

# **REPUBLIC OF VANUATU**

## **BILL FOR THE GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. OF 2026**

### **Explanatory Note**

This Bill amends the Government Remuneration Tribunal Act [CAP 250] ("the Act").

The Act has been in existence for over 20 years and amendments are needed to strengthen, improve and address some of the loopholes identified in the Act.

The amendment will ensure that any determination that is made by the Government Remuneration Tribunal must be approved by the Council of Minister. This change is necessary as all new determinations in relation to remunerations determined by the Tribunal have financial implications on the Government budget, and therefore the Council of Ministers must be consulted on these determinations.

The amendment will also strengthen the offence provision of the Act by making it an offence for a person to refuse or fail to comply with the notice of the Tribunal to deliver all or any Government contracts, documents, books and accounts relating to the payment of remuneration of any person under this Act. This amendment will assist the Tribunal when carrying out its functions under the Act.

Furthermore, the amendment will address the issue for persons knowingly paying or receiving remuneration at a rate higher than that determined by the Tribunal. Currently under the Act a person in such a position commits an offence and if convicted is liable to a fine not exceeding VT1,000,000. However, this amendment will further strengthen this issue by providing that despite being convicted, that person must still refund all monies that he or she has been improperly receiving.

Lastly, the amendment will provide for Regulation making power as currently the Act does not provide for that. This provision is essential to enable the Minister to make Regulations or prescribe for matters that are required under the Act.

**Pime Minister**



**REPUBLIC OF VANUATU**

**BILL FOR THE  
GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL  
(AMENDMENT)  
ACT NO. OF 2026**

**Arrangement of Sections**

<b>1</b>	<b>Amendment .....</b>	<b>2</b>
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## **BILL FOR THE GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. OF 2026**

An Act to amend the Government Remuneration Tribunal Act [CAP 250].

Be it enacted by the President and Parliament as follows-

### **1 Amendment**

The Government Remuneration Tribunal Act [CAP 250] is amended as set out in the Schedule.

### **2 Commencement**

This Act commences on the day on which it is published in the Gazette.

## SCHEDULE

### AMENDMENTS OF GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL ACT [CAP 250]

**1 Whole of the Act**

Delete “section 13(1)(a)” (wherever occurring), substitute “paragraph 13(1)(a)”

**2 Paragraph 6(1)(c)**

Delete “President”, substitute “Board”

**3 Section 11**

Delete “Public Service Commission”, substitute “Council of Ministers”

**4 Paragraph 13(1)(a)**

Delete “those persons or classes of persons listed in subparagraphs (i) to (viii)”, substitute “the following persons or classes of persons”

**5 Subparagraph 13(1)(a)(ii)**

After “authorities”, insert “including their employees”

**6 Paragraph 13(1)(c)**

Delete “from the Public Service Commission or any interested person or organization”

**7 Section 13A**

Repeal the section, substitute

**“13A Approval of determinations**

The determinations of the Tribunal must be approved by the Council of Ministers.”

**8 Subsection 15(3)**

After “consequence”, insert “of”

**9 Section 16**

Delete “section 12(1)(a)”, substitute “paragraph 13(1)(a)”

**10 Section 19**

Delete “section 17(4)”, substitute “subsection17(5)”

**11 Section 26**

Delete “section 17(5)”, substitute “section 17”

**12 After subsection 27(3)**

Insert

“(3A) A person who refuses or wilfully fails to comply with a notice issued under paragraph 21(1)(b) commits an offence.”

**13 Subsection 28(1)**

Delete “section 27(1) and (3)”, substitute “subsections 27(1), (3) and (3A)”

**14 At the end of section 28**

Add

“(3) A person who is convicted of an offence under subsection 27(3) is to refund all monies that is improperly received.”

**15 At the end of Part 5**

Add

**“30. Regulations**

The Minister may, on the advice of the Tribunal, make Regulations prescribing all matters:

- (a) required or permitted by this Act to be prescribed; or
- (b) necessary or convenient to be prescribed for the carrying out or giving effect to this Act.”