

## RELEASED BY THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

### Partnership for Indo-Pacific Industrial Resilience (PIPR) Virtual Plenary Meeting, 18 March 2026

May 2026

Global crises, such as the war in Ukraine war and COVID-19, exposed weaknesses in defence supply chains. Launched in May 2024, the Partnership for Indo-Pacific Industrial Resilience (PIPIR) is multinational group focused on addressing these weaknesses, including by regionalising supply chains and lifting industrial capacity, which have direct benefits (and savings) for New Zealand.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual PIPIR Plenary meeting was held, virtually, on 18 March 2026. It was attended by senior procurement officials from the Asia Pacific and Europe. The key message from New Zealand was that we welcomed concrete steps to establish forward repair facilities closer to home, and which reduce the dependencies on far away supply chains, which is particularly important for countries that operate small fleets. It means platforms, such as the P-8A aircraft, spend less time in maintenance and more time available for operations.

The outcomes of the meeting can be found in the joint statement, available here:

<https://www.war.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/4439861/joint-statement-reaffirming-a-shared-commitment-to-defense-industrial-resilience/>.

The attached pack provides the internal Ministry of Defence briefing to support attendance at the March 2026 meeting:

- *Meeting Brief: Partnership for Indo-Pacific Industrial Resilience (PIPR) Virtual Plenary Meeting, 18 March 2026*

This pack has been released on the Ministry of Defence website, available at:

[www.defence.govt.nz/publications](http://www.defence.govt.nz/publications).

It has been necessary to withhold certain information in accordance with the following provisions of the Official Information Act 1982. Where information is withheld, the relevant sections of the Act are indicated in the body of the document.

Information is withheld where making it available would be likely to prejudice:

- the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand [section 6(a)]
- the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on the basis of confidence by the Government of any other country [section 6(b)(i)].

Information is also withheld in order to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty [section 9(2)(g)(i)].

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*Meeting Brief: Partnership for Indo-Pacific Industrial Resilience (PIPIR) Virtual Plenary Meeting, 18 March 2026*

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## **Purpose**

PIPIR brings together 16 Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic partners to strengthen collective defence industrial capacity and ensure operational resilience. A list of member countries is at Annex A.

The plenary brings together PIPIR National Armament Directors and workstream leads.<sup>1</sup> This is the second plenary. COMLOG attended the first. Key objectives for the meeting, include:

- Review and approve FY26–FY27 workstream decisions and deliverables.
- Advance multi-national sustainment, supply chain resilience, and production initiatives.
- Incorporate feedback from member NADs on governance, roadmaps, and workstream outputs.
- Confirm the proposed PIPIR battle rhythm and validate the draft multinational roadmap.

The meeting will be facilitated by Rear Admiral Eric Ver Hage, USN, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of War for International Armaments Cooperation (biography included).

## **Meeting agenda**

### *1. Opening Remarks by Honourable Michael Duffy (5 minutes)*

Five minutes has been allocated for opening remarks by the Hon Michael Duffey, Under Secretary of War for Acquisition and Sustainment (biography included).

According to Copilot, Duffey's comments will likely focus on strengthening the US industrial base and the need to modernise defence acquisition and procurement reform.

Things to keep in mind:

s6(a)

No time has been allocated for members to respond/reply.

### *2. Welcome aboard Thailand & United Kingdom (5 minutes)*

The United Kingdom and Thailand will confirm their membership of PIPIR.

s6(a)

s6(a), s9(2)(g)(i)

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<sup>1</sup> PIPIR workstreams are: 1) supply chain resilience; 2) production; 3) sustainment; and 4) policy and optimisation. Each workstream is co-led with a representative from the US and another member country.

Items 3 & 4 on Review intended Decisions and Plenary Deliverables and Workstream Updates/Decision Reviews cover the same material.

(45 minutes)

**Supply Chain Resilience Workstream** [redacted] s6(a)

NADs are asked to endorse four Statements of Intent:

[redacted] s6(a), s6(b)(i)

**Production Workstream** [redacted] s6(a)

NADs are asked to:

[redacted] s6(b)(i), s6(a)

**Key message:** *These projects give partners the option of scalable production lanes for UAVs, munitions, and energetics.*

**Sustainment Workstream** [redacted] s6(a)

NADs are asked to [redacted] s6(a), s6(b)(i)  
[redacted] s6(a), s6(b)(i)

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s6(a)

**Key message:** any activity that strengthens regional resiliency by increasing access to repair capabilities closer to home and reduces dependencies on far away supply chains is particularly beneficial for countries that operate small fleets.

**Policy & Optimisation Group Workstream** s6(a)

NADs are asked to:

s6(a), s6(b)(i)

**Key message:** We must reduce structural barriers to multinational industrial cooperation. These efforts will help streamline project formation between countries and enable faster execution.

**5. Draft PIPR Roadmap (5 minutes)**

s6(a), s6(b)(i)

**Key message:** the roadmap provides a structured battle rhythm to synchronize multinational progress. For some countries, resource constraints mean doing everything will not be possible. We encourage where possible that PIPR activities be scheduled on the margin of large activities,

s6(a)

This helps reduce people constraints

**6. NAD Feedback on Decisions, Deliverable, Actions (30 minutes)**


Each NAD is allocated 2 minutes to provide feedback, starting with Australia, Canada, Japan, then New Zealand. Draft comments are at Annex B.


7. *Draft PIPIR Battle Rhythm*

NADs are asked to agree the Draft PIPIR Roadmap. The proposed battle rhythm includes:

s6(a), s6(b)(i)

A large rectangular area of the document is redacted with a solid grey fill, obscuring the text that would follow the reference to s6(a) and s6(b)(i).

**Key Message:** as above, the roadmap provides a structured battle rhythm to synchronize multinational progress. For some countries, resource constraints mean doing everything will not be possible. We encourage where possible that PIPIR activities be scheduled on the margins of large activities,  s6(a)

 This helps reduce people constraints.

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**PIPIR member countries:**

1. Australia
2. Canada
3. Germany
4. Italy
5. Japan
6. Lithuania
7. Netherlands
8. New Zealand
9. Norway
10. Phillipines
11. Singapore
12. Sweden
13. Thailand
14. United Kingdom
15. United States

s6(a)

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Remarks

- Building greater resilience into our Defence industrial base and lifting production capability are critical parts of our deterrence posture. For this reason, New Zealand was quick to endorse the “Statement of Principles” establishing PIPIR in 2024.
- In October, the New Zealand Government released a Defence Industry Strategy to support a significant uplift in spending on Defence. Many of themes will be familiar to PIPIR members, including the need to deliver capability faster and the importance of building sovereign industry capability.
- The Strategy aligns with PIPIR’s objectives.
- As an operator of the P-8A maritime patrol capability, we welcomed Secretary Hegseth’s comments in Singapore in May regarding the establishment, as a PIPIR initiative, a P-8A radar repair capability in Australia, and agree with the US’ goal of strengthening regional resiliency by increasing access to repair capabilities in theatre, and reducing dependencies on far away supply chains.
- And there are other opportunities. New Zealand’s ability to use [redacted] s6(a) [redacted] for the repair and maintenance of our tactical radios [redacted] s6(a) [redacted], will significantly reduce maintenance times and keep them in the hands of the operator.
- PIPIR is an important initiative, and New Zealand wants to make a meaningful contribution. [redacted] s6(a) [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted] Today’s discussion is important as it will help focus our efforts.

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