



# SEMAPHORE

Newsletter of the Maritime Law

Association of Australia and New Zealand



## Pacific Islands Maritime Conference

The inaugural meeting of the Pacific Islands Maritime Conference (PIMC) was held on 10 December 2016 in Port Vila, Vanuatu following an IMO and SPC organised Regional Meeting of Heads of Transport and Energy in the Pacific.

PIMC is intended to be an umbrella organisation that brings together four regional organisations; the Pacific Islands Maritime Association (PacMA), the Pacific International Maritime Law Association (PIMLA), the Pacific Maritime Transport Alliance (PMTA) and the Pacific Islands Shipowners Association (PISA). PIMC itself is made up of the executive committees of these four organisations as well as representatives of the Pacific Women in Maritime Association (PacWIMA). This first meeting, which essentially endorsed the creation of PIMC, was attended by representative of the executives of the constituting organisation as well as those attending the IMO/SPC Regional Meeting, and observers.

As Director of the Marine and Shipping Law Unit at the University of Queensland (and member of PIMLA), I was invited to attend as an observer, together with the Maritime law staff of the University of the South Pacific. The executive of PIMLA, and through it PIMC, were eager to learn more of the activities of MLAANZ, and to reinvigorate its past relationship with our association. As such, being the only MLAANZ member present, I was asked to do a short presentation on the history of MLAANZ, its membership and current activities (with assistance and information provided by our President, Neil Beadle).

PIMC will, it is hoped, provide a platform that allows the constituting organisations to share resources and provides a platform for discussion and development in the Pacific. While the newly constituted executive will develop a plan of action for the future, it provides a new opportunity for MLAANZ to engage with our colleagues in maritime law in the region.

Craig Forrest  
Marine and Shipping Law Unit  
TC Beirne School of Law, University of Queensland  
General Editor, *Australian and New Zealand Maritime Law Journal*

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