



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 26 March 2024

Consider establishing Papua New Guinea Security and Civil Defence Corps

To address the trends of human kidnapping and tribal clashes in remote geographical locations, Dr. Olugbenga Ige, Senior Research Fellow and Program Leader of the National Security and International Relations at Papua New Guinea National Research Institute (PNG NRI) has proposed the establishment of PNG Security and Civil Defence Corps (PNG-CDC), a security outfit that could assist the country in addressing security threats.

In the NRI Spotlight Vol. 17, Issue 3, titled "*Strategic initiatives for improving security in Papua New Guinea: The Security and Civil Defence Corps*" by Dr. Ige, presents the need to develop a proactive structure to combat human kidnapping, civil unrest, extortion, and other unexpected criminal occurrences that have altered the security landscape in PNG.

The PNG-CDC will assist in maintaining peace and order, protect and rescue civilians during emergencies in PNG. It will also maintain awareness in the districts and report any planned criminal activities that could endanger citizens' lives or property, as well as syndicated activities aimed at deceiving or undermining the Government of PNG (GoPNG).

Currently, PNG is not a member of the International Civil Defence Organisation (ICDO), which consists of 60 member states, 15 observers, and 21 affiliated members. If the GoPNG aims to become one of the safest countries in Oceania, it should become a member of ICDO, utilize the PNG-CDC structure in accordance with the ICDO mandate and share intelligence with other civil defence-operating countries.

The PNG-CDC model will complement the efforts of the Royal PNG Constabulary and PNG Defence Force in containing and controlling armed groups that terrorize local and remote communities, as well as deadly riots in the country.

Practical strategies that have produced results in countries such as Singapore, Nigeria, Malaysia, and the United Arab Emirates are outlined in this paper to assist GoPNG in establishing and operating the PNG-CDC.

The Publication and Media Release can be accessed on the PNG NRI website <https://www.pngnri.org>.

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