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DECEMBER 2024

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Vanuatu and China Signs MOU

China and Vanuatu signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) aimed at establishing direct flights between the two countries, enhancing connectivity and promoting tourism, trade, and cultural exchange.

This agreement is expected to significantly boost travel opportunities, facilitate closer ties, and encourage economic collaboration.

With China being a major player in the region and Vanuatu increasingly focusing on its tourism potential, the direct flights offer a strategic pathway for increased international engagement and investment.

Jetstar Begins flights to Vanuatu



Jetstar has announced the launch of flights to Vanuatu, expanding its portfolio of international destinations and catering to the increasing demand for travel to this Pacific paradise.

With services expected to commence on select days, travelers can look forward to affordable direct flights, making it easier to explore Vanuatu's stunning landscapes, cultural heritage, and vibrant communities.

This new route not only enhances connectivity but also supports tourism in Vanuatu, promoting economic growth in the region.

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Launching of 2024 GRT Determinations



On December 17th 2024, the official signing and launching of the Government Remuneration Tribunal which was signed and launched by the Hon. Caretaker Prime Minister who is the Minister responsible for GRT and the GRT chairman.



This launching brought together all government officials from all government departments to witness this achievement which will benefit all civil servants across all government agencies.



This initiative is part of ongoing efforts to enhance accountability and efficiency within the public sector by ensuring that remuneration aligns with market standards and the specific responsibilities of each role. The tribunal's findings are expected to foster better governance and attract qualified individuals to public service, ultimately benefiting the nation's administrative effectiveness and public trust.



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Recovery Operations Committee (ROC) Activated



As of Wednesday 18th December, the Recovery Operation Committee has been activated at the Prime Minister's Office.

The Council of Ministers (COM) Decision No. 351 'SOE For Earthquake 17th December 2024' has mandated the National Recovery Committee (NRC) through the Recovery Operation Centre (ROC) to develop a recovery plan following the devastating magnitude 7.4 earthquake that stroked Vanuatu, specifically Efate Island on Tuesday 17th December 2024.



The main purpose of the ROC is to coordinate the development of the Shefa earthquake recovery Plan. The ROC is working closely with the National Disaster Management Officer on information sharing to develop the Shefa earthquake recovery plan.



Any immediate response including life saving activities should be directed to the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) located at the National Disaster Management Office, Ministry of Climate Change.