



MEDIA RELEASE

Public Service Commission launches exhibition to celebrate women in the public service

Tuesday 22 July 2020 (Port Vila, Vanuatu) – The Public Service Commission is inviting the public to visit the ***“Celebrating Women in the Public Service”*** Photo Exhibition in Port Vila this week, as part of celebrations marking Vanuatu’s 40th year of Independence.

The exhibition narrates in pictures Ni-Vanuatu women currently employed by the public service commission. Whilst the commission recognises the contribution of the many women who have served since 1980 and most of whom have since retired, it is taking this opportunity to showcase women in 2020 who are at the helm of decision making that is shaping the development of the country. The PSC further recognises the contribution by public servants who are not engaged through the PSC directly, but continue to serve the country and contribute significantly to its development, such as the statutory bodies, members of the Teaching Service Commission, Police Services Commission and the Judicial Services Commission.

This ***“Celebrating women in the public service”*** collection was developed in partnership with the Department of Women’s Affairs under the Ministry of Justice and Community Services, and is part of the circuit of exhibitions happening over the week long celebrations in commemoration of the country’s 40th anniversary of independence.

Ms Dorosday Kenneth Watson, Director General of the Ministry of Justice and Community Services, said, “The photograph exhibition highlights the important role the Government of Vanuatu has played in promoting and providing opportunities for women to join the public service”. Ms Kenneth added that government support for the empowerment of women is evident in the

number of women who have been appointed to senior management positions and other key roles across the public service.

The “Celebrating Women in the Public Service” photo exhibition will run for a 1-week period beginning 23rd July. The exhibition will be officially opened on 23rd July by the Honourable Prime Minister, Hon. Bob Loughman Weibur. The exhibition will be on display for two days on 23 - 24 July at the National Convention Centre and will then move to the National Library and Archives from the 27th to the 30th of July..

The Secretary General of the Public Service Commission, Mr Jean Yves Bibi, invites the public to view the exhibition that celebrates how women have been and continue to be instrumental to the development agenda of a independent and prosperous Vanuatu.

This event is supported by the Australian Government funded Balance of Power in partnership with Sista magazine through the Ministry of Justice and Community Services. Balance of Power is an initiative of the Australian Government-funded Pacific Women program.

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For further information, please contact, *Liah John Kaltoi, OPSC or Wilson Toa, BOP Country Manager (22479).*