



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Strategic Policy and Intelligence Group

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Chair
Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Reynolds,

I write to correct evidence that I gave at the hearing for Additional Estimates held on 28 February 2018 concerning the number of countries who will receive the Pacific Maritime Security Program (PMSP) Aerial Surveillance.

I noted in my evidence on page 19 that the PMSP Aerial Surveillance will be available to "16 countries". The PMSP Aerial Surveillance is intended to be available to 15 countries; Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. I would correct the record as per below:

"Exactly right. There are 15 countries, as the minister said, involved in this."

In addition, I would note that on page 19 the Hansard incorrectly transcribed 'Forum Fisheries Agency' as 'forum's fisheries agencies'.

I apologise for any misunderstanding that may have arisen.

Yours sincerely

Marc Ablong, PSM
A/Deputy Secretary Strategic Policy and Intelligence