47E(d)

s 47E(d)

Given the unprecedented level of civil unrest last week, RSOs will continue to monitor closely and respond as required.

Post will release a SITREP this afternoon (1600hrs Canberra time).

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Counsellor s47E(c), s47E(d)

Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

<https://png.embassy.gov.au>

From: Simon Johnstone <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, January 14, 2024 3:31 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: CIVIL UNREST: SITREP [REDACTED]

Acknowledged thanks

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Sunday, 14 January 2024 at 3:27:27 pm
To: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: PNG: CIVIL UNREST: SITREP [REDACTED]

Good afternoon Simon,

We have just finalised today's SITREP. s 22(1)(a)(ii) refers.

Key points:

*s 47E(d)

*Businesses and supermarkets gradually reopening

*Police have been authorised to enter private residences to retrieve stolen items and make arrests. Police will have this additional power under State of Emergency additional measures until 26 Jan.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: "Simon Johnstone" <Simon.Johnstone@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Saturday, 13 January 2024 at 14:32:15
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: PNG - daily rhythm and plan for this weekend [REDACTED]

Tony thanks for update

Simon

From: s22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>

Date: Saturday, 13 January 2024 at 3:18:39 pm
s22(1)(a)(ii) - duplicate

From: [Simon Johnstone](#)
To: [Fiona Webster](#)
Subject: PNG Update[SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 9:04:57 PM

OFFICIAL

Fiona

Post is about to release a SITREP via cable. RSO will provide summary shortly.

All staff (with the exception of executive) is now safe at residential compounds. Executive and RSO will remain at the Mission. Post will remain at s47E(d) in the meantime.

Regards Simon