



**Australian High Commission**  
**Vanuatu**

Friday 26 October 2018

**Media Release**

**Australia and Vanuatu tackling transnational crime**



Officers from the Australian Border Force joined the Vanuatu Police Force (VPF), Immigration and Customs officers in Vanuatu this week to strengthen border protection and keep the Pacific region safe.

The Australian Border Force delivered vessel search training to build on VPF, immigration and customs skills to search suspect vessels and detect the trafficking of drugs and other illegal goods through the Pacific.

Australian Border Force's Commander James Watson, also in Port Vila this week, called on Minister of Internal Affairs, Andrew Napuat, to discuss cooperation on border security. Commander Watson also met customs and immigration officials and toured Mala Base and the Lapetasi Wharf.

Australia and Vanuatu are important partners in efforts to keep the Pacific region secure and tackle transnational crime.



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