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The Fiji Police Force and Port Denarau Marina Limited (PDML) have formalized their collaboration in border control, surveillance, enforcement, and security through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed today. As Fiji's premier tourist hub and a key Port of Entry, this partnership highlights a shared commitment to ensuring safety and security for visitors, stakeholders, and the local community.

Under this agreement, PDML has provided a dedicated Police booth to support law enforcement operations and maintain order at the facility. Additionally, a designated berth has been allocated for police patrol boats, enhancing water-based surveillance and response capabilities. Acting Commissioner of Police Juki Fong Chew emphasized the importance of this collaboration in protecting all those who visit and operate within Port Denarau.

"The Fiji Police Force is glad that this partnership has finally materialized. Moving forward, we can continue to work together to minimize issues that affect tourists and anyone coming to Port Denarau," said Mr. Chew.

He further stated that working closely with PDML and other stakeholders would strengthen efforts to combat crime, including transnational threats such as drug trafficking.

Enhancing Security & Border Control

While Port Denarau Marina has historically been considered a safe and well-managed area with low crime rates, the MOA is a proactive initiative aimed at enhancing security measures and mitigating potential risks before they escalate.

Key measures under the agreement include:

- Increased Police Presence - Establishment of a dedicated police booth, provided by PDML, to serve as a base for security operations.
- Police Patrol Boats - Allocation of berthing space for police patrol boats to strengthen water-based surveillance.
- Integrated Security Collaboration—Strengthened coordination between port security personnel and the Fiji Police Force to enhance response times and enforcement.
- Enhanced Monitoring & Control - Improved surveillance, including regular patrols and intelligence-sharing to combat illicit activities such as drug trafficking.
- Compliance with International Security Standards - As an ISPS-compliant port, PDML upholds strict security protocols, and this agreement strengthens enforcement of these measures.

Benefits for Locals & Tourists

This strategic partnership will create a safer and more secure environment for residents, visitors, and businesses. The expected benefits include:

- Enhanced Safety & Security – Strengthened security measures reduce risks and ensure a safe experience for all.
- Crime Prevention & Rapid Response – A proactive approach to security helps deter criminal activities and enables swift responses to incidents.
- Efficient Port Operations – Compliance with the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code ensures streamlined and secure maritime operations.
- Economic Growth & Stakeholder Confidence – A secure port attracts more visitors, fosters trust among investors, and supports economic development.

Next Steps in Implementation

To ensure the successful execution of this MOA, the following steps will be undertaken:

- Development of an Action Plan – Defining clear strategies and protocols for joint security operations.
- Resource Allocation – Assigning necessary personnel, infrastructure, and equipment to support the initiative.
- Training & Capacity Building – Conducting joint training programs to enhance collaboration and operational efficiency.
- Continuous Monitoring & Evaluation – Regular assessments and improvements to security measures.

While the Fiji Police Force has maintained a presence at Port Denarau Marina for several years, this MOA marks the first formalized agreement that strengthens their role in border security and law enforcement at the port.