

# MoU Implementation Progress as at 9 December 2008

The MoU was signed on 6 December 2006 by the Ex-Vietnam Services Association, the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services Association and the Crown. Implementation of the MoU's 44 actionable provisions (clauses and sub-clauses) has been ongoing now for two years and progress to date can be summarised as follows:

- **Action completed:** 13 provisions
- **Implementation ongoing:** 13 provisions
- **Action commenced/progress unknown:** 12 provisions
- **Action yet to commence:** 6 provisions

## Itemised Status Report by Clause

### 2. Status, Apology and Acknowledgement

2.2 Veterans and Families database. **Status: Ongoing.** Require regular progress reports. See Clause 14

2.3 Apology (a) - (d). **Status: Completed**

2.4 Cross Party Parliamentary support. **Status: Completed**

### 3. Welcome Home Ceremony and Process

3.1 Welcome Home. **Status: Completed**

3.2 NZDF Apology (a) – (f). **Status: Completed**

3.3 Vietnam exhibition. **Status: Completed**

3.4 Travel and accommodation costs. **Status: Completed**

3.5 Commemorative Parade. **Status: Completed**

### 4. Oral History Programme

4.1 Oral history project. **Status: Ongoing**

4.2 Funding through MCH. **Status: Ongoing**

4.3 Commencement timing. **Status: Completed**

### 5. Increased Medallic Recognition

5.1 Approval to wear Gallantry Awards. **Status: Action commenced/progress unknown**

5.2 Approval for NZGSM with clasp 'Vietnam'. **Status: Completed**

5.3 1 RNZIR Theatre Honour dates extended. **Status: Completed**

### 6. Ex Gratia Payments for Viet Nam Veterans

6.1 \$40,000 for Prescribed Condition. **Status: Ongoing.** Require regular progress reports

6.2 Post MoU prescribed conditions also eligible. **Status: Ongoing.** Require regular progress reports

6.3 \$25,000 for surviving spouse. **Status: Ongoing.** Require regular progress reports

### 7. War Disablement Pension

7.1 'Reverse onus of proof' standard. **Status: Action commenced/progress unknown.** See WPA Review

7.2 Terminal illness 160% WDP entitlement. **Status: Action commenced/progress unknown.** See WPA Review

7.3 Review/rewrite of War Pension Act (WPA). **Status: Ongoing.** Monitor progress

7.4 Review Surviving Spouse Pension. **Status:** *Action commenced/progress unknown*. See WPA Review

## 8. Expert Panel

8.1 Crown to establish. **Status:** *Action commenced/progress unknown*. **Note:** Proposed members names provided by Veterans Associations to previous government.

8.2 Uniform standards and criteria. **Status:** *Action yet to commence*. See 8.1

8.3 Back-dating changes to WDP rates. **Status:** *Action yet to commence*. See 8.1

## 9. Programme for Children of Viet Nam Veterans

9.1 \$30,000 for any of five conditions. **Status:** *Ongoing*. Require regular progress reports

9.2 Review/introduction of programmes for children or grandchildren. **Status:** *Action yet to commence*

9.3 Research on intergenerational effects. **Status:** *Action yet to commence*

## 10. Ex Gratia Payments for Families of Deceased Children

10.1 \$30,000 for families of children deceased from any of five conditions. **Status:** *Ongoing*. Require regular progress reports

10.2 Clause 10.1 only applies to Natural Children of Veterans. **Status:** *Ongoing*

## 11. Ongoing Research

International research accessed and made available. **Status:** *Action yet to commence*

## 12. EVSA (Neville Wallace Memorial) Youth Development Trust

One-off grant of \$250,000. **Status:** *Completed*

## 13. Veterans' Card

13.1 All Veterans eligible (whether 65 or not). **Status:** *Action commenced/progress unknown*

13.2 Access to medical services and contain health information. **Status:** *Action commenced/progress unknown*. Nature of entitlements and benefits to be determined.

13.3 Children's Card and its capabilities. **Status:** *Action commenced/progress unknown*

## 14. National Register

14.1 Veterans and families national register. **Status:** *Ongoing*. Require regular progress reports

14.2 Capable of supporting epidemiological research. **Status:** *Action commenced/progress unknown*

## 15. Provision of Information

15.1 Medical information made available to assist medical professionals in monitoring and screening health of veterans and children. **Status:** *Action commenced/progress unknown*

15.2 Information to include PTSD and other conditions related to Viet Nam Service. **Status:** *Action commenced/progress unknown*

15.3 "Centres of Excellence" at Veterans' Retirement Homes. **Status:** *Action commenced/progress unknown*

## 16. VANZ Placement and Review

- Placement of VANZ. **Status:** *Completed*

- Review of mechanisms for delivering services, including functions, responsibilities, structure and resources in consultation with EVSA and RNZRSA. **Status:** *Action yet to*

*commence*. **Note: This was intended to be an independent/external review**

**17. Medical Assessments**

One-off comprehensive medical assessment. **Status: *Ongoing***. Require regular progress reports.  
**Note: Extension to annual assessments proposed by National Government.**

**18. Vietnam Veterans and their Families Trust**

**18.1** Endowment of \$7 million from the Crown for 30 years. **Status: *Ongoing***

**18.2** Trust deed to be agreed. Charitable status of Trust. **Status: *Completed***

**19. Joint Implementation Group**

JIG to oversee the successful implementation of the Package. JIG to comprise representatives of the Crown, the EVSA and the RNZRSA. **Status: *Ongoing***.