

Email received from SafeWork South Australia on 31 July 2009

**PACER Plus FTA Section
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

To Whom it May Concern;

SafeWork South Australia is currently coordinating with its counterpart jurisdictions within Australia and New Zealand to provide a Technical Cooperation Programme of OHS assistance and training in enforcement and prevention strategies to the Labour Inspectorates within the Pacific Islands. The implementation of this programme will improve OHS performance in particular the reduction of work related fatalities, injury and illness, and the development of tripartite OHS consultative structures within the countries. Creating tripartite structures is about the involvement of workers, employers and governments, working together to achieve fair terms of employment, and decent working conditions. The development of tripartite structures is a key element of the programme aimed at promoting social dialogue. It will help government, employers and workers' organisations to achieve sustainable sound labour relations to meet changing social and economic needs, most importantly, decent working conditions. The continuous improvement in the understanding of OHS performance is a key programme outcome for the inspectorates and industry.

SafeWork South Australia has had linkages with the South Pacific Islands since April 2005, when the Technical Cooperation Programme was first proposed to other Australian and New Zealand jurisdictions. Since this time, the proposal for this programme had been unanimously accepted by all South Pacific countries involved, Australian and New Zealand jurisdictions and endorsed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the International Association of Labour Inspection (IALI).

The Technical Cooperation Programme will improve and contribute to the economic development of the Pacific Countries and provide a grounding for good governance including labour mobility. It is envisaged that the Technical Cooperation Programme could have areas that would enhance the PACER Plus Programme and contribute to any future trade agreements.

I have attached for your information the copy of our application that was recently submitted to AusAid to obtain funding for the Technical Cooperation Programme.

Please do not hesitate to contact Michele Patterson, Executive Director- SafeWork SA, President- International Association of Labour Inspection (IALI) on 08 8303 0230 should you require any further information on either our submission for PACER Plus, or the Technical Cooperation Programme.

Kind Regards,
Sara Kennett

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