

DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
DE VANUATU

MINISTRE DE L'EDUCATION ET DE  
LA FORMATION

**DIRECTEUR GENERAL**  
Sac De Courier Privé 028  
Port Vila, Vanuatu  
Tel : 22309  
Fax : 25521  
Email : [jjoe@vanuatu.gov.vu](mailto:jjoe@vanuatu.gov.vu)



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OF VANUATU

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND  
TRAINING

**DIRECTOR GENERAL**  
Private Mail Bag 028  
Port Vila, Vanuatu  
Tel : 22309  
Fax : 25521  
Email : [jjoe@vanuatu.gov.vu](mailto:jjoe@vanuatu.gov.vu)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **PRESS STATEMENT**

To: ALL MEDIA OUTLETS

#### **21<sup>st</sup> PHES Consultation Meeting**

The Vanuatu Ministry of Education with support from the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States will host the 21st Consultation Meeting of Pacific Heads of Education System (PHES) in Port Vila on the 20th and 21st of October, 2015.

The PHES Consultation Meeting provides the education permanent secretaries with a technical forum to discuss and deliberate on regional education initiatives and education issues important to the Pacific Island Countries and Territories as well as an agenda for the Forum Education Ministers' Meeting (FEEdMM).

The FEEdMM is organized by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)<sup>1</sup> every 12 to 18 months. It is the highest education forum among Pacific Island Countries and Territories and development partners to discuss policy issues facing regional and national education and strategies for implementing the Pacific Education Development Framework (PEDF).

The 20th PHES meeting was held in Tonga in October 2013 and it was attended by permanent secretaries of education systems from 11 Pacific Island Countries and Territories. It was also attended by representatives of education development partners. This meeting deliberated on the following themes

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<sup>1</sup> PIFS has 16 Members, including Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. UNESCO Apia Office covers the same Member States in addition to Tokelau (Associate Member). Tokelau is one of the Forum Observers under PIFS.

- Regional education status as assessed through the PEDF M&E framework
- Update on USP implemented projects - REAP, policy and planning training, untrained teachers, OLPC, open schooling
- Report on literacy assessment and PaBER
- Report on the literacy conference in New Zealand
- Teachers code of ethics
- Introduction of the Pacific Early Age Readiness and Learning (PEARL)
- Update on (i) climate change and disaster risk management education and (ii) HIV and AIDS education (comprehensive sexuality education)
- Report on the completion of the Pacific Register of Qualifications and Standards (PRQS)
- Report on ECCE development
- Report on the progress on school leadership based on regional professional standards for school principals
- Update on preparations for FEEdMM.

The 21<sup>st</sup> PHES meeting will discuss and determine the agenda for the next FEEdMM meeting.

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**This Press Statement is authorized by the Director General of Education, Vanuatu.**

  
Mr. Jesse Joe Dick

