



Beijing Sends Buyers to Port Moresby — Last Week in the Pacific

Summary of PRC Activity

A PetroChina delegation arrived in Papua New Guinea to discuss LNG purchases, days after Taiwan suspended spot purchases with PNG. In Samoa, a Guangdong provincial delegation signed a letter of intent on media cooperation with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

This Week's Big Themes:

PetroChina Comes Shopping in Port Moresby

Following Papua New Guinea's 16 July closure of the Taipei Economic Office, Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that state-owned CPC Corporation had suspended spot-market purchases—but not long term contracts—of PNG liquefied natural gas (LNG).

Ambassador Yang Xiaoguang told local media that China stood ready to step in. A PetroChina International delegation met PNG officials on 4 August, holding meetings with Foreign Minister Justin Tkatchenko, Minister for Petroleum Jimmy Maladina, and officials from the National Petroleum Authority, Kumul Petroleum Holdings, and ExxonMobil PNG. PetroChina offered to increase purchases of PNG LNG through both spot transactions and long-term supply agreements. Kumul Petroleum already sells LNG to China, and the delegation

Ambassador's Corner:

On 3 August, China's National Immigration Administration handed six vehicles to the Solomon Islands Immigration Division at a ceremony in Honiara.

Ambassador Cai Weiming attended alongside Harry Kuma, Minister for Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration, and Permanent Secretary Riley Mesepitu the Director of Immigration.

Cai described bilateral immigration cooperation as covering high-level exchanges, personnel mobility, equipment transfers, and professional training.

The four pillars point to a security channel beyond policing, one that shapes how the Solomon Islands screens and records who crosses its borders.

**The PRC Pacific Embassies Monitor provides systematic, open-source tracking of Beijing's public diplomatic activities across the nine Pacific Island Countries hosting Chinese missions. The monitor captures official embassy social media and website posts, supplemented by local sources, to offer a weekly structured intelligence report that bridges critical information gaps on regional engagement*

announced no agreement that would expand purchases. A stated willingness to buy is not a contract.

Yang condemned Taiwan's suspension as short-sighted and predicted it would backfire, and positioned China as an opponent of using trade as an instrument of economic coercion. The irony was unacknowledged: Beijing has wielded exactly these tools against trading partners across the region



Foreign Minister Tkatchenko (second from left) with Ambassador Yang (second from right) and PetroChina delegation (source: [PRC Embassy in PNG](#))

.A second delegation followed. On 6 August, senior representatives of China Railway Construction Corporation met Prime Minister James Marape and Minister Maladina to discuss investment in energy, mining, maritime manufacturing, and infrastructure. The company's technical teams are conducting market research, feasibility studies, and due diligence—standard pre-investment language that signals interest, not commitment. Maladina invited other Chinese firms to do business in PNG.

Supporting Events

- **PNG:** [PetroChina Delegation to PNG](#)
- **PNG:** [CRCC meets with Prime Minister](#)

Guangdong Buys Airtime in Apia

A Guangdong provincial delegation spent the week in Apia, under the "2026 Charming China (Guangdong): Lingnan Culture Travels to the South Pacific" program. The Information Office of the Guangdong Provincial People's Government led the tour; Nanfang Media Group, Guangdong Radio and Television, the Guangdong Federation of Literary and Art Circles, and several provincial cultural institutions co-organized it. The delegation had made a prior stop in Papua New Guinea in late July.

The Samoa leg opened at the Chinese embassy on 4 August. Ambassador Fei Mingxing hosted alongside Deng Hong, Deputy Director-General of the Guangdong provincial

information office. Multiple cabinet ministers attended the event. The program included photo exhibitions, a showcase of Guangdong cultural and creative products, and the Samoan premiere of the Guangdong-produced film *Dear You*. Guangdong also donated documentaries, books, intelligent companion robots, and exhibition materials to the Samoan government.

The visit's concrete deliverable appeared in [Chinese state media](#), not in the Samoan Ministry of Communications & Information Technology's (MCIT) own readout, which posted photos without disclosing the agreement's terms. Deng Hong signed a letter of intent with MCIT on 4 August covering "program exchange, co-production, and personnel exchanges." The agreement will bring Chinese programs—*China Theater* and *Canton Today*—to Samoan audiences.

Supporting Events

- **PNG:** [Guangdong Delegation Cultural Event](#)
- **Samoa:** [Guangdong Delegation Cultural Event](#)
- **Samoa:** [Guangdong Delegation Donations](#)
- **Samoa:** [Guangdong Delegation meets with MCIT](#)