

B2000/11

THE PRIME MINISTER



P O BOX G 1  
HONIARA  
SOLOMON ISLANDS

10 November 2000

H E Mr Nick Hurley  
New Zealand High Commissioner  
HONIARA

Your Excellency

I refer to your letter dated 9 November 2000 which reads as follows:

Dear Prime Minister

I have the honour to refer to my recent discussions with you concerning arrangements for the early deployment of unarmed New Zealand civilian, armed forces and police personnel as part of an Advance Party for the planned International Peace Monitoring Team (IPMT) whose task will be to support the Peace Monitoring Council in implementation of the Townsville Peace Agreement, in particular with confidence-building, monitoring safe custody of surrendered weapons, and monitoring and reporting on the peace process.

In this regard, I have the honour to advise that the New Zealand Government wishes to put in place appropriate interim arrangements covering the deployment of such personnel pending the conclusion of more broad-ranging arrangements covering their deployment and possibly the deployment of all other members of the IPMT.

I now therefore propose on behalf of the Government of New Zealand that an Agreement be reached between our two Governments in this matter on the following terms:

All New Zealand personnel who are deployed to Solomon Islands as members of the IPMT shall be accorded immunity from the jurisdiction of the Solomon Islands authorities, except in any case where the New Zealand authorities expressly consent otherwise.

The Government of Solomon Islands shall waive all claims against the Government of New Zealand or against New Zealand personnel arising out of

the performance by those personnel of their duties. The two Governments shall consult on the settlement of any other claims.

The two Governments, in consultation with the Governments of those other countries contributing members of the IPMT, shall consult with a view to concluding a more broad-ranging agreement to replace this interim agreement. The terms of this interim agreement shall however continue to govern the deployment of New Zealand members of the IPMT in Solomon Islands until such time as they are superseded by such a subsequent and more broad-ranging agreement.

If the foregoing is acceptable to the Government of Solomon Islands, I have the honour to propose that this letter, together with your reply to that effect, shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments which shall enter into force on the date of your reply.

Accept, Prime Minister, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely

Nick Hurley  
New Zealand High Commissioner

I have the honour to confirm that the contents of your letter are acceptable to the Solomon Islands Government, and that your letter and this reply shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments relating to the deployment of New Zealand personnel to Solomon Islands for the International Peace Monitoring Team, which shall enter into force on the date of this reply.

Yours sincerely



Hon Manasseh Sogavare  
Prime Minister of Solomon Islands



NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION

TE AKA AORERE

HONIARA

9 November 2000

SOL/ 1/1

Hon Manasseh Sogavare  
Prime Minister of Solomon Islands  
HONIARA

COPY

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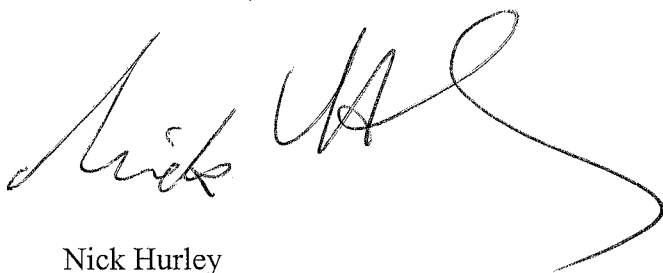
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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Hurley', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Nick Hurley  
New Zealand High Commissioner