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## Press Release

### ROC discourages spreading of rumours

The Recovery Operation Centre (ROC) has officially dismissed rumours of a potential severe earthquake in Vanuatu, emphasizing that no technology or individual can accurately predict earthquakes.

This statement was prompted by numerous inquiries ROC had received following social media speculation.

The ROC urges the public to rely solely on information from the Geo-Hazards Department for credible updates regarding seismic activities. The dissemination of misleading information, which is illegal must also be discouraged.

Residents in unaffected areas, including islands outside Efate, are advised to disregard information meant for those directly impacted.

Questions about humanitarian support, should be directed to the Disaster Management Office, in line with the Council of Ministers decision No. 358 of 2024.

Additionally, the ROC calls for continued prayers for those affected by the recent 7.4 magnitude earthquake that struck Port Vila and Efate on December 17.

Approved by

John Ezra – Director (DSPPAC)

