

6th AUSTRALIA VANUATU BUSINESS FORUM 28 February 2019

A gentle reminder from the Vanuatu Investment Promotion Authority (VIPA) and VCCI on registrations for the 6th Australia Vanuatu Business Forum, organised by Australia Pacific Islands Business Council (APIBC), which will be held on the 28th of February 2019 at the Ramada Resort in Port Vila.

Get a great overview of opportunities in Vanuatu as well as updates on economy, infrastructure, investment, and the labour market. This forum is a must for any business operating in the region or looking to do so.

This Forum comes at a particular exciting time for Australian and Ni-Vanuatu businesses and for the Vanuatu economy, following recent announcements by the Australian Prime Minister on Australia's Pacific Policy and his recent visit to Vanuatu in January 2019, including new funding arrangements for Infrastructure Development in the Region and other new projects, the introduction of an Australia Pacific Travel Card to facilitate travel between Pacific islands countries and Australia, and specific new engagement with Vanuatu in relation to the training and support for Vanuatu Police.

Concurrently work is being undertaken by superannuation funds and other national wealth institutions in the Pacific to group together as the Pacific Islands Investment Forum to jointly support funding of new sustainable infrastructure.

On 28 February 2019, the keynote addresses will be given by Hon Charlot Salwai Tabimasmās, Prime Minister of Vanuatu and Senator Hon Simon Birmingham, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment of Australia.

The ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT OVERVIEW will be provided by Mr Simeon Athy, Governor, Reserve Bank of Vanuatu, Dr Kishti Sen, Pacific Economist, ANZ Banking Group, and the Acting Chairman of Vanuatu Investment Promotion Authority.

The session two on AUSTRALIAN TRADE COMMISSION includes INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH to be presented by Director-General, Vanuatu Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utility, Mr Ian Clarke, Partner, Dentons, Mr Neil Linwood, Director of Operations Australia and New Zealand, Royal Caribbean International, Mr John Tonner, Managing Director, South Sea Shipping (Vanuatu), and Mr Parmod Achary, General Manager, Vanuatu National Provident Fund.

It also includes GROWING VANUATU'S AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY to be presented by the Director-General, Vanuatu Ministry for Agriculture, Livestock and Forestry, Mr John Ridgway, Chairman, Tanna Coffee, Mr Nicolas Monvoison, Elcress Agra Limited, and Ms Cornelia Wyllie, Chief Executive Officer, Vanuatu Direct Ltd.

The session three on PACIFIC TRADE INVEST NI-VANUATU IN THE AUSTRALIAN LABOUR MARKET is to be presented by Hon Ralph Regenvanu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade, Government of Vanuatu, and Dr Richard Curtain, Research Fellow, Development Policy Centre, Australian National University.

The session four on INVESTING FOR ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT IMPACT is to be presented by Ms Anthea Smits, The Difference Incubator and Ms Virginia Bruce, CEO and Founder, The REAL Group. Enterprise Angels (Bill Murray and Kristen Joiner).

Registration fee is AU\$250 for Delegate and AU\$280 for Delegate + trade exhibitor.

To register please click on the following link:

<https://events.apibc.org.au/event/AVBF6/home.html>

and to find out more information you can click here

<https://apibc.org.au/news/6th-australia-vanuatu-business-forum-registration-open/>

You can contact Australia Pacific Business Islands Council (APIBC) Secretariat for more information, Lillian Chapman, Business & Events Manager, tel +61 (0) 7 3348 5142, fax +61 (0) 7 3348 5172, mobile +61 (0) 405 364 909, email lillian@australiapacificbusiness.org.au, website apibc.org.au