

# The Honourable Richard Marles MP

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Deputy Prime Minister  
Minister for Defence

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**Australia-Papua New Guinea Defence Ministers' Meeting**

5 October 2023

Briefing Pack

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s22, s47F, s45

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## Official Delegation

**The Hon Richard Marles MP**  
**Deputy Prime Minister**  
**Minister for Defence**

Ms Jo Tarnawsky  
Chief of Staff to the Deputy Prime Minister,  
Minister for Defence

s47E(d)  
47E(d) the Deputy Prime Minister,  
Minister for Defence

Ms Susan Bodell  
First Assistant Secretary, Pacific Division

COL Travis Gordon  
Defence Adviser to Papua New Guinea

s47E(d)  
Assistant Director, Papua New Guinea

s47E(d)  
Visit Officer, Defence Visits Attaché Management

s47E(d)  
Policy Officer, Papua New Guinea

s22

## PNG Delegation

**The Hon Win Bakri Daki MP**  
**Minister for Defence**

s33(a)(iii)

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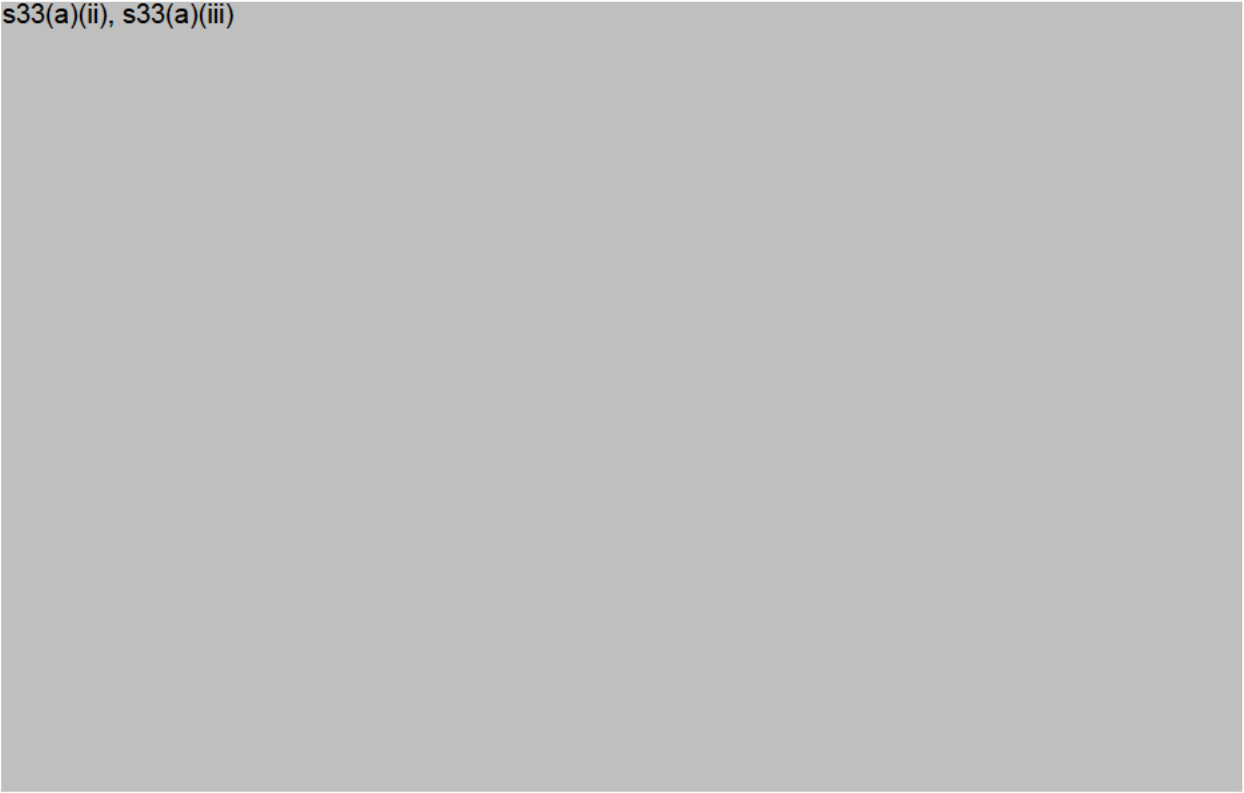
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## Strategic Overview


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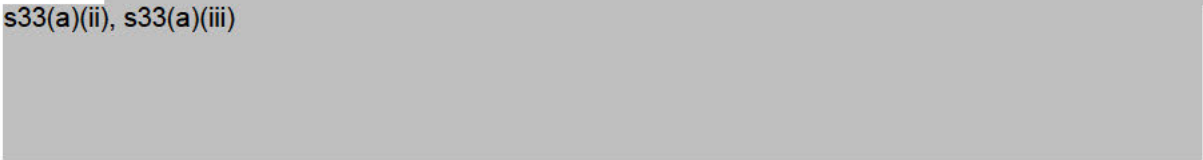
s33(a)(ii)



s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)



s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)



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## Australia-Papua New Guinea Defence Ministers' Meeting

11am to 12pm, 5 October 2023, s33(a)(i) Geelong

### Agenda

s45, s33(a)(iii), s33(b)



#### *Following discussions:*

11.50am to 12pm	Opportunity for exchange of gifts
12.00pm to 12.15pm	Travel to s33(a)(i)
12.15pm to 1.45pm	Official lunch at s33(a)(i)
1.45pm	PNG Delegation departs

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## Australia-PNG Defence Ministers' Meeting Brief

Mr Win Bakri Daki (pronounced Dah-Key)  
Minister for Defence

Thursday 5 October 2023, Geelong

Purpose of the meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual Defence Ministers' Meetings ensure our defence cooperation is meeting joint objectives, as well as Prime Ministers' expectations under our Comprehensive Strategic and Economic Partnership.</li></ul>
What we want
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)</li><li>s33(a)(ii)</li><li>s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)</li></ul>
What they want
s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii), s45, s33(b)
Handling note
<p>You last met Minister Daki on 16 February 2023 in the margins of the Australia-PNG Ministerial Forum. Your last formal meeting with Minister Daki occurred during your visit to PNG in October 2022 s45, s33(a)(iii), s33(b)</p> <p>Australia and PNG announced bi-annual Defence Ministers' Meetings in 2019, following annual meetings since 2013. Covid-19, PNG ministerial changes, and elections in both countries have prevented bi-annual meetings until this year. s33(a)(iii)</p>

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s45, s33(a)(iii), s33(b)

**What we want**

- s33(a)(iii)
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**What they want**

- s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii), s33(b)
- s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii), s45, s33(b)

**Handling note**

s47F

**Key messages**

- **Highlight** that it continues to be a privilege for our ADF to work shoulder to shoulder with the PNG Defence Force.

s33(a)(iii)

s45, s33(a)(iii)

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- **Emphasise** that new initiatives are strengthening our defence cooperation.

s33(a)(iii)

- **Reflect** on the value of our efforts to build our interoperability.

s33(a)(iii)

- s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii), s45

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s45, s33(a)(iii), s33(b)

#### What we want

- s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)
- s33(a)(ii)

#### What they want

s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii), s33(b)

#### Key messages

- **Highlight** our cooperation is continuing to build PNG's sovereign capabilities across the breadth of its operations.

s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(ii)

- s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(ii)

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## Background

### Maritime cooperation

PNG will be gifted four Guardian class patrol boats under the Pacific Maritime Security Program. Three of the four are now in service. Minister Daki is scheduled to attend the handover of the fourth boat on 4 October. HMPNGS Cape Gloucester was also gifted in May 2022 to replace the PNGDF's former heavy landing craft.

s45, s33(a)(iii)

The Government is doubling existing funding for the aerial surveillance program in 2024 to 2025. The program is available to Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency members to support maritime domain awareness in their exclusive economic zones.

s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii), s45, s33(b)

### Aviation cooperation

s33(a)(ii), s45

The first C-27J deployed to PNG under the Defence Pacific Air Program (DPAP) in July 2023. DPAP aircraft have provided support to military training, cargo movements, and assistance to the civil community.


s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)


Under our Flights of Excellence Program, Australia remediated PNG's existing PAC 750 aircraft and gifted two new PAC 750 aircraft (in April and August 2023).

s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii), s45



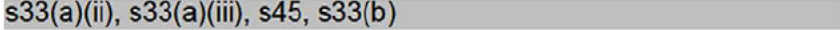
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s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)




s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii), s45, s33(b)




### Infrastructure cooperation

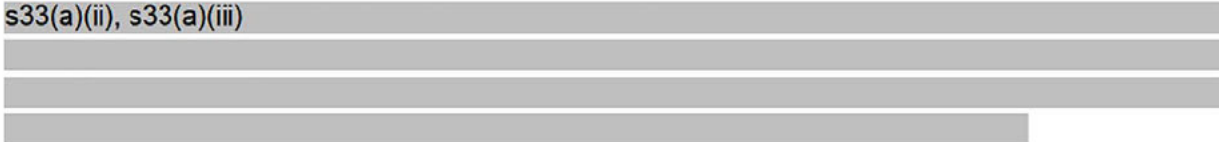
s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)




At the same time, we are also building live-in accommodation at the PNGDF's Moem Barracks and remediating essential services (sewerage and water) at Goldie River Training Depot and Igam Barracks. s33(a)(iii), s45, s33(b)



s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)



s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)



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s45, s33(b)

**What we want**

s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)

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**What they want**

- s33(a)(iii), s33(b)

**Key messages**

s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)

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- ***Thank*** PNG for hosting Regional Exercise Longreach this year with member nations of the South Pacific Defence Ministers' Meeting.

s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)

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## Background

### PNG disaster management

Minister Daki has responsibility for national disaster management and civil response agencies as part of PNG's defence portfolio. s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)

### HADR assistance to Bougainville

From 7 to 17 July 2023, volcanic activity at Mt Bagana in Bougainville resulted in the displacement of over eight thousand people and reduced food supplies.

On 2 August, the PNGDF delivered humanitarian supplies to Bougainville using its heavy landing craft HMPNGS Cape Gloucester, a vessel gifted by Australia in 2022. Representatives of the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) ceremonially welcomed the PNGDF to Bougainville, as the first time the PNGDF had deployed to Bougainville since the Crisis.

Following the PNGDF assistance, a RAAF C-27 deployed under the Defence Pacific Air Program and delivered humanitarian and disaster relief (HADR) supplies to Bougainville at the request of both the PNG Government and the ABG. The United States and New Zealand also provided assistance in coordination with DFAT.

s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)

### Regional Exercise Longreach 2023

From 5 to 7 September, PNG and Australia co-hosted Regional Exercise Longreach in Port Moresby. The exercise is an initiative of the South Pacific Defence Ministers' Meeting (SPDMM) and aims to strengthen Pacific military cooperation on regional HADR. It also built on a United States Disaster Response and Emergency Exercise held in PNG earlier this year.

Each year, Exercise Longreach participants refine HADR standard operating procedures through an emergency response table top exercise. This year, participants from Tonga, Fiji, New Zealand, France, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States attended and discussed operational planning, gender, and disaster response across civilian and military agencies.

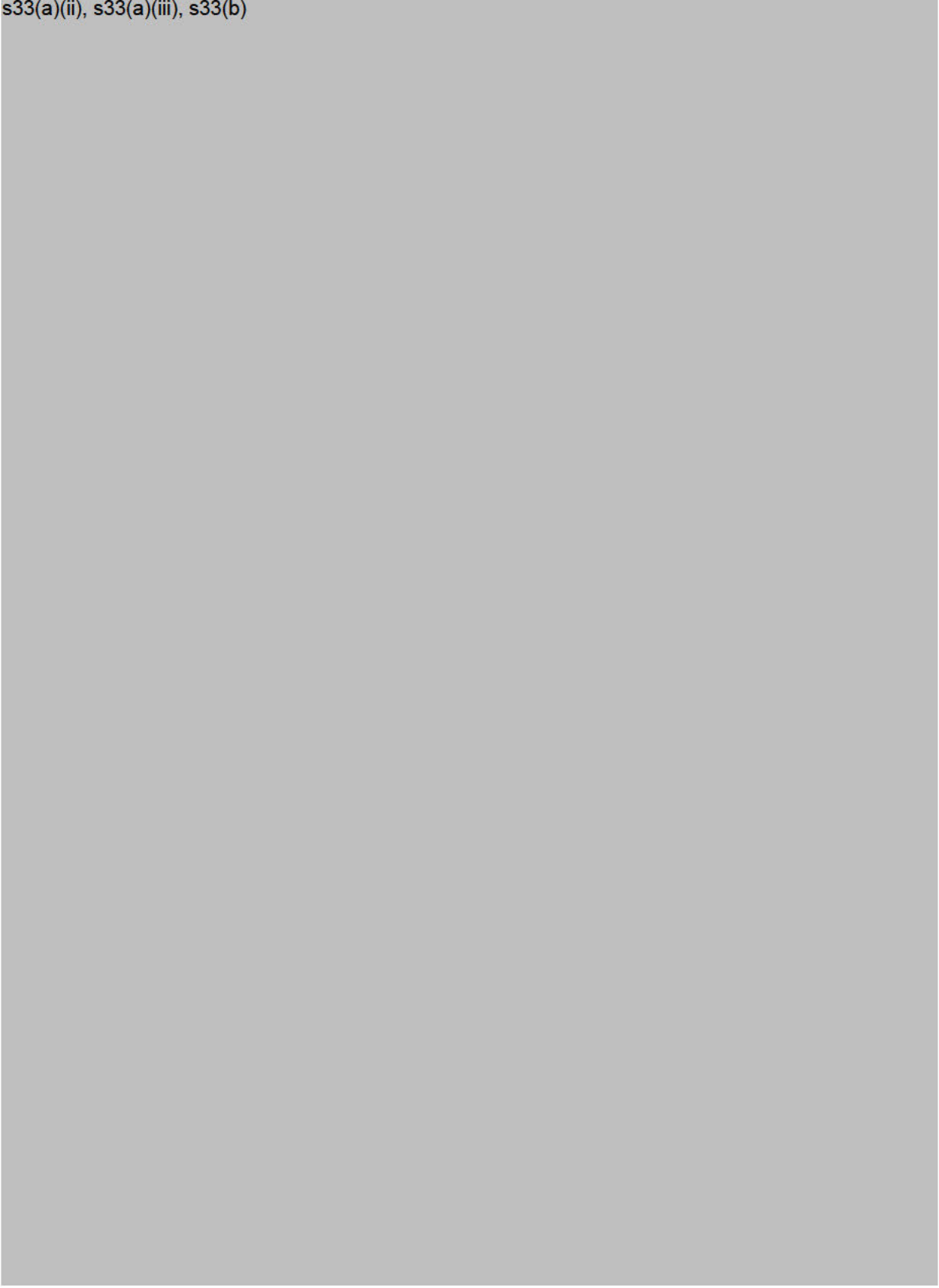
s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii), s45

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### ***Defensive talking points***

s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii), s33(b)

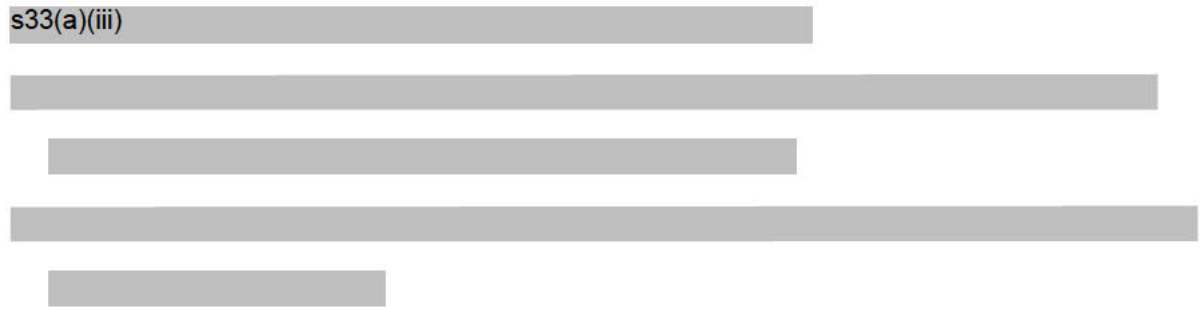


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- The Pacific Support Vessel, ADV Reliant, as well as our support to maritime surveillance through the Forum Fisheries Agency, is also available to support PNG's maritime security.

s33(a)(iii)

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- s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii), s45
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s33(a)(ii), s33(a)(iii)

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