



Australian High Commission
Port Vila

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Media Release

Australia hands over new police maritime uniforms

On 2 February, Australia presented Vanuatu Police Force (VPF) Maritime Wing officers with 38 sets of new uniforms. The handover follows the new Australian-funded VPF uniforms and equipment presented to the VPF in November 2017.



Vanuatu Police Force Maritime Wing officers present their new uniforms to Australian High Commissioner, Jenny Da Rin, and Minister of Internal Affairs, Andrew Napuat.

Presented by the Australian High Commissioner, Jenny Da Rin, and the Minister of Internal Affairs, Andrew Napuat, the new uniforms will strengthen the professionalism of the Maritime Wing, and help them operate safely and effectively.

“As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of our presence in Vanuatu this year, I’m confident that the relationship between our countries is strong and enduring. Australia is Vanuatu’s principle security partner. Our cooperation is helping to keep Vanuatu, and the region, safe and secure,” said Australian High Commissioner, Jenny Da Rin.



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“Vanuatu is a valuable partner to Australia, and we will work with Vanuatu to continue to build on the VPF’s proud history as a professional and dedicated police force,” she continued.

The new uniforms were provided by Australia’s Defence Cooperation Program (DCP) which has been operating in Vanuatu since 1983. Today, the DCP provides support for the operation and maintenance of the RVS *Tukoro* and training for its crew. RVS *Tukoro* is scheduled to be replaced by Australia in 2021 by a new Pacific Patrol Boat with additional features and capabilities to improve the VPF Maritime Wing’s ability to secure Vanuatu’s boarders and protect its valuable fisheries.

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