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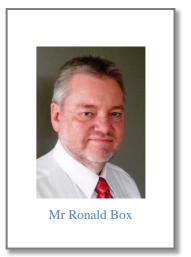
Press Release

New Telecommunications & Radiocommunications Regulator announced

The Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator (TRR), Alan Horne, initiated the Government of Vanuatu seeking a successor after he wrote to the Honourable Prime Minister at the beginning of April stating he wished to head back to Wales, UK in October of this year.

The Honourable Caretaker PM has, on the 12th October, formally appointed Mr Ronald Box as Mr Horne's successor. Ron will take over on the 1st December after a handover period with Alan Horne. Ron was selected, out of a strong list of applicants for the position as Vanuatu's independent Telecoms Regulator.

The Honourable Prime Minister, in accordance with the recruitment procedure set out in the Act, appointed an Evaluation Committee (EC). The EC consisted of the Governor of the Reserve Bank, a representative of the Judicial Services and a senior officer of the Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce; neither of who are actively



involved in any political party. The EC after evaluating applications on merit recommend Mr Ronald Box to the Honourable Prime Minister, who is also Minister Responsible for Telecommunications.

Ron is an Australian national and a seasoned Telecommunications professional, with wide experience and a successful track record across broad national and international assignments. His 30 years of experience spans national, regional and international telecommunication regulation; including 20 years with the Australian Communications Regulator, CEO of the Telecommunications Authority of Fiji (TAF), International Telecommunication Union (ITU) consultant into the Asia Pacific region and a 3 year secondment from the Australian Government to the United Nations based Asia Pacific Telecommunity in Thailand.

Alan Horne said "I am delighted by the appointment of Ron Box by the Honourable PM, a candidate recommended by the Selection Committee." Alan went on to say "Ron will be supported by a 10 strong core ni Vanuatu Regulatory Team. I will be sad to leave but family responsibility takes me back to my home in Wales".

TRR has the mandate to regulate the telecommunications providers, ensure consumers are protected and support the development of the telecommunications sector. For more information see www.trr.vu or contact Ms.Dalsie Baniala, Communications and Consumer Affairs Manager, on 27621 or 27487extension 12 or email to dalsiebaniala@trr.vu