### REPUBLIC OF VANUATU/RÉPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

## VANUATU METEOROLOGY AND GEO-HAZARDS DEPARTMENT DÉPARTEMENT DE LA MÉTÉOROLOGIE ET DES GÉORISQUES DE VANUATU

Phone: (678) 24686, 22932 VOIP: 5391

Email: admin@meteo.gov.vu Website: www.vmgd.gov.vu Address: PMB 9054, Lini Highway, Port Vila, Vanuatu

(Address correspondence to Director) (Toute correspondance doit être envoyée au Directeur)



# PRESS RELEASE

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VMGD Congratulates Mr. Salesa Nihmei on His Appointment as Director of the Climate Science and Information Division at SPREP

**Port Vila, Vanuatu – 21 July 2025** — The Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD) proudly extends its warmest congratulations to **Mr. Salesa Nihmei** on his recent appointment as the inaugural **Director of the Climate Science and Information (CSI) Division** at the **Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)**.

Mr. Nihmei's appointment marks a significant milestone not only for Vanuatu but for the entire Pacific region. With decades of experience in meteorology and climate science, Mr. Nihmei has long been recognised for his technical expertise, strategic thinking, and strong commitment to advancing Pacific resilience.

In a message shared by Mr. Levu B. Antfalo, Chair of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC), he expressed:

"Salesa has long been a familiar and respected presence in the Pacific meteorological community. I have had the privilege of working alongside him over many years through regional coordination efforts, where his deep technical knowledge, measured leadership style, and firm commitment to Pacific resilience were always evident.

He brings to this new role not only a strong background in operational meteorology and climate science, but also the unique ability to communicate complex scientific ideas with clarity and cultural relevance—an essential skill for effective regional engagement and decision-making.

His appointment is a significant step for SPREP and the Pacific. It places a Pacific Islander with strong roots in both science and service at the helm of a division that will shape climate information for years to come."

VMGD acknowledges Mr. Nihmei's tireless dedication over the years and celebrates this achievement as a reflection of Vanuatu's growing leadership in climate services and regional collaboration.

"Once again, congratulations, Mr. Nihmei! Your journey continues to inspire," said the VMGD team.

For further updates, visit <a href="https://preview.mailerlite.io/emails/webview/723341/16023379438783">https://preview.mailerlite.io/emails/webview/723341/16023379438783</a>

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