



THE HON BRENDAN O'CONNOR MP
Minister for Home Affairs

Mr Mark Burgess
Chief Executive Officer
Police Federation of Australia
21 Murray Crescent
GRIFFITH ACT 2603

28 APR 2010

Dear Mr Burgess

Mark,

I am writing to update you regarding compensation entitlements for members of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) serving overseas in high risk missions.

Officers from both the AFP and the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) have recently met to finalise an interim scheme that can provide AFP members serving overseas access to enhanced benefits. The scheme will afford each member a percentage increase in any payments made under the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* (Cth) (SRCA) and will allow AFP members to access compensation similar to that which would be received under the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* (Cth) (MRCA) for similar risk. I am advised this percentage will be in the order of 45 – 50%.

I can confirm that the AFP scheme will cover those members who die or suffer permanent impairment whilst serving in missions that are deemed to be high risk. The administration of this scheme will fall to the AFP and I can also confirm that the AFP scheme will cover members from other jurisdictions that deploy with the AFP on an AFP mission.

This will be an interim scheme only and will be subsumed into longer term arrangements subject to the outcomes of the Government's Review into Military Compensation. I remain committed to ensuring AFP employees receive adequate and equitable compensation whilst serving overseas at government direction.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact my Chief of Staff, Ms Julie Ligeti on 02 6277 7290

I note your previous interest in this matter and I look forward to progressing this important issue to its conclusion.

Yours sincerely

Brendan O'Connor