REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT ACT NO. 23 OF 2019

Instrument of Directions to Government Agencies relating to Tropical Cyclone Lola
Order No. 191 of 2023

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by subsection 35(1) of the Disaster Risk Management Act No. 23 of 2019, I, the Honourable JOHN DAHMASING SALONG, Acting Minister of Meteorology, Geological Hazards and Climate Change, on the advice of the National Disaster Committee, make the following Order.

1 Directions to Government Agencies relating to Tropical Cyclone Lola

(1) The National Disaster Management Office and the Vanuatu Police Force must:

(a) control the operation of disaster response relief at all levels of operation; and

(b) maintain civil military coordination.

(2) The National Disaster Management Office must ensure that there is continuous communication providing regular updated on the disaster response being carried out.

(3) The National Disaster Management Office must:

(a) begin relief response distribution as per its response priorities and must report back to the National Disaster Committee on challenges encountered; and

(b) coordinate the response to Tropical Cyclone Lola.

(4) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and government agencies must ensure that all funds or monetary pledges or in-kind support received for response to the Tropical Cyclone Lola disaster from:

(a) foreign states and governments including international organizations; or

(b) foreign or national non-government organization and other individuals,

must be put into the public fund account held with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management. The in-kind support received must be based on needs as approved by the National Disaster Management Office.

(5) The Department of Foreign Affairs, National Disaster Management Office, the Department of Immigration, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management and the Department of Customs must facilitate and assist with all arial surveillance, non-food items, dry rations, human resource surge capacity, funding and logistics support.

(6) The Ministry of Health must ensure that medical response and assistance reach affected populations and must ensure the restoration of medical service in affected areas.

(7) The Ministry of Public Utilities and the Vanuatu Police Force must ensure transportation and infrastructure are clear and operational to support disaster response and service delivery.

(8) The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer, in collaboration with the Office of the Telecommunications, Radiocommunications and Broadcasting Regulator, must restore all communications.

(9) The Office of the Telecommunications, Radiocommunications and Broadcasting Regulator must ensure that any potential alternative operators with new technology solutions including satellite services are issued with license before their services can be utilized.

(10) The Department of Energy is to coordinate energy service sector and restore energy services.

(11) The Department of Environment must ensure that the killing of indigenous birds and fruit bats are prohibited during the period of the State of Emergency.

(12) Government agencies are to release officers to the National Disaster Management Office for the duration of the response.

(13) Government Ministries and Departments are to reprioritize their budget to support the disaster response activities for their area of responsibility and their cluster's response activities.

2 Commencement

This Order is taken to have commenced on 25 October 2023.

Made at Port Vila this 27 **day of** October**, 2023.**



Honourable JOHN DAHMASING SALONG
Acting Minister of Meteorology, Geological Hazards and Climate Change