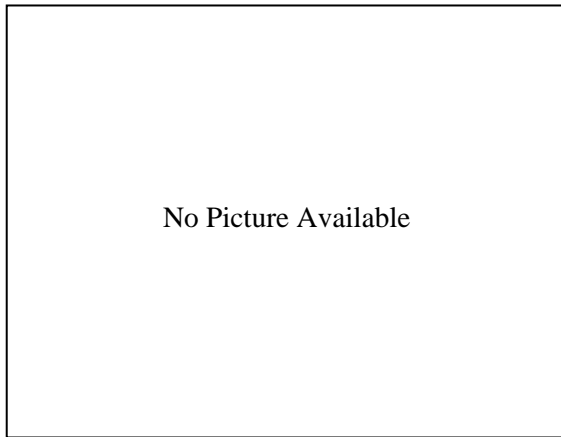


Best Practice: Establishment of Port Security Committees at the National and Local Levels



Category:	Communications
Location:	Ports of Luganville and Port Vila, Vanuatu
Date Observed:	July 2007
POC:	The Department of Ports and Harbors
WWW:	N/A

Description: Establishment of Port Security Committees at the national and local levels.

Discussion: The Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities has established a National Port Security Committee that meets quarterly a year or whenever there is a significant change in port security status. The committee is chaired by the Director General of the MIPU. Members of the committee include representatives from the Vanuatu Police and Mobile Task Force, Customs and Revenue, Quarantine, Immigration, and MIPU. At the port level, the Ports of Luganville and Port Vila have formed a Port Security Task Force of internal and external agencies and customers that have a regular working relationship at the Port. The port security officer chairs the Task Force committee, which comprises of Police, Customs, Quarantine, Stevedore Representatives, Shipping Agents' Representatives, Public Works Department, Provincial Council, and Vanuatu Maritime Authority.

Potential Down-side: Potential downside is that it takes time and efforts to organize the meeting with many members.

Conclusion: The Port Security Committee addresses strategic port security issues at a national level and the Task Force committee addresses tactical port security at a port level. Any major or minor port security issues can be effectively addressed through these committees in a timely manner.

Cost: The initial cost is low, but the costs associated with many meetings may be high.