

# The Government of Vanuatu thanks the International Telecommunication Union for selecting Vanuatu to host the next Global Symposium for Regulators 2019

Port-Vila, Vanuatu – 23rd July 2018:

On 12th July 2018, during the Closing Ceremony of the 18th Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR-18) in Geneva, the Government of Vanuatu, represented by Mr. Jackson Miake, OGCIO ICT Program Manager, thanked the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for the trust and confidence in selecting Vanuatu to be the next host for the second biggest ITU event – the 19th Global Symposium Regulators forum in 2019. Mr. Miake continued with the word of thanks for their tremendous and recognizing support so far to Vanuatu on development of Telecommunications, Radiocommunications and Technology and beyond, and at the same time confirming to around 700 delegates at that time Vanuatu to be the host of the GSR-19. In line with the ITU's vision and objectives through Development Bureau, Global Symposium Regulator's Forum offers unique network opportunities including series of thematic events such as the Thematic Global Dialogue, Industry Leaders Roundtable, the Chief of Regulatory Officers (CRO)/ Industry Advisory Group for Development (IAGD) meetings and other Regulatory Associations meeting. Since 2011, Vanuatu has actively been involved and participating in the Global Symposium Regulator's discussion sessions and importantly the ITU-D organized International Regulatory Best Practices

Guidelines. Included in those guidelines are the best practices on core functions and roles on promoting sustainable market competition, management of Spectrum usage and Consumer Protection. The Vanuatu Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator (TRR) implemented an ambitious Universal Access Policy (UAP) which promotes a Play or Pay approach. Vanuatu Regulator, Ms. Daisie Green Baniala, also serves as one of the Steering Committee members for the Pacific ICT Regulatory Resource Centre based at the University of the South Pacific in which the Institution serves 9-member countries and other non-member Pacific Island States.

Mr Jackson Miake, OGCIO ICT Program Manager, spoke on the behalf of the Government of Vanuatu during the closing ceremony of GSR-18 inviting all the participants to the next GSR, "we are happy to bring GSR to Vanuatu in 2019. This is the first time this event will be coming to the Pacific Islands and we count on your support and attendance to GSR-19."

Mr Brahim Sanou, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau since 2011, and his Excellency Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General of ITU, already extended their warm encouragement and support to Vanuatu for holding the Global Symposium for Regulators next year in the beautiful capital of Vanuatu, Port-Vila.



(Photo: Mr Jackson Miake, ICT Program Manager, Prime Minister's Office presenting Vanuatu as next host of GSR-19 in Geneva during the closing ceremony of GSR-18)