



PACIFIC DAY 2012

Wednesday 23 May 2012

Seminar Program



In collaboration with:

CSIS

**CENTER FOR STRATEGIC &
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

4.00pm: Introductions

- *Ernie Bower*, Co-Director, Pacific Partners Initiative, Center for Strategic and International Studies.
- *Rt Hon Mike Moore*, Ambassador of New Zealand to the United States.
- *Hon Hersey Kyota*, Ambassador of Palau to the United States, Dean of the Pacific Diplomatic Corps.

4.10pm: Keynote address: The Pacific Century

Hon Murray McCully, Foreign Minister, New Zealand, the outgoing Chair of the Pacific Islands Forum.

4.35pm: Reply:

Dr Esther Brimmer, Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, United States.

4.45pm: Questions for Minister McCully

Moderated by Ernie Bower.

5.00pm: Coffee break





5.10pm: Panel discussion and Q&A

Moderated by *Ernie Bower*.

Panellists:

Hon Robert Aisi, Chair, Pacific Small Island Developing States Group and Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the UN.

Topic: Pacific small island developing state issues at the UN.

Hon Marlene Moses, Chair, Alliance of Small Island States and Permanent Representative of Nauru to the UN.

Topic: Small island state issues at the UN.

Durwood Zaelke, President, Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development.

Topic: Climate change mitigation strategies.

Kate Brown, Coordinator, Global Island Partnership.

Topic: Biodiversity and livelihoods.

Patrizia Tumbarello, Head of Pacific Islands Unit, International Monetary Fund.

Topic: Economic prospects for the Pacific Islands.

Eddie Walsh, journalist and Non-Resident Fellow, Pacific Forum CSIS.

Topic: The role of major powers in the Pacific.

6.10pm: Concluding/summarising remarks

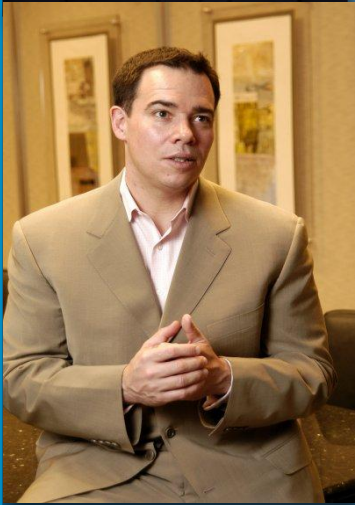
Ernie Bower.



Hon Murray McCully is New Zealand's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Sports and Recreation. He entered Parliament in 1987, first becoming a Minister in October 1991. He has previously held the following Ministerial portfolios: Customs, Housing, Tourism, Accident Compensation Commission (ACC), and Sport, Fitness and Leisure (including responsibility for the America's Cup and Millennium events). He holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) and is a qualified lawyer (barrister and solicitor). Prior to entering Parliament, he was principal of a major public relations company.



Dr Esther Brimmer is the Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, striving to advance US interests through international organizations in areas including human rights, peacekeeping, food security, humanitarian relief, and climate change. Brimmer's previous professional affiliations include Johns Hopkins University, the State Department's Office of Policy Planning, the US delegation to the UN Commission on Human Rights, the Carnegie Commission on Preventing Deadly Conflict, the Democratic Study Group in the US House of Representatives, and McKinsey & Company. Brimmer received her D.Phil. (PhD) and masters degrees in international relations from the University of Oxford and her BA in international relations from Pomona College in Claremont, California.



Mr Ernie Bower is Co-President of the Center for Strategic and International Studies Pacific Partners Initiative – which focuses on Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands, and the United States' relationship with the region. Bower is widely recognized as one of the strongest proponents of close ties between the United States and the Asia-Pacific region. He has been an adviser and innovator creating programs and vehicles to broaden and deepen ties bilaterally and regionally. Bower holds a bachelors degree from Colgate University and studied Mandarin Chinese at Middlebury College's Sunderland School of Foreign Language.



Hon Robert Aisi is Papua New Guinea's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, and Chair of the Pacific Small Island Developing States at the United Nations. Prior to his current posting, Aisi was Councillor of Papua New Guinea's Legal Training Institute and, before that, a partner in the national corporate law firm he founded. Prior to the partnership, Aisi served with Australian law firms based in Papua New Guinea. Educated at the Armidale School in New South Wales, Australia and the University of Papua New Guinea, Aisi received a Bachelor of Laws degree in 1979.



Hon Marlene Moses is Nauru's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States at the United Nations. From 2009 to 2011, Moses was Chair of the Pacific Small Island Developing States at the United Nations. During her tenure, she successfully spearheaded a campaign that led to the UN Security Council recognising the link between climate change and security in July 2011. Before coming to New York, she worked in a variety of public administration and diplomatic positions for the government of Nauru. Moses attended the University of Canberra and Monash University, both in Australia.



Mr Durwood Zaelke is the President and founder of the Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development. He also is the founder and Director of the Research Program on International and Comparative Environmental Law at American University Washington College of Law. Zaelke's substantive research focuses on fast action mitigation strategies to respond to climate change, resolving trade and environment conflicts, strengthening the implementation and enforcement of international environmental laws, and building capacity of local public interest movements in developing countries. He graduated from UCLA in 1969, and from Duke Law School in 1972, where he was an Editor of the Duke Law Journal.



Ms Kate Brown is the Co-ordinator of the Global Island Partnership, an initiative launched at the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2006 as a mechanism for implementing its Programmes of Work on Protected Areas and Island Biodiversity. Originally from New Zealand, Brown spent eight years working on island issues at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme in Samoa. She has also worked with the UN Population Fund in the Pacific, and the Western Australian Government to support programme implementation, fundraising, coordination and communication processes. Kate has a BA in Journalism and Politics from Curtin University, Australia.



Ms Patrizia Tumbarello is the Chief of the Pacific Islands Unit in the Asia and Pacific Department of the International Monetary Fund. She is also the IMF's mission chief for the Solomon Islands. Her previous assignments include Algeria, Australia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Timor Leste.



Mr Eddie Walsh is a senior foreign correspondent who covers diplomacy and defense issues in the Asia-Pacific. His work has featured in such news media publications as Al Jazeera English, The Washington Times, The Diplomat, Korea Times, Gulf News, The Jakarta Globe, and The Jerusalem Post, as well as in academic and think tank journals. Walsh is as a non-resident fellow at Pacific Forum CSIS and vice-chair of the International Correspondents Committee at the National Press Club. Walsh received his BA/MA from Johns Hopkins University as well as executive education at Harvard Business School and Wharton.



Rt Hon Mike Moore is New Zealand's Ambassador to the United States. Moore is a past Director-General of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), where he oversaw the launch of the Doha Development Round, and a former Prime Minister of New Zealand. Moore has held a wide range of other senior political positions including Trade Minister, Foreign Minister, Minister of Tourism and Deputy Minister of Finance. Moore has been awarded New Zealand's highest honour, the Order of New Zealand. He is also the author of ten books on a range of political and social issues.



Hon Hersey Kyota is the longest-serving Pacific Ambassador in Washington, having become Palau's Ambassador to the United States in November 1997. Kyota obtained a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts from the United States International University in San Diego. He was a legal researcher for the Palau House of Delegates from 1981 to 1984. He then became the chief clerk for the Palau House of Delegates in the Palau National Congress from 1985-1988. Kyota served as the director of the House Legal Counsel's Office from 1989 to 1990. He served as a senator in the Palau National Congress from 1990 to 1996.

The Washington Pacific Committee is a group of Washington and New York based Embassies and Representative Offices from the Pacific Islands Region. The Committee fosters cooperation and understanding on a range of issues of mutual importance to the Pacific and United States, and works to ensure the region's voice is heard in the Administration and Congress.

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