

October- November Newsletter

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

30 November 2024

What has happened in the last month! News Highlights



Chairman, Martin Mahe (c) with Commissioner Ligo, Director Generals, Directors & OPSC Unit managers

PSC Chairman Mr. Mahe appointed as head of Pacific Public Service Regional Governance Board

The Chairman of the Public Service Commission, Mr. Martin Mahe was unanimously voted as the Chairman of the Pacific Regional Board taking over from member country-New Zealand on November 18, 2024.

The Regional Governance Board is the governing body of the Regional Public Service which is made up of Public Service members from all Pacific Island countries including New Zealand and Australia.

RGB's 2025 strategic approach is to strengthen a service centre of excellence and a strong resilient public service through three core platform: Digital Connectivity, Leadership Development and Strengthen Governance. Digital connectivity ensures PPSC's maintain relationships, enable collaboration, and facilitate information and resource sharing.

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PSC Chairman Mr. Mahe appointed as head of Pacific Public Service Regional Governance Board



Chairman Mahe at the FONO, Samoa

Mr. Martin Mahe served as the PSC Chairman for a period of 7 years to date overseeing public service operations while also holding roles in the Judicial and Police Service Commissions in Vanuatu.

Mr. Mahe is robustly leading the reform programs under the Vanuatu PSC to strengthen and enhanced service delivery to the citizens of Vanuatu.

Mr. Martin Mahe as the Chairman of the RGB is well deserved and is a testament to Vanuatu Public Service Commission's exceptional leadership skills and unwavering determination.



Token is MOH new Director General

The Office of the Public Service Commission appointed Mrs Shirley Tokon as Director General of the Ministry of Health.

Ms Tokon received her appointment letter from the Acting Chairman of the PSC, Mr. Joe Ligo on Thursday 3rd October.

“With the right credentials, we belief Ms Tokon will lead the MoH with a visionary leadership as she is not new to the MoH,” he said.



Ms Tokon emphasized that collaboration between MoH and PSC is key to enhanced management and achieving goals in the health sector.

“We will work together with OPSC on the strategies in place to address health issues and improve our health sector,” she said.

Pc: DG Tokon and Commissioner, Joe Ligo.

OPSC embarks on Multi-Agency Roadshow.

The Office of the Public Service Commission undertook a roadshow trip to the northern provinces of Vanuatu from November 11th to 15th, 2024.

This provincial roadshow activity aimed at engaging government officers stationed at various Government headquarters in the northern provinces namely, Malampa, Sanma, Penama and Torba.

The objectives of this roadshow is to enhance the participants' ability to:

- enhance inter-agency cooperation and ensure that all officers are aligned with OPSC's strategic goals
- provide valuable insights and updates on going projects and policies, fostering a stronger connection between different branches of the public service
- acquire knowledge and skills in customer service
- understand the changes in the Chapters 1-10 of the Public Service Staff Manual (PSSM) and how it will impact their services
- understand fairly the processes outlined in the PSSM.

Participants were able to share their experiences and ask questions during this one-week excursion. There were group activities aimed to enable these participants to adapt to new changes in the PSSM and how best they can provide customer services to the public at large.

OPSC emphasizes on the importance of awareness of its reform programs and strategic goals to key actors especially in the provincial levels such as government officials and Area Administrators on the ground fostering improved service delivery at provincial level.



US Embassy Courtesy visit to OPSC



PSC Chairman Mr. Mahe (c) and Mr. Grove (c-l) with reps from US Embassy and PSC.

A high-level delegation from USAID, led by Mr. Paul Grove, visited Vanuatu on October 17, 2024, to meet with Mr. Martin Mahe, Chairman of the Public Service Commission (PSC), and the senior management team.

Mr. Grove, a senior member of the United States Senate Appropriations Committee, discussed USAID's PROJECT Governance initiative and its support to Vanuatu's public service. He inquired about the public sector reforms being implemented with the help of USAID and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC).

Mr. Grove emphasized the importance of a well-trained, reliable, and committed public service as essential for effective governance and decentralized service delivery. Mr. Mahe thanked the US Government and SPC for their support in advancing innovative reforms through the PROJECT Governance program.



Strengthening Capacity Building at OPSC

Investigation Training by OPSC Technical Advisor Mrs. Alice Hunt:

An Investigation Process training was conducted by the OPSC- Compliance Unit Technical Advisor (TA)- Mrs. Alice Hunt from the New Zealand Public Service on November 7th, 2024.

The training focused on a step-by-step guide in undertaking investigation.

Participants in this training consisted of compliance officers and HR officers from different Government line agencies. These participants had the opportunity to interact with the TA on any queries they have in relation to investigation process and related matters.

The Participants now have an insight on some of the best practices that should be considered when undertaking investigation.

OPSC acknowledged Mrs. Hunt for her expertise and commitment to assist enhanced the work of Compliance unit during her tenure at OPSC.



Compliance Officers and HR officers fully engaged during the workshop.

'To grow capacity in your career, you need to move from the place of position to a place of skill acquisition' Olawale Daniel

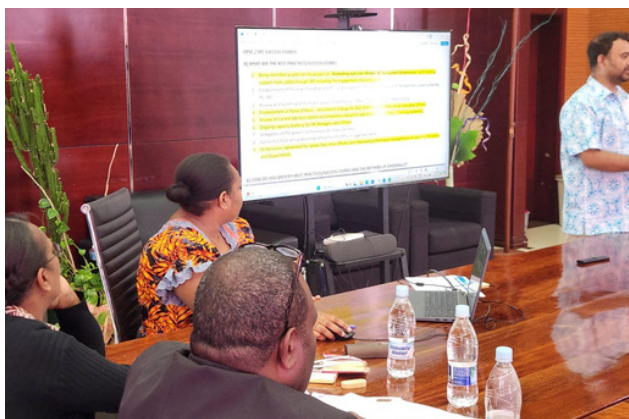
Strengthening Capacity Building at OPSC Cont.

Monitoring and Evaluation workshop by SPC:

The OPSC unit managers and principal officers went through two days of Reflection workshop as part of Monitoring & Evaluation with the SPC from November 5th to 6th, 2024.

This workshop to identify key areas pertaining to the reform programs that the OPSC is currently undertaking and allowed for the participants and facilitators from the SPC to also identify challenges faced through group discussions and activities and seek out solutions to better enhance the overall program/project.

OPSC is undergoing reform programs funded by USAID Governance PROJECT through SPC to bolster an enhanced public service delivery to the people of Vanuatu.



OPSC supports Government Agency initiatives

Launching of Vanuatu National Cooperative Policy 2024-2027:

The Acting Secretary of OPSC, Mr. Jonathan Iavere attended the launching of the Vanuatu Cooperative Policy 2024-2027 on Santo on the 27th of November, 2024.

The presence of the of Mr. Iavere reinforces OPSC's commitment to assisting line government agencies such the Office of the Registrar Cooperative & Small Businesses Services (ORCBDS) to strengthen communities throughout Vanuatu.

In addition, it's the evidence of Decentralization of government services that is strongly emphasized and supported by the OPSC.



Presidential Award Ceremony for long term serving public servants in Malampa Province



The Head of State, His Excellency Nikenike Vurobaravu led a delegation for the Award ceremony of the Presidential Award to Malekula on 6th to 10th of November 2024.

The Presidential medal was awarded to long-term serving public servants who were serving in Malampa province for more than 20 years.



Chairman of the Public Service Commission, Mr. Martin Mahe and the Acting Secretary of the Office of the OPSC, Mr. Jonathan Iavere was part of this high delegation to witness the very important ceremony.



Their presence was significant to bolster OPSC's stand to ensure that all government services is accessible to improve the livelihood of the people of Vanuatu.

PSC Chairman, Mr. Mahe accompanied Head of State, HE. Vurobaravu to Malekula. PC: State House

Thank you for reading! 7

Meet Our New Staff



Name: Jessica Sisi
Position: Senior Records Officer
Unit: Corporate Service



Name: Cindy Avock
Position: Records Officer
Unit: Corporate Service



Name: Marcelline Jack
Position: Senior Organizational Development (OD) Analyst
Unit: OD Unit



Name: Honore Kaenbo
Position: Senior Curriculum Officer
Unit: VIPAM



Name: Evelyn Masseng
Position: Senior Training Officer
Unit: VIPAM



Name: Sohesohemoli Antas
Position: Senior HRMIS Officer
Unit: Corporate Service

Congratulations

Meet Our New Staff

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Name: Sam Tasombo
Position: Senior Job Analyst
Unit: OD Unit



Name: Allan Kuki
Position: Snr Disciplinary Officer
Unit: Compliance & Investigation



Name: Amanda Langlois
Position: Snr Investigation Officer
Unit: Compliance & Investigation



Name: Jenny Mahit
Position: Admin Officer Compliance
Unit: Compliance & Investigation



Name: Chris Ilow
Position: Principal IPD Officer
Unit: Innovation & Development Unit



Name: Gloria Duvu
Position: Manager IPDU
Unit: Innovation & Development Unit



Name: Jacqueline Iakavei
Position: Principal Trainer
Unit: VIPAM

Photo Gallery

The OPSC Roadshow was a boost for public servants in the northern provinces to better improve service delivery at the provincial level .



Public Servants from Torba, Penama, Sanma and Malampa fully participated in the Roadshow. They were engaged in group activities as part of team building and skills enhancement.