



Nanaia Mahuta

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF CUSTOMS

No country is immune from the threat of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. That is why New Zealand joined the Proliferation Security Initiative.

The Proliferation Security Initiative is an international initiative under which participating countries cooperate to stop illicit shipments of weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems, and related materials, in particular dual use items, including chemicals or components that can be used to develop weapons of mass destruction or delivery systems.

New Zealand's active participation in the Proliferation Security Initiative reflects our international commitment to global security and contributes to a safer world by deterring would-be traffickers from sourcing or transporting such weapons from or through our country or region.

Some might wonder why New Zealand, at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean, should need to be part of the Proliferation Security Initiative. What risk do weapons of mass destruction pose to us?

The proliferation of such weapons and 'dual-use' items – goods that have a legitimate purpose but also can be used to make weapons of mass destruction – can threaten international peace and security. This global problem needs a global solution.

We cannot rule out the possibility that New Zealand could be used as a staging point for weapons of mass destruction or related goods shipments. Weapons traffickers use complex transport and financing networks to hide their trade. As global security tightens, proliferators and terrorists will look for new and less obvious transport routes.

New Zealand's involvement in the Proliferation Security Initiative helps strengthen our domestic capability to respond to a trafficking situation, as

well as our ability to work internationally with other Proliferation Security Initiative countries.

Supporting the Proliferation Security Initiative contributes to the ongoing security of New Zealand, the Asia-Pacific region, and the world. New Zealand is a strong supporter of PSI and encourages other countries, particularly those in our region, to become actively involved.

Nanaia Mahuta
Minister of Customs



NZ Customs boarding vessel

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EXERCISE MARU

Exercise Maru is a key part of New Zealand's commitment to the Proliferation Security Initiative.



NZ Customs patrol vessel Hawk IV

Exercise Maru is a multi-national, multi-agency exercise taking place in Auckland, New Zealand from 15-19 September 2008.

Exercise Maru will test New Zealand's whole-of-government ability to stop a shipment of weapons of mass destruction related materials (dual-use items) from crossing New Zealand borders.

It involves live ship-boarding exercises (interdiction) in the Hauraki Gulf, container inspections in the Ports of Auckland, and a desk-top exercise in the conference sessions. Neither residents of Auckland, nor users of Auckland Harbour / Hauraki Gulf should be affected by the Exercise.

Training exercises, such as Exercise Maru, help Proliferation Security Initiative participating countries work together in a more coordinated manner to stop, search and seize illicit shipments before and after they leave for their destination.

Other members of PSI's Operational Experts Group will participate in Exercise Maru, bringing international expertise and experience in combating the spread of weapons of mass destruction that New Zealand stands to benefit from.

A number of PSI non-participating countries from the Asia-Pacific region will also come to New Zealand for the exercise as observers.

'Maru' is a Maori word which means safeguard or shelter. It was chosen as it was felt it reflected the values and purpose of the Proliferation Security Initiative and this New Zealand-hosted exercise.

Exercise Maru's objectives are to:

- Exercise the national response capabilities of New Zealand and other participating countries regarding interdiction (ship and aircraft-boarding) policies, decision-making, legal frameworks and existing cargo/craft clearance procedures
- Draw attention to non-proliferation issues within New Zealand and more broadly in the Asia-Pacific region
- Advance understanding of the importance of communication and information sharing at a national and international level
- Explore lessons learned from previous Proliferation Security Initiative activities, and capture and provide new lessons learned
- Advance industry understanding of engagement with the Proliferation Security Initiative.

EXERCISE MARU WEBSITE

The Exercise Maru website is now live!
For everything you need to know about PSI in New Zealand and Exercise Maru visit
www.nzpsi.govt.nz

The New Zealand Customs Service is the lead New Zealand government agency for this exercise, working in close cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand Defence Force, and the Ministry of Defence. Ports of Auckland is providing industry assistance.

New Zealand Police, New Zealand Fire Service, Maritime New Zealand, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet are also involved in Exercise Maru.

A number of other PSI participating countries will also join the exercise.



The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is a global phenomenon, especially as weapons traffickers seek out new transportation routes.

INDUSTRY ROAD SHOW

The Exercise Maru team are taking to the road in July with the industry road show.

Industry is a vital link in combating the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

New Zealand has specialist niche manufacturers of advanced equipment and technology, which may be of interest to weapons of mass destruction traffickers. Importers and exporters in particular need to know to be aware of certain products. These products, such as chemical or technological items, are often used commercially for legitimate purposes. On their own they can seem harmless but when combined they can become lethal.

Weapons of mass destruction are often built with components that have a legitimate purpose. For example, New Zealand manufactures continuous cycle enclosed batch fermenters that are used in animal medicine (and could be used in human medicine) for the production of vaccines against pathogenic bacteria. They could, however, be used under different circumstances in the production of agents for biological weapons.

Customs Deputy Comptroller of Operations, Robert Lake says, "If New Zealand has a well informed industry, aware of what to be on the look-out for, working in partnership with government agencies we will be in a far stronger position to stop illicit shipments crossing our borders."

You may be interested in attending the road show if you work in the following industries:

- Manufacturing industry
- Transport industry
- Customs Brokers
- Freight Forwarders
- Importers
- Exporters
- International air and sea port authorities.

The Industry road show will be taking place on the following dates:

**Monday 28 July
Wellington**

**Wednesday 30 July
Dunedin**

**Wednesday 30 July
Christchurch**

**To secure your place email Cordula.
plassmann@customs.govt.nz**

PSI IN THE PACIFIC

The vast expanse of the Pacific Ocean and the large volume of sea traffic that passes through it each year make the Proliferation Security Initiative especially relevant in the Pacific.

Of the over 90 countries throughout the world that have endorsed the PSI Principles, six are from the Pacific – Australia, Fiji, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Samoa. PSI membership gives these countries access to technical assistance, information sharing and informed discussions with other PSI member nations around the world. It also gives them the opportunity to benefit from valuable learnings gained from PSI exercises, such as Exercise Maru. All of these activities contribute to improving a country's threat awareness and capacity to detect and intercept WMD shipments.

The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is a global phenomenon, especially as weapons traffickers seek out new transportation routes. As the sharing of information is a key aspect of the Proliferation Security Initiative's activities, Pacific Island countries can play an invaluable role.

New Zealand therefore encourages all Pacific Island countries to consider endorsing the PSI. Contact New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade if you would like any further information.



Waiheke Island

ABOUT AUCKLAND

Auckland, in the North Island of New Zealand, is the country's largest and most heavily populated region. It is currently home to 1.4 million New Zealanders – over a quarter of the country's population. It is also lays claim to being the world's largest Polynesian city.

Auckland itself is divided into four cities, Auckland, Manukau, North Shore and Waitakere.

Known as the City of Sails, Auckland's harbour came to the world's attention when it hosted the Americas Cup in 2000 and 2003.

Auckland is blessed by three harbours; the Waitemata, the Manukau and the Kaipara, New Zealand's largest.

The Auckland Harbour Bridge, links the city with the North Shore. Those with an adventurous spirit can climb to the apex of the bridge and the really adventurous can bungee jump from it!

Dining

Auckland has perfected the style of cuisine called "Pacific Rim", blending Asian and Pacific flavours. Seafood features prominently on Auckland restaurant menus. Try New Zealand greenlipped mussels, succulent Clevedon Coast oysters or the local lamb or venison. The historic inner city suburbs of Ponsonby, Herne Bay and Parnell offer dozens of dining options, or try a waterfront restaurant in the Viaduct Harbour or Mission Bay.

To go with the food, Auckland produces a number of award-winning wines from its 80-plus vineyards. Look for admired Auckland labels such as Kumeu River, Stonyridge and Matua Valley. Some of the larger vineyards have very good restaurants offering dining among the vines.

What to see and do

After dinner, there are plenty of options for enjoying Auckland's nightlife. Lively bars and pubs – many of which also serve food – can be found all over the central city, while the big dance clubs are centred on Karangahape Road, known locally as K Rd.

The city's casino is located inside the imposing Sky Tower, which at 328

metres is the tallest tower in the Southern Hemisphere. The Sky City complex also has bars, restaurants and a hotel. Live music and theatre can be found in large venues such as the Aotea Centre, the Bruce Mason Theatre and Sky City Theatre.

For more information about Auckland visit Tourism Auckland's official site (<http://www.aucklandnz.com/Default.aspx>).



Auckland Harbour Bridge

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 28 July Industry Road show – Wellington

Wednesday 30 July Industry Road show – Dunedin (am)

Wednesday 30 July Industry Road show – Christchurch (pm)

Thursday 31 July Industry Road show – Auckland (am)

Thursday 31 July Industry Road show – Tauranga (pm)

Friday 12 September Defence pre exercise

Monday 15 September Exercise Day 1 Official welcome (Powhiri)

Monday 15 September Official visit to Whenuapai Air Base

Tuesday 16 September Exercise Day 2 Live boardings demonstrations

Wednesday 17 September Exercise Day 3 CBRE demonstration

Wednesday 17 September Industry Seminar

Thursday 18 September Exercise Day 4 Country Group Table top exercise

Friday 19 September Exercise Day 5

Friday 19 September Exercise conclusion