



**Communiqué of the
International Council of Police Representative Associations**

**Wellington, New Zealand
21 October 2008**

Preamble

The 2008 conference of the International Council of Police Representative Associations –

International police deployments

Recognising that the international community is increasingly seeking a policing response to international crises, and seeking external policing support for fragile states threatened by instability; and

Recognising that this increased demand reflects a developing international normalisation of respect for the rule of law and human rights, and an appreciation that the unique skills of trained police officers, to engage with communities and police by consent, may be of greater assistance than simple force of arms; and further

Recognising that the workforce called on to respond to this growing international need are frequently men and women who, being experienced professional police in their own countries and possessing a strong policing ethos of community service, nevertheless consent to be deployed on missions that are frequently designed with much regard to the diplomatic and geopolitical considerations, and lesser regard to the requirements of training, support and security for the men and women who willingly place themselves in harm's way –



1. **Calls on** the offices and decision-making bodies of the international community, at the United Nations and elsewhere, to recognise the need to engage with the due representatives of the international policing workforce, in order to ensure the interests of these police men and women deployed in support of human rights and stability in emerging and fragile states are understood, reflected, and protected through appropriate training, mandates and legal protections being afforded, and appropriate insurance and compensation offered to the individuals who bear the direct risks inherent in their service;
2. **Calls on** the individual governments of the United Nations member states to similarly recognise the need to reflect and protect the interests of these police men and women performing this vital role, and the role of the International Council of Police Representative Associations as a channel for the representation of those interests.

Second-tier policing

Recognising the growing demands for increasingly diverse policing services, many of which are driven by internationalisation of crime and international security considerations, and that public and political expectations of domestic police are growing in parallel; and

Recognising the reconsideration of workforce configuration that police services worldwide are engaged in, in response to these demands; and further

Recognising that this reconsideration of workforce configuration is driving the creation of a second tier of law enforcement officer who is typically targeted to a more limited role than the traditional constable, and consequently trained and empowered to a lesser degree –

3. **Calls on** governments and police services to take into account the risks to the public reputation of police, from which police draw their unique moral



authority in society, that may be posed by creation or expansion of a second tier of law enforcement officer, and the risk that follows to the overall effectiveness of police in the medium to long term;

4. **Calls on** governments and police services to consult the representative associations of police officers, and the public police protect and serve, before making decisions to create or expand second-tier law enforcement officer roles, in order to ensure that the implications for public reputation and police effectiveness are properly canvassed and understood.

Greg O'Connor, Chairman

On behalf of the International Council of Police Representative Associations

Wellington, New Zealand

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