This is a summary of a visit to the Solomon Islands from the 8th of September to the 15th of September. The visit was made in my role as chairman of DAISI. This trip aimed to visit hospitals in the Solomon Island provinces to see if DAISI could enable teams to provide surgical services at those locations. To this end, I visited Kirakira Hospital, Makira, Gizo Hospital, Gizo and Kilu'ufi Hospital, Malatai.

The visit to Kirakira involved an inspection of the hospital facilities and supplies and was facilitated Dr John Harara Makira Ulawa Province Director. I also had the opportunity to meet with representatives of the Makira provincial government:

Hon Emmanuel T Minister for Education (SPC Health), Hon. Daniel Dautaha Minister Community Governance, Mr Cominis Ikio PCDA Provincial Capacity Development Advisor, Hon John Sautehi Minister Natural Resources, Hon Steven Ngala Deputy Premier. At this meeting, I introduced myself and outlined DAISIs mission of provision of surgical services and education. The Introduction was warmly received and an official welcome to Kirakira for DAISI was extended.

Gizo Hospital. Meetings were held with with Dr Mike Buin resident surgeon and Dickson Bora Medical Director of Gizo Hospital. Both welcomed continuing visits by DAISI surgical teams. (Urology visit led by Dr Tim Nicholson is current). Several issues were discussed. It was noted that there is a waiting list of patients with gallstones who require surgery

Kilu'ufi hospital, Auki, Malatai

Meetings were held with Dr David Donitofea Health Director and Anaesthetist and Mr Richard Maegera Hospital Executive. Dr Micky Olangi surgeon is currently away in China being trained in Neurosurgery. Further discussions will be held with Dr Olangi when he returns as to what patient conditions DAISI may assist with.

As a result of this visit, DAISI can commit to providing surgical team visits to Kirakira, Gizo and Kilu'ufi hospitals in 2025.

In addition, it was noted that the surgical instruments in these hospitals were suffering the effects of age and would benefit from replacement. DAISI can assist with this issue by providing functional replacements.

I would be happy to have further correspondence with you or your department if further details are required.

Kind regards

Professor Peter Hewett MBBS FRACS GAICD Chairman DAISI