

August - September Newsletter

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

29 September 2025



VANUATU BUREAU OF STATISTICS TRAINING WITH THE OPSC STAFF AT OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Here's what has happened in the last month.

Welcome to our monthly newsletter! We are thrilled to share with you the latest developments and highlights that occurred during the month of August and September 2025.

Firstly, we would like to express our gratitude to all of our partners and sponsors who have continued to support the development of the Public Service in Vanuatu. Your generosity and dedication have allowed us to keep our programs running smoothly and effectively.

In terms of our recent activities, we have successfully completed the Public Service Day celebration and handed over letters of Internship placements and Direct Appointments and also sees appointments of new Director Generals, there have been trainings, PSC Act consultation throughout the six provinces and lastly a piece of our staff information.

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Public Service Day

Handing over of
Internship Placements
and Direct
Appointments

Appointments of
Director Generals

Training

- Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics
- Woman in Leadership Leadership
- Australia Public Service Commission

PSC ACT Consultation
in 6 Provinces

Our Staff Corner



PUBLIC SERVICE DAY CELEBRATION (SHEFA PROVINCE)

Public Service Day Celebration (Siviri Field / Shefa)

This year’s SHEFA Day was celebrated in conjunction with Public Service Day in Siviri, North Efate, with a lively parade launching the three-day event.

The opening ceremony welcomed distinguished guests including Speaker of Parliament Steven Felix, SHEFA Provincial Government Council Secretary General Lionel Kaluat, Public Service Commission Chairman Martin Mahe, and Rural Efate MP Fred Samuel.

SG Lionel Kaluat emphasized the event as a chance for Shefarian citizens to reflect on their history, celebrate progress, and engage with government services showcased in interactive booths. He encouraged communities from Efate and surrounding islands to unite and share ideas to guide future development efforts.

Speaker Felix highlighted the theme “Reconnecting SHEFA through traditional values for unity and development” as timely and meaningful. He urged citizens to revisit cultural practices that once fostered peace and cooperation, referencing Chief Roimata’s legacy. “These values helped us trade, resolve disputes, and care for our youth and elderly. They must be preserved and practiced,” he said.

Chairman Mahe reminded attendees of the vital role civil servants play in decentralization. PSC booths opened on the first day, followed by sector booths and panel discussions. The Minister of Internal Affairs is scheduled to speak today, with Prime Minister Jotham Napat expected to attend tomorrow.

The celebration continues with music, cultural displays, and community dialogue—bringing SHEFA together in unity and purpose.





PUBLIC SERVICE DAY CELEBRATION (TAFEA PROVINCE)

Public Service Day Celebration (Tanna/Tafea)

This year's Public Service Day was celebrated on the Island of Tanna in the Tafea Province.

The celebration continues with music, cultural displays, and community dialogue—bringing Tafea together in unity and purpose.



PUBLIC SERVICE DAY CELEBRATION (SANMA PROVINCE)

Public Service Day Celebration (Santo / Sanma)

Public Service Day celebrated on the Island of Santo in the Sanma Province.

The celebration continues with music, cultural displays, and community dialogue—bringing Tafea together in unity and purpose.





Handing Over of Internship placements and Direct Appointments

Public Service Commission Hosts Internship Placements & Direct Appointment Ceremony on the 2nd of September 2025, through the Vanuatu Institute of Public Administration and Management Unit (VIPAM).

The event was led by Mr. Martin Raoul MAHE, Chairman of the Public Service Commission, alongside Mr. Pierrick Lesines, Manager of VIPAM. Interns and direct appointees expressed their gratitude to VIPAM and shared their excitement about contributing to Vanuatu's Public Service.

Brandon Jimmy, who works with the Division of Commercial Outreach Logistics and is also involved in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA), shares that working in a new environment quite different from his college studies in Science has been a valuable challenge. As a French speaker, he has put in great effort to understand his tasks and develop new administrative skills while working at the Department of Environment, under the Ministry of Climate Change.

"I have learn a lot out from my team mates under the ministry and i would like to thank the Vanuatu Institute of Public Administration and Management Unit (VIPAM) for giving me a chance to be part of this program that changed my life."

The ceremony took place at 2 PM in the Ministry of Internal Affairs' Vanuatu Conference Room.

Cadets have been successfully placed across several key ministries, including Ministry of Health, Ministry of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Climate Change, Ministry of Justice and Community Services, Ministry of Education & Training and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities.

Appointments of Director Generals and Director



PHOTO LEFT TO RIGHT : MR. JOHN JACK AND MR. JAMES MELTERES

New Director Appointed for Department of Communication and Digital Transformation on the 11th of September 2025.

Mr. James Melteres, Secretary of the Office of the Public Service Commission, had officially handed over the appointment letter to Mr. John Jack, confirming his role as the new Director of the Department of Communication and Digital Transformation.

Mr. Melteres congratulated Mr. Jack on his appointment. In response, Mr. Jack expressed his gratitude and commitment to advancing public service and digital transformation in Vanuatu. With over 20 years of ICT experience, Mr. Jack previously served as Deputy Director and Acting Director before his official appointment today.



PHOTO LEFT TO RIGHT : MR. JOHN JACK AND MR. JAMES MELTERES

New Director General Appointed for Ministry of Education and Training on the 25th of September 2025.

Mr. James Melteres, Secretary of the Office of the Public Service Commission, had handed over the appointment letter to Mrs. Cheroch Ala IANNA, confirming her role as the new Director General of the Ministry of Education and Training.

Mr. Melteres congratulated Mrs. Ala on her appointment.



PHOTO CREDIT MIPU: FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DIRECTOR GENERAL HENRY WOREK AND CHAIRMAN MARTIN RAOUL MAHE.

Appointment of Mr. Henry Worek as the new Director General of the Ministry of Infrastructure & Public Utilities (MIPU), effective Wednesday, 24th September 2025.

With extensive expertise in the infrastructure sector, Mr. Worek is well-positioned to lead transformative and sustainable initiatives.

Chairman Mahe congratulated Mr. Worek, expressing strong confidence in his ability to advance resilient infrastructure development.

In his acceptance remarks, Director General Worek thanked the Public Service Commission and highlighted the urgent need to prioritize infrastructure resilience amid growing climate challenges. Congratulations, Director General Worek!



PHOTO CREDIT S.T PATRICK'S COLLEGE: DIRECTOR GENERAL BERGMANS IATI OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

New Director General Appointed for Ministry of Justice, Youth and Community Services on the 25th of September 2025.

Mr. James Melteres, Secretary of the Office of the Public Service Commission, had handed over the appointment letter to Mr. Bergmans Iati, confirming his role as the new Director General of the Ministry of Justice, Youth and Community Services.

Mr. Melteres also congratulated Mr. Iati on his appointment.

Training



PHOTO: BUILDING AND LEARNING HIGH PERFORMANCE TEAM

A four days of empowering training, the Building and Learning High Performance Team program officially wrapped up on the 26th of September 2025, at Ramada Resort, Port Vila. Participants proudly received their certificates after completing the program, hosted by the Australian Public Service in partnership with OPSC through VIPAM, with support from the Australian High Commission in Vanuatu.

Mr. James Melteres, Secretary of the Public Service Commission, encouraged participants to take this learning forward—developing critical skills, empowering teams, and leading with purpose and accountability.

The strong collaboration between Australia and Vanuatu continues to build a more capable, high-performing public sector.



PHOTO: WOMAN IN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Empowering Women Leaders across Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities (MIPU).

On 4 September 2025, MIPU launched the Women in Leadership Program (WILP) to promote inclusive leadership in infrastructure.

With 19 women and 1 male participant, Woman in Leadership Program focuses on building leadership skills and empowering women across departments.

Mr. James Melteres, Public Service Commission Secretary, emphasized the program's role in advancing diversity, especially in male-dominated fields, and thanked partners including the Australian Government, USP, VIPAM, and the Vanuatu Australia Infrastructure Development Program.

"It is an honour to join you today for the official launch of the MIPU Women in Leadership Program. This initiative marks another important milestone in our collective journey toward a more inclusive and empowered public service." Said Mr. Melteres



PHOTO: VANUATU BUREAU OF STATISTICS AND OPSC STAFFS

Better Data, Better Decisions!

Staff of the Office of the Public Service Commission have successfully completed a week-long training in statistical data collection and analysis, on the 29th of August 2025 which is supported and run by the Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics and VIPAM. The training aims to boost data accuracy and strengthen evidence-based decision-making across government.

At the end of the training, Certificates of participation were handed over to Port Vila-based staff of the Office of the Public Service Commission by Mr. Charlington Leo, Deputy Chief Statistician (VBOS), and Mr. Jean Yves Bibi, Director of the Innovation and Policy Development Unit (IPDU, OPSC).

It was a proud moment for everyone marking the successful completion of training in statistical data collection and analysis!

PSC ACT CONSULTATION IN SIX (6) PROVINCES



PSC Act Consultation in Malampa Province ended on the 29th August 2025 at Nimbour Conference room - Lakatoro Malekula.

Office Public Service Commission facilitators is the Deputy Secretary Mr. Stephane Bong and Mr. Lucien Nirambath Principal Investigator.

The discussion was centered on collecting input from local leaders to ensure the amendments truly represent the views of provincial representatives and their communities. This engagement is essential for fostering accountability and inclusivity within the public service. With support from the Department of Climate and the Vanuatu Community-based Climate Resilience Project (VCCRP).



National Consultation on the Public Service Act (**Tafea Province**) held in Tanna with Provincial Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) members.

In the front row alongside PTAC members are two of the officers from the Office of the Public Service Commission, third from the left is Mrs. Marlene Salwai, Acting Manager Compliance, and third from the right is Mrs. Amanda Langlois, Senior Investigation Officer.

PSC ACT CONSULTATION IN SIX (6) PROVINCES



National Consultation on the Public Service Act (**Sanma Province**) held in Santo with Provincial Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) members.



National Consultation on the Public Service Act (**Shefa Province**) held at the Ministry of Internal Affairs Conference room in Port Vila with the Provincial Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) members.

Our Staff Corner



Hello! My name is Marcelline Leikary Jack, from the island of Efate.

Ms. Jack is our Senior Organization Development Analyst in the OPSC's Organisational Development Unit (ODU).

What do you love most about your job?

It is to continuously strengthen accountability, transparency and alignment to strategic goals in Planning and reporting for ministries. Also by collaboration with colleagues, stakeholders and continuous learning.

fun fact:

I love to baking



Hello! My name is Honore Kaenbo , from the island of Pentecost.

Mr.Kaenbo is our Senior Curriculum Officer at the VIPAM Unit of OPSC.

What do you love most about your job?

I love working on various course development and Training, it is a lot more fun, education and interesting.

fun fact:

I love to socialize with my friends and also i like to do gardening.



Thank you for reading!