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Pacific
Regional Order
Pacific Regional Order

Dave Peebles

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Dedication

To Justine, Mum and Dad
Foreword

This book shows that a new strategic vision is needed for the Pacific to realise its potential as a prosperous, dynamic region. The Pacific currently lacks a vision that marries forward-looking goals with the depth of regional integration needed to resolve the current underlying causes of regional disorder.

The book proposes that members of the Pacific Islands Forum should pursue five goals: sustainable economic development; security; the rule of law; democracy; and integration with the wider region. To realise these goals, Forum members must commit to far more substantive regional integration in these critical areas. To this end, the Forum needs to evolve into a new body, the Oceania Community, that follows, and improves on, the European Union model. The Pacific’s challenges can only be addressed through the shared sovereignty and leverage possible in such a Community.

The book begins by outlining the Pacific’s current challenges, policy settings and institutions, to identify the need for such a new vision. Next, the guiding philosophy of a new vision is considered, and the overarching features of the Oceania Community outlined. The book then details the new agreements and institutions needed to promote the five goals through the Oceania Community. These plans involve: a common market; a regional commitment to inflation targeting and, in many instances, monetary union; a security centre and standing peace monitoring group; a human rights commission; a regional court; and a regional parliament. Further, the Community needs to seek out integration actively with other states in the wider Pacific.

A regional community dedicated to the promotion of sustainable economic development, security, the rule of law, democracy and wider integration through these agreements and institutions represents an integrated new strategic vision for the Pacific. This vision is necessary, it is achievable, and it is the best way, perhaps the only way, for the Pacific to realise its potential as a prosperous, dynamic region.
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Key to tables

n.a.  not applicable
..  not available
-  zero
.  insignificant
Abbreviations

ACTU  Australian Council of Trade Unions
ADF  Australian Defence Forces
APEC  Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
ASEAN  Association of South East Asian Nations
ASX  Australian Stock Exchange
BRA  Bougainville Revolutionary Army
BSDP  Business Skills Development Program
CARICOM  Caribbean Community and Common Market
CCPR  Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
CER  Australia-New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Agreement
CESCR  Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights
CMT  Cut, Make, Trim (Factories)
CRTA  (World Trade Organization) Committee on Regional Trade Agreements
DFAT  (Australian) Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DWFN  Distant Water Fishing Nation
ECP  Enhanced Cooperation Program
EMEAP  Executives Meeting of East Asia Pacific Central Banks
ESCAP  United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
EU  European Union
FICS  Forum island countries
FEMM  Forum Economic Ministers Meeting
FTA  Free Trade Agreement
GATS  General Agreement on Trade in Services
GATT  General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GDP  Gross Domestic Product
ICC  International Criminal Court
IFM  Istabu Freedom Movement
ILO  International Labour Organization
IMF  International Monetary Fund
IPMT  (Solomon Islands) International Peace Monitoring Team
ISO  International Standards Organisation
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Information technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDC</td>
<td>Least-developed country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAI</td>
<td>Multilateral Agreement on Investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEF</td>
<td>Malaita Eagle Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAT</td>
<td>(New Zealand) Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFN</td>
<td>Most-favoured nation</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSG</td>
<td>Melanesian Spearhead Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-government organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>NLTB</td>
<td>Native Land Trust Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>NZ</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAS</td>
<td>Organisation of American States</td>
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<tr>
<td>OAU</td>
<td>Organisation of African Unity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PACER</td>
<td>Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations</td>
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<td>PATCRA</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea-Australia Trade and Commercial Relations Agreement</td>
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<td>PICTA</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Country Trade Agreement</td>
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<tr>
<td>PMC</td>
<td>(Solomon Islands) Peace Monitoring Council</td>
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<td>PMG</td>
<td>(Bougainville) Peace Monitoring Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>PNG</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PNGDF</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea Defence Forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAMSI</td>
<td>Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td>RBA</td>
<td>Reserve Bank of Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOS</td>
<td>Rules of Origin</td>
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<tr>
<td>RTA</td>
<td>Regional Trade Agreement</td>
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<td>SME</td>
<td>Small to medium-sized enterprise</td>
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<td>SPARTECA</td>
<td>South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement</td>
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<td>SPARTECA-TCF</td>
<td>South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement—Textiles Clothing and Footwear Agreement</td>
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<tr>
<td>TMG</td>
<td>(Bougainville) Truce Monitoring Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>TNC</td>
<td>Transnational Corporation</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<td>UNCITRAL</td>
<td>United Nations Commission on International Trade Law</td>
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<td>UNCTAD</td>
<td>United Nations Committee on Trade and Development</td>
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<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<td>VAT</td>
<td>Value-added tax</td>
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<td>WTO</td>
<td>World Trade Organization</td>
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