

**GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF VANUATU**
Department of Strategic Policy,
Planning and Aid Coordination
Private Mail Bag 9053, Port Vila
Vanuatu Tel: (678) 23150 Fax:
25481



**GOUVERNEMENT DE LA
REPUBLIQUE DU VANUATU**
Service de Gestion
Strategiques, de la
plannification et de la
coordination des Aides Sac
Postal Prive 9053, Port Vila
Vanuatu Tel : (678) 23150
Fax :25481

MOU Signing paves way for proper management of records and information



Mr Gregoire Nimbtik – Director of DSPPAC formalising MOU with Mr Asal Lazare – Director of VKS

A milestone Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed yesterday (Tuesday 06 Dec 2016)) between Director of the Department of Strategic Planning, Policy and Aid Coordination (DSPPAC) Gregoire Nimbtik, and the Director for Vanuatu Kaljurol Senta (VKS), Asal Lazare, now paves way for the establishment of mechanisms for proper records and information management under the Right To Information At. The RTI Act was unanimously passed by parliament on 24 November 2016. Speaking after the signing, DSPPAC Director Nimbtik said the MOU is very crucial to the pro-active and publication scheme under the implementation plan of the Right To Information policy and RTI Act.

Mr Nimbtik said under the MOU, the National Archives will take the lead in establishing National Records and Information Development Committee to reinforce best practice of records management and establish standards and guidelines as required by the RTI Act.

“Implementation of the RTI law will not succeed without good record keeping”, he said.

The RTI Unit under DSPPAC will work closely with VKS and the National Archives to set up respective committees under its strategic plan.

In response, VKS Director Lazare assured everyone of his agencies commitment to fulfilling the records management requirements under the RTI implementation plan.

“This signing is a historic milestone in cooperation between VKS and the Prime Minister’s Office. In the past we have been operating independently from other government departments, but that this MOU marks the beginning of closer working relationship with other agencies as we embark on the RTI implementation plan”, he said.

Mr Lazare said the MOU will also foster a recent structural change in his agency that saw the stream lining of sections from 11 down to 3, which are the Public Records and Archives, Production and the National Heritage, and the Research sections.

He believes the implementation process undertaken under the MOU will also assist in the functioning of his new structure.

The National Archives under the VKS has been working diligently in the past years to assist government agencies with records management training awareness and is committed to carrying out its strategic plans.