



**Australian High Commission**

**Vanuatu**

Date

## **Media Release**

### **The Royal Australian Navy's HMAS ships *Success* and *Toowoomba* are arriving in Vanuatu**

On 6 June, the Royal Australian Navy's HMAS *Success* and HMAS *Toowoomba* will be arriving to Lapatasi Wharf in Port Vila. The two vessels are part of the Indo-Pacific Endeavour (IPE 18) joint task group comprising of the two vessels plus the HMA Ships *Adelaide* and *Melbourne* that are embarked on a voyage to Vanuatu, Fiji, Tonga Samoa and the Solomon Islands to promote security and stability in the Pacific region through bilateral and multilateral engagement, training and capacity building.



#### ***The Australian Navy's HMAS ships *Success* and *Toowoomba****

IPE 18 will cover a wide range of activities, spanning disaster assistance planning, multinational naval manoeuvres and military training serials.

Australia and Vanuatu have a long-standing partnership and Australia remains committed to providing an ongoing support to the Vanuatu Police Force through the Defence Cooperation



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program, focusing on maritime security, engineering and infrastructure and professional development of staff.

Australia is also committed to supporting the current fleet of Pacific Patrol Boats, including the *RVS Tukoro* to enhance the maritime capability of Vanuatu and other recipient Pacific Island nations to conduct surveillance and patrols in their exclusive economic zones.

During this visit, the Australian Defence Force (ADF) on-board HMAS Success and HMAS Toowoomba will be working closely with the Vanuatu's maritime to enhance maritime and policing capabilities through Maritime mobile training teams, practical workshops and the provision of engineering support to *RVS Tukoro*.

Australia is committed to making effective contributions to humanitarian and security efforts in the Indo-Pacific region, and develop a shared understanding of trust and capacity to respond to a full spectrum of real world incidents in our region.

Australia has invested almost 800 million vatu over the past five years to keep Vanuatu's Patrol boat, the *RVS Tukoro*, maintained and operational and her crew well trained. *RVS Tukoro* is scheduled to retire in 2021, when she will be replaced by a largest and more capable patrol vessel provided by Australia.

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