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PRESS RELEASE

Vanuatu to showcase itself to the Telecommunications world



The painting is a gift from the Government and the people of Vanuatu as a token of appreciation to the outgoing Regulator and wife Mr. and Mrs. Horne. A painting illustrating the lifespan of communications from the 1900s to today, the 21st century.

At the formal handover ceremony held at VIT at the 15th of November 2012, the outgoing regulator Mr. Alan Horne stated that he was a very lucky man. He has worked or visited over 80 different countries and worked with many good people. In Vanuatu, everyone, both ni-vanuatu and expatriates have made his 2 year stay, one of his best experiences. The response from the Communities and especially Rensarie High School on the connection of internet there being

an information explosion has been one of his experiences seen as achievement during his regulatory term in Vanuatu.

He continued to say that his work for Vanuatu does not end but he is now moving to work at an international level supporting Vanuatu and other remote communities overcoming the challenges they are facing as he planned to be the Broadband Pioneer with the vision.

A formal message from the Prime Minister's office, ministry responsible for Telecommunications and ICT, (presented by the Director General on behalf of the Prime Minister, Hon. Sato Kilman), to all attendees, that information and communication technologies are indispensable in achieving our vision of "an Educated, Healthy and Wealthy Vanuatu". ICTs will assist us in delivering quality education to our children in the remotest corners of Vanuatu, improving health services, as well as increasing efficiency of current economic activities and opening up new business opportunities. A simple example of this is the way a mobile phone can affect a remote island's chance at attracting tourism business, or how the Internet and telephone support traders ordering and shipping goods within our country

In response to the Minister's speech, the outgoing Mr. Horne stated that the Vanuatu Regulatory team with the support of the Office of the OGCI, has achieved a better understanding, of the important criteria to ensure a healthy sustainable competitive telecommunications and information technology (ICT) market.

Mr. Ronald Box said "I would like to see Vanuatu show case itself to the telecommunications world and will seek to host an international event said the designated Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator (TRR) Mr. Ronald Box". He thanked him for the support he shown him in the last few days since his arrival and publically recognized the efforts and, particularly the achievements that Alan has made in assisting the establishment of communications environment that is enriching the social, customs and commercial framework of Vanuatu. Ron indicated that his key aims are to ensure a seamless transition and continuation of the good work of TRR. He wished to build effective & professional relationships with stakeholders. In the coming year he will focus particularly on consumer awareness and work with the Government to optimize ICT use in Vanuatu.

TRR team thanked Mr. Horne for being a great leader and mentor during his time and welcomed Mr. Box into the team to continue the journey.