GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

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GOUVERNEMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU VANUATU

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Press Release

Temporary ceasing of ROC Access Pass

The Recovery Management Office wishes to advise owners of businesses operating in the restricted area of the Central Business District that it will stop issuing ROC Access Card (RAC) as of 4.30pm today until further notice.

The issuant of the RAC was recommended by the National Recovery Committee intentionally to allow business Owners and immediate supervisors only into the restricted zone to inspect their offices and come out again. It has in no way permit anyone with the RAC to enter and operate business in the CBD.

Businesses in the CBD can resume operation after occupancy certificates of the building they are operating in, are issued by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities in line with recommendations of the Structural Assessment Report.

ROC chairman, John Ezra says he is saddened to learn that a number of business owners with RAC have been using that to get to their office or business and engage themselves in business activities.

"This is not on and must be stopped immediately. Such attitude can also prompt more restrictions that may not be necessary", he told the media.

Police have been asked to intervene and remove RAC from such employers and the supervisors or managers caught in the act.

Meanwhile, the suspension of the issuance of RAC will enable the ROC and the Police to strengthen their roles in managing the movement of individuals into and out of the restricted zones.

