

**UNCLASSIFIED**

Chris

Thank you for your emails on this issue.

I have discussed with my Branch Head.

The decision is that Defence will NOT be seeking an extension to the current contract, which expires on 6 August 2015.

We appreciate the services provided by CPSAS over the last 12 months. The 12 month trial has been useful in increasing our understanding of regional air surveillance requirements. Given this experience, we now require time to review the future air surveillance services we might require in the context of development of the Pacific Maritime Security Program.

After this review, we may issue a request for tender for those services. I believe any decision will be several months away. We are not in a position to make any commitment now.

We note also the significant cost increase proposed by CPSAS for extension of the existing contract. Although we will not be seeking an extension of the contract for the reasons outlined above, I note that your proposal would significantly increase the cost of the contract for essentially the same service that has been provided over the past year.

At this time we do not see value in you visiting Canberra to discuss this. Should you do so, however, we would be happy to meet. I must stress that we are not seeking to negotiate an extension to the contract and I will not be able to discuss our future requirements with you in advance of any tender process we may undertake.

I thank you again for the service you have provided over the past 12 months.

Regards

**Stephen Broadbent - Director Pacific Islands and Maritime Security**  
Pacific and Timor-Leste Branch  
International Policy Division  
Department of Defence  
*Ph:* +61 2 6265 3738  
*(M)* 0419 206 250  
*Location:* R1-5-C068, Russell Offices  
*Postal Address:* PO Box 7902 Canberra BC ACT 2610  
*E:* [stephen.broadbent@defence.gov.au](mailto:stephen.broadbent@defence.gov.au)