REPUBLIC OF VANUATU OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

PMB 081 Port Vila Vanuatu

PUBLIC REPORT

ON THE

ALLEGED UNREASONABLE DELAY BY THE PUBLIC WORKS AND FINANCE DEPARTMENTS TO RECOVER DEBT FROM UNION OF MODERATE PARTY

22 January 2004

7034/2004/02

PUBLIC REPORT ON THE ALLEGED UNREASONABLE DELAY BY THE PUBLIC WORKS AND FINANCE DEPARTMENTS TO RECOVER DEBT FROM UNION OF MODERATE PARTY

SUMMARY

Public Works and Finance Departments to recover the debt owed by Union of Moderate Party (UMP) to the government.

In 1996, during their annual congress at Atchin, Malekula, 3,800 litres of fuel (19 drums of petrol) was issued by the Department of Public Works to the Union of Moderate Party(UMP). Hon. Vohor as President of UMP advised the Public Works Department that UMP would replace those drums. The total invoice was VT255,322. The other outstanding debt of VT222,600 relates to hiring of G123 Toyota Dyna by UMP during their congress at Erakor in August 1996. The total debt stood at VT477,922. Because of the numerous exchange of correspondences between the Ombudsman and the respective government departments, this amount was reduced to VT302,922. To date, no other payments was made and the public Works and Finance Departments did not take serious action in recovering these debts fully.

The Ombudsman finds during his investigation that:

- Collection of UMP debts was delayed fro unjustified reason. The Finance and Public Works Departments did not recover these debts within reasonable time since these were dated back to 1996. The Finance Department kept advising that they would refer the matter to the Attorney General and they failed to do so. The "Debt Recovery Task Force" established by the government did not consider recovering these debts.
- Responsible officers in both the Public Works and Finance Departments may have breached Regulation 18(2)(d) and Regulation 19(2)(b) of the Vanuatu Financial Regulations as they have failed to ensure the prompt collection of revenue due to the government by UMP in full.

The Ombudsman recommends that:

- Public Works and Finance Departments review the matter and take tougher measures to recover this debt and other monies owing to the Republic of Vanuatu.
- In the event that these two Departments have concluded that tougher measures have already been taken, they refer the matter to the state Law Office as a civil debt for recovery action through the courts

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1. JURISDICTION

1.1 The Constitution and the Ombudsman Act allow me to look into the conduct of government, related bodies, and Leaders. This includes the Public Works and Finance Departments. I can also look into defects in laws or administrative practices, including the unreasonable delay by these departments to recover the debt owed the Government by the Union of Moderate Party.

2. PURPOSE, SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION AND METHODS USED

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Ombudsman's findings as required by the Constitution and the Ombudsman's Act.
- 2.2 The scope of this investigation is to establish the facts about the use of public property by the Union of Moderate Party and why the Finance and Public Works Departments have not fully recovered the debt owed by UMP to the Government. Although the two respective Government departments were fully aware of the Ombudsman's investigation, no strict measure was taken to recover the debts.
- 2.3 This Office collects information and documents by informal request, summons, letters, interviews and research.

3. RELEVANT LAWS, REGULATIONS AND RULES

3.1 VANUATU FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

ACCOUNTING OFFICERS

Regulation 18 (2)(d)

The duties referred to in sub-section 1 above shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

(d) ensuring the prompt collection of all revenue due to the department and to maintain a constant review of the charges for the various services performed.

ACCOUNTABLE OFFICERS

REGULATION 19(2)(b)

The duties referred to in (1) above shall include, but not be limited to:

(b) prompt collection, recording, banking and bringing to account of all revenues due to Government and any other public moneys accountable for by him.

4. OUTLINE OF EVENTS

- 4.1 The Ombudsman received a complaint against the Department of Public Works for issuing 3,800 litres of fuel to the Union of Moderate Party during their annual congress at Atchin, Malekula in 1996.
- 4.2 On 17 December 1996, Mr. Jeffrey Wilfred, former Director General of Finance Department advised the Ombudsman that he would follow up with the matter after he received information from the Public Works office at Lakatoro, Malekula. (See copy of his letter marked "A")
- 4.3 On 5 November 1997, Mr. Manasseh Tary wrote to the Ombudsman stating that he had instructed Mr. Ruru Gratiano to re-issue an invoice to the UMP office. (His letter is marked "B").
- 4.4 The Ombudsman received a letter from Mr. Jone Roqara on 10 December 1997 advising that the UMP have an outstanding debt of Vt477,922 for the fuel and hire of a PWD truck. (See documents marked "C").
- 4.5 On 2 February 1999, the Ombudsman wrote to Mr. Joylie Seresere requesting him information on what steps the Finance Department had taken to recover the outstanding debt by UMP.
- 4.6 The Ombudsman also wrote to Mr. Rialuth Serge Vohor about the outstanding debt owed by UMP. (See copy of the letter marked "D").
- 4.7 The Ombudsman sent another letter dated 4 March 1999 to Mr. Mark Bebe ("Mr. Bebe") regarding the same.
- 4.8 On 19 March a reminder letter was sent to Mr. Bebe. (See copy marked "E").
- 4.9 Mr. Bebe replied on 24 March 2003 stating that he would have to re-issue invoices as the matter has been left unattended to for a number of years. He also advised that he would formally ask the Attorney General of the possibility of instituting legal action against the UMP. Mr. Bebe's letter is marked "F").
- 4.10 On 16 July 1999, the Ombudsman sent a reminder to Mr. Bebe to confirm if the UMP debts have been settled. (Copy of letter is marked "G").
- 4.11 On 12 August 1999, Mr. Bebe replied by saying the debts were still outstanding and that he would give a written report to the Attorney General after he received reports from the Public Works Department. (See copy marked "H").

- 4.12 Between November 1999 and May 2000 several reminders were sent to Mr. Bebe.
- 4.13 On 19 October 2000 Mr. Bebe instructed the Finance Chief Accountant and other managers that UMP will start paying some of its debts by installments. (See copy marked "I").
- 4.14 Correspondences for follow up were sent from 2001 to 26 September 2002 when Mr. Jimmy Andeng advised the Ombudsman that the outstanding amount yet to be recovered was Vt302,922 after contributions were received from some of the members. (See letter marked "J").
- 4.15 On 3 October 2002, letters were sent to Mr. Serge Vohor, Mr. Jacques Sese and Mr. George Andrews querying the recovering of UMP debts. (See copies marked "K").
- 4.16 On 7 March 2003 reminder letters were sent regarding the same.
- 4.17 Mr. Sese replied on 14 February 2003 saying that deductions were taken from UMP party members and Finance Department should be able to give a statement showing this. (See copy of letter marked "L").
- 4.18 On 10 March 2003, Mr. George Andrews wrote to the Ombudsman stating that they have established a "Debt Recovery Task Force" to look at ways of recovering debts owed to the Government. This exercise was to eventuate in April 2003. (See copy of letter marked "M").

5. RESPONSES BY THOSE WITH FINDINGS AGAINST THEM

- 5.1 Before starting this enquiry, the Ombudsman notified all people or bodies complained of and gave them the right to reply. Also, a working paper was provided prior to preparation of this public report to give the individuals mentioned in this report another opportunity to respond.
- 5.2 Responses were received from the following:
 - Kalwajin Skepha, Acting Director, Public Works Department (PWD).
 - . Hon. Serge Rialuth Vohor, Deputy Prime Minister
- 5.3 Mr Skepha responded and stated that it is true that past UMP invoices have not been paid. He therefore delegated the responsibility to follow-up on this matter to Mr Vincent Wokon, Acting Manager Corporate Services/Senior Accountant of the PWD. Mr Wokon was to hold series of meeting with the current UMP President and other officials because it appeared that UMP officials have ignored the numerous documentation sent to them on this matter.
- 5.4 In another letter dated 8 October 2003, Mr Skepha stated that they have sent a letter to the former Minister of Education, Hon. Jacques Sese to find out from whom salaries should be deducted towards the debt. Please see Appendix N. [The Ombudsman has sent follow up letters on the matter to Mr Wokon but no response was received at the date of writing this report].
- 5.5 Hon. Vohor stated in his response that he has never given any verbal or written instruction to anyone concerning the expenses incurred. He denies the allegations stated in the working paper. See Appendix O.

6. FINDINGS

Finding 1: Collection of UMP debt was delayed for unjustified reasons

6.1 The Ombudsman found that both the Public Works and Finance Departments failed to collect the UMP debt within reasonable time. This unreasonable delay led to the outstanding of Vt302,922 yet to be recovered. UMP is one of the biggest political parties in Vanuatu and surely they would have a good financial base for their activities. The Finance Department kept advising that they would refer the matter to the Attorney General and they failed to do so.

Finding 2: Prima facie breach of Regulation18(2)(d) and Regulations 19(2)(b) of the Vanuatu Financial Regulations

6.2 Accounting and accountable officers in both the Public Works and Finance Departments have failed to ensure the prompt collection of revenue due to the Government pursuant to Regulations 18(2)(d) and 19(2)(b). It has taken more than 6 years for the Finance Department to fully recover all outstanding debts from the UMP and it is our understanding that the monies have not all been paid in full.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Finance Department and Public Works department to review this matter and take tougher measures to recover this debt and other monies owing to the Republic of Vanuatu.
- 7.2 Where the Department of Finance and Public works conclude that tougher measures have already taken place over the past six years it is recommended that they refer the matter to the state Law Office as a civil debt for recovery action through the courts.

Dated the 22nd day of January 2004.

Hannington G. ALATOA

OMBUDSMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

8. INDEX OF APPENDICES

- A Letter from Mr. Jeffrey Wilfred dated 17 December 1996.
- B Letter from Mr. Manasseh Tary dated 5 November 1997.
- C Letter from Mr. Jone Rogara dated 10 December 1997.
- D Ombudsman's letter to Mr. Vohor dated 2 February 1999.
- E Remainder letter to Mr. Bebe dated 19 March 1999.
- F Mr. Bebe's letter dated 24 March 2003.
- G Remainder letter to Mr. Bebe dated 16 July 1999.
- H Letter from Mr. Bebe dated 12 August 1999.
- Letter from Mr. Bebe dated 19 October 2000.
- J Letter from Mr. Jimmy Adeng dated 26 September 2002.
- K Ombudsman's letters to UMP executive dated 3 October 2002.
- L Letter from Mr. Sese dated 14 February 2003.
- M Letter from Mr. Andrews dated 10 March 2003.
- N Letter from Kalwajin Skepha dated 08 October 2003
- Letter from Hon. Serge Vohor dated 09 July 2003



GOUVERNMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

SERVICE DES FINANCES

Sac Postal Privi No. 031, Port Vila

YOUR REF: VREF

OUR REF N/REF

J/509/1996/JW.lj

Director General of Finance From:

To The Ombudsman

Office of the Ombudsman

P.O.Box 126 Port Vila

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Private Mail hag 031, Port Vila

17th December 1996

DEPARTMEN

FINANCE

RE: FUEL ISSUED 3800 LITRES OF FUEL - UMP CONGRESS IN 1994.

Dear Madam,

I refer to your memo OMB 2813/96 of the 22nd November 1996.

After receiving a copy of your memo I have tried to get some details from Public Works on the issues, so that it may be possible to proceed against the individuals. I have not received the information yet. When I receive the information I shall advise.

By copy of this memo, Mr Gratiano Ruru of Public Works, Lakatoro is requested to provide details of any signed dockets where in responsibility for payment can be directed.

For your information, please.

CC

JEFFERY WILFRED DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FINANCE

Mr Gratiano Ruru, Head of Public Works, Lakatoro.

Director, PWD. VILA.

REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

Service des Travaux Publics

PMB 044

PORT VILA

Public Works Department

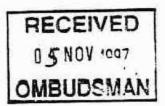
Phone (678) 22888

Fax (678) 24495

Nº: 1448 197

Date: 4 November 1997

Ms. Marie Noelle Ferrieux Patterson Ombudsman of the Republic of Vanuatu P.O.Box 126 PORT VILA



Dear Madam,

RE: FUEL ISSUED 3800 LITRES OF FUEL UMP CONGRESS IN 1994

I had received a copy of the letter from the Director of Finance and I have enquired for some information from the Malekula Subdivisioner Mr. Ruru Gratiano but I have not received copies of invoices or dockets.

Attached are my memeo to Mr. Ruru and his reply.

I have instructed Mr. Ruru to issue a new invoice to UMP office.

I hope that Public Works Department will get some respond from UMP soon concerning this matter.

MAMASSEH TARY

Director

Public Works Department

Travaux Pilolium GOVENNAMENT PUBLIC MOCKS PUBLIC MOCKS

cc Chrono

Appendix "B"

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT P.O. BOX 09 Lakatoro

Phone: 48490

REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU SERVICE DES TRAVAUX PUBLICS BOITE POSTAL 09 Malicolo

Fax: 48497

24th October 1997

Our Ref: m/acc/ad/GR117.1tr

President UMP Party P.O. Box Port Vila

FUEL USED DURING UMP CONGRESS AT ATCHIN RE:

RECEIVED AT PWD

P. 1

It has been come to our notice that during the UMP Congress held at Atchin in 1994, the party has borrow 19 drums mazout which equals to 3800 litres from public works department. The negotiation was made by me and Mr. Sorge Vohor who was at the time the President of UMP Party. During our telephone conversation he told me that they will replace that 19 drums, but until then nothing has been done.

Attached is the invoice and the information of fuel used during this UMP Congress. If you cannot settle this amount of 255,322VT you have to replace to PWD, the 19 drums mazout.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding to this matter, and we are looking forward to your settlement of this overdue account.

Yours faithfully

Gratiano Ruru

Senior Foreman, PWD

cc: Director PWD, Vila

Greliana George PWD, Malekula : Kensy Yosef PWD, Malekula

DATE !	NO OF VEHICLE	PARTICULARS	LITRE OF MAZOUT
15/7/97	LORRY 207G 206 205 HL G.146 G205	Transport Delegate to UMP Congress Atchin " " UMP Congress UMP Congress	61 litres 1000 litres 38 litres 21 litres 72 litres 63 litres
±9/7/97 	G146 G207 HL146 G206 G146 G207	UMP Congress UMP Congress UMP Congress UMP Congress UMP Congress	43 litres 38 litres 80 litres 20 litres 94 litres
22/7/97 : 23/7/97	G206 HL873 G205 G55	UMP Congress UMP Congress UMP Congress Total	46 litres 24 litres 600 litres 1000 litres 608 litres 3800 litres 200 =19 Drums mazout

0.8.

24-10-97

Appendix "C"

REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

Service des Travaux, Public

PMB 044

PORT VILA

RECEIVED 1 U DEC 2007

OMBUDSMAN

Public Works Department

Phone (678) 22888

FAX (678) 24495

No: 1639/97 DEC 199/

The Acting Director of Public Works Department

TO

The Director General of Finance Department

RE: UMP OUTSTANDIN ACCOUNT ON FUEL AND HIRING OF VEHICULE VT 577.922

Attached two outstanding invoices owed to the PWD by the UPM Party

Invoice 5223 - 24.10.94 VT 255.322 CONSUMPTION OF FUEL (PWD

Invoice 7175 - 19.08.96 VT 222.600...... HIRE OF VEHICULE G123 (PWD Shefa)

VT 477.922

DOVERHMENT Author Works

The PWD has done all the necessary steps to recover these debts but no action has been taken by the customer concern in regards to the settlement of these invoices .

So we now forward these areas of revenue to you for consideration .

Thank you.

JONE ROQARA ACTING DIRECTOR

Public Woks Department

CL. OBUDSMAN

Attorney Governly

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PRIVATE MAIL BAG 044 PORT VILA

REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU SERVICE DES TRAVAUX PUBLICS SAC POSTAL PRIVE PORT VILA

TELEPHONE: (678) 22 555

FAX: (678) 22 520

TO: UMP PARTY PORT VILA

HIRE OF G123 TOYOTA DYNA BY UMP CONGRESS AT ERAKOR VILLAGE

Date: 17/05/96 -3 hrs Date : 18/05/96 -10 hrs Date: 24/05/96 -8 1/2 hrs Date: 25/05/96 - 10 hrs Date: 26/05/96 - 8 hrs Date: 27/05/96 - 10 hrs Date: 28/05/96 - 10 hrs Date: 29/05/96 - 10 hrs Date: 30/05/96 -10 hrs Date: 31/05/96 -10 hrs Date: 01/06/96 -8 hrs Date: 02/06/96 -8 hrs Date: 03/06/96 -8 hrs Date: 04/06/96 -8 hrs Date: 05/06/96 -8 hrs Date: 06/06/96 -8 hrs Date: 07/06/96 -8 hrs Date: 08/06/96 -8 hrs Date: 09/06/96 -8 hrs Date: 10/06/96 -8 hrs Date: 11/06/96 -8 hrs Date: 12/06/96 -8 hrs

Total:

185.5 hrs

Rate: 1,200 VT/Per Hour x 185.5 hrs = 222,600 vt.

TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE PAID VT: 222,600

BLIC OF VANUATU REPUBLIQUE DE VAN Appendix "C" pvernment T DETAILS DETAILS RECETTE Department : PIBLIC WORKS Address DUINKI MAIL BAG 044 Receipt No. Date Pard Date palement Ret Montant Recu No. [子校] JIA Tel: 3359 FILE COPY / COPIE ARCHIVES PWD INVOICE / FACTURE Νō 07175 Date of invoice : 1/1 / // / / / 1976-Référence débiteur to: Name UMP DVISLA CHICE A : Nom Address: . VII a. Adresse: Chapter Head Amount VT DETAILS Chapitre Montant VT SIE MIACHED HIL HILL PHAREE CF 6 173 TOYON DYNK BY LIMP COMBRES MI LEXKOR VIIIXGE. 10 BL 12x110 VT. 222.COM ssuing officer TOTAL SUM PAYABLE / TOTAL SOMME DUE Agent expediteur : INVOICE / FACTURE NO for / pour Methods of Payment / Formes de paiement In person or by post to the invoicing Department, see address above Date Invoice En personne ou par voie postale au Service a Crediter, voir adresse ci-dessus. In personne or by post to the Government Cashier Accountant General's Department, P.O. Box 216, Vita.
 En personne ou par voie postale au caissier du service de la Comptabilité publique, B.P.216, Port Vita. Date de facture By credit transfer to a bank for credit to Government AC B.I.V. No.72 104 112 89. Par virement bancaire pour le credit du compte du Gouvernement à la B.I.V. No.72 104 112 89. Nom au débiteur : By interdepartment transfer and payment youther (for Government Department only) Par transfer inter-services et mandat de palement (reserve aux services administratifs) Total amount payable Total somme due . VT (Issuing officer to delete method(s) not available) ili appartient à l'agent expediteur de rayer la(les) formule(s) ne pouvant être choisie(s). Invoicing Department Computer Input - Narration / Saisie informatique - libellé Service à créditer LIFE PRILLI Credit Entry / Crédit If however you have made payment recently please contact the invoicing department. Chapter Head Amount VT Cheques should be made payable to "Government of Montant en VT Chapitre budgetaire Vous ètes prie d'acquitter dans les meilleurs délais la somme VT dont vous ètes debiteur. Veuillez prendre contact avec le service a crediter si vous venez de regier votre facture. Les cheques sont a établir à l'ordre du "Gouvernement de Vanuatu

Raminder date :

Appendix "C"

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PORT VILA PMB 044

3

TELEPHONE: 22555

FAX: 22520

REF:

DATE: 23rd October 1996

POSTAL PRIVE 044

REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

SERVICE DES TRAVAUX PUBLICS

PORT VILA

IIMP PARTY UMP OFFICE PORT VILA

Dear Sir,

1" REMINDER: OUTSTANDING AMOUNT

May I bring your attention to this invoice being issued to you for hire of G123 Toyota Dyna for UMP Congress at Erakor Village.

INVOICE NO

DATE ISSUED

AMOUT VT

07175

19/08/96

222,600

Up to now, no payment is being recorded to our system concerning this invoice. However if you have not done your payment, please make immediate payment as required directly to P.W.D Mechanical work Shop at No. 2 Area or Public Works Department Main Office at George Ponpidou.

If you have already done your payment could please produce copies and send to us.

JANUA

Travaux Public

Government

Public Works

Thank you for your understanding.

EUNICE TARI Accounts Section

Public Works Department

cc : Tari Gilda

Senior Accountant, PWD

Appendix "C"

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PMB 044 PORT VILA TELEPHONE: 22555

REF: /acc/ad/et 116.ltr

REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU SERVICE DES TRAVAUX PUBLICS POSTAL PRIVE 044 PORT VILA FAX22520

DATE: 27th November 1997

Irene Bongnaim 2nd Secretary Ministry of Transport Port Vila

SUBJECT: 3RD REMINDER - UMP PARTY OUTSTANDING BILL FOR 1996

I would like to bring to your attention, as you aware of the bill I have forwarded the First and Second Reminder as per attached.

I would be grateful if you could assist PWD inorder to settle this overdue bill. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact the under sign.

Your earliest assistance is highly appreciated.

EUNICE TAR Accountant PWD Shefa Province

cc : Ione Roquia, Acting Director

: Gilda Tari, Senior Accountant - PWD Head Office

Of 25596.

I de la .

Appendix "C"

CEIPT DETAILS

DETAILS RECETTE

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ORIGINAL

INVOICE/FACTURE .No.

11.

43491

LIKE AC + I

DELETINGE.

5223

Debtor's reference Helerence debileur

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Date of invoice Date de l'acture 24 1

to Name

Address Adresse



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	at the same of		

Date Invente I better the factorer 24/10-1 117

Debtor's Name Norn du debiteur LINIS PHRIY

Lotal amount payable total seame due XI

235 32207

Invoicing Department

Plus, LOKOTOS

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advice

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Appendix "C"

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
PRIVATE MAIL BAG 044
PORT VILA

Tel: (678) 22888

Date: 29 October 1997

REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU
SERVICE DES TRAVAUX PUBLICS
SAC POSTAL PRIVE 044
PORT VILA

Fax: (678) 24495

Our Ref./et.....

Honourable Rehaluth Serge Voltor Prime Minister President of UMP Party Prime Ministers Office PMB 053 Port Vila

Dear Prime Minister,

2nd REMINDER- UMP PARTY OUTSTANDING BILL FOR 1996

I would like to bring to your attention the reminder of the attached copy.

As you are aware the bill is subjected to hiring of G 123 (Toyota Dyna) for the Erakor Congress.

The vehicle was hired to transport Congress Delegates to Erakor Village.

It appears in our record at PWD workshop that this bill has not been settled. However, as this is part of the Government Revenue, before the Finance Department takes any serious action against PWD, I with great respect, request you, Sir, to settle the mentioned Bill as soon as convenient.

Once again Sir, I apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused at your end.

If you require further information regarding the above, please contact the undersigned

Thankyou for your understanding.

Yours faithfully,

Eunice Tari

Accounts Section

Public Works Department

Senior Accountant, PWD

GOVERNMENT Public Horks

CC

Appendix "D"



Office of the Ombudsman Bureau du Médiateur Ofis blong Ombudsman



Our Ref:

0653/7033/L10/rsv

(Please quote this reference on all correspondence)

2 February 1999

Honourable Rialuth Serge Vohor Opposition Leader Union of Moderate Parties c/- Parliament Chambers PMB 052 PORT VILA

Dear Sir

SUBJECT: ALLEGED OUTSTANDING DEBT BY UMP OWING TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

We are receipt of a complaint that the UMP owe a total of Vt 477.922 for petrol consumption used by the UMP Atchin Congress in 1994 and the hire of G123 for the UMP Congress at Erakor in August 1996. See documents attached.

We are looking at the case as a leadership breach by yourself as a member of Parliament following Article 67 of the Constitution. According to Article 62(3) of the Constitution and s.22(1) of the Ombudsman Act No.27 of 1998 we would like to know whether UMP has paid these debts, if so please provide copies of the invoices. If no payment has been made, then why not? Please answer by 17 February 1999.

Yours faithfully

Marie-Noëlle FERRIEUX PATTERSON
OMBUDSMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

Enclosures.



Office of the Ombudsman Bureau du Médiateur Ofis blong Ombudsman



Our Ref:

1901/7033/L54/mb

(Please quote this reference in all correspondence)\

19 March 1999

Mr Mark Bebe Director of Finance Department of Finance PMB 041 PORT VILA

Dear Sir

ALLEGED OUTSTANDING OF UMP DEBTS OWING TO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

In my letter dated 4.3.99 (copy enclosed), I asked you for particular information and/or documents in connection with my enquiry into this matter. .Our records show that we have not yet received your response to that request.

Please respond to my request by 25 March 1999. As I have already advised you, if you do not produce the required documents and information in response to this letter by the above date, this Office can issue a Notice under the Ombudsman Act compelling you to come to the office to give evidence and to produce the documents and information.

Warning: The Constitution and the Ombudsman Act state that the Ombudsman's inquiries are confidential until a public report is made. The Act says that you cannot discuss this investigation, this letter, or any other information that comes from the Office of the Ombudsman, except with your lawyer. The penalty for breaking this law is 6 months in jail or a fine of Vt 100,000 or both. Please contact me if you have any questions about this warning.

I look forward to hearing from you. Please quote our reference number above in any correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Pasa TOSUSU

Director for General Complaints

For Marie-Noëlle FERRIEUX PATTERSON OMBUDSMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

Enclosures: Copy of letter 4.3.99

6, Port Vila, Vanuatu

Tel: (678) 27200 / 26757

Fax: (678) 27140



GOLVERNMENT OF LI REPUBLIOU E ME UNIVERSE

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SERVICE DES FINANCES



Appendix "F"

FOR FRINARING OF THE REPUBLIC DEPLINE LIT

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

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March 24, 1999

The Office of the Ombudsman Private Mail Bag 081 Port Vila

Attention: Pasa Toususu

Dear Madam,

Subject: Outstanding Debt of UMP Party.

I refer to your letters of 4th and 19th March 1999, and advise that, I have inquired into the debts of UMP in our system, and apparently there is no evidence of follow up from the Finance Department on the invoices issued for the last few years. However, there was follow ups on other UMP related accounts with the Government amounting to 2.2 Million varu.

As this matter has been unattended for more than a year, I will now reissue the invoices and will forward a formal request to the State Law Office on the possibility of pursuing legal Action against the UMP, to recover monies owing to the Government.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely

Mark Peter Bebe Director of Finance.

CC: Revenue Section.

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Appendix "G" Office or me Omouusman Bureau du Médiateur Ofis blong Ombudsman



Our Ref:

5335/7034/L54/mb

(Please quote this reference in all correspondence)

16 July 1999

Mr. Mark Bebe Director of Finance PMB 031 Port Vila

Dear Sir

ALLEGED OUTSTANDING DEBTS OWED BY UMP TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

In my letter dated 4 May 1999 (copy and attachments are enclosed), I asked you for particular information and/or documents in connection with my enquiry into this matter. Our records show that we have not yet received your response to that request.

Please respond to my request by 27 July 1999, by producing a report including but not limited to the following:

1. Confirm that vt255.322 on invoice No. 5223 of 24.10.94 and vt222.600 on invoice No. 7175 of 19.08.96 are still outstanding. If settled provide evidence, If not, provide us your explantions:

2. Confirm that Financial Regulations of the Republic of Vanuatu; regulations 67 and 68 have been complied with if yes, provide evidence. If not, why not?; and 3. Any other documents or information that you consider relevant to this matter.

If you do not respond to this request, this Office can issue a Notice compelling you to come to the Office to give evidence and to provide the required information and documents.

Warning: The Constitution and the Ombudsman Act state that the Ombudsman's inquiries are confidential until a public report is made. The Act says that you cannot discuss this investigation, this letter, or any other information that comes from the Office of the Ombudsman, except with your lawyer. The penalty for breaking this law is 6 months in jail or a fine of Vt 100,000 or both. Please contact me if you have any questions about this

Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. Please quote our reference number above in any correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Pasa Posusu

Director for General Complaints

For: Marie-Noëlle FERRIEUX PATTERSON

ACTING OMBUDSMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

Enclosures: copy of letter and documentations

P.M.B 081, Port Vila, Vanuaru

A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY

Tel: (673) 27200 / 26757

Fax: (678) 27140

Email: ombud.vt@vanuatu.com.vu



Appendix "G"

Office of the Omougsman Bureau du Médiateur Ofis blong Ombudsman



Our Ref:

5335/7034/L54/mb

(Please quote this reference in all correspondence)

16 July 1999

Mr. Mark Bebe Director of Finance PMB 031 Port Vila

Dear Sir

ALLEGED OUTSTANDING DEBTS OWED BY UMP TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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2. Confirm that Financial Regulations of the Republic of Vanuatu; regulations 67 and 68

have been complied with if yes, provide evidence. If not, why not?; and

3. Any other documents or information that you consider relevant to this matter.

If you do not respond to this request, this Office can issue a Notice compelling you to come to the Office to give evidence and to provide the required information and documents.

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Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. Please quote our reference number above in any correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Pasa Posusu

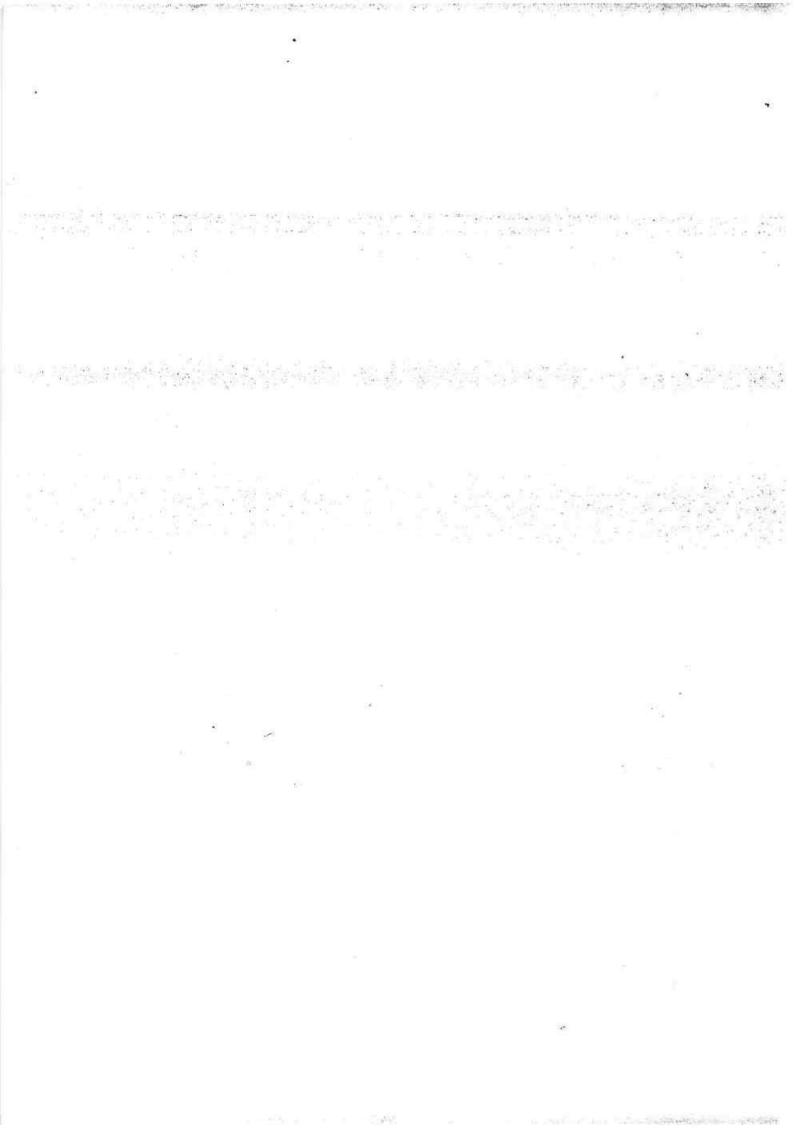
Director for General Complaints

For: Marie-Noëlle FERRIEUX PATTERSON

ACTING OMBUDSMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

Enclosures: copy of letter and documentations

Fax: (678) 27140



GOUVERNMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE L'ANUATU

SERVICE DES FINANCES

Jan Postal Deve No. 031, Port Fila.

YOUR REK VREF

OUR REF



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UNIVERTI

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Communic Adjust hing 1937. Morey Stills

Date 12th August 1999

Mr. Pasa Posusu Director for General Complaints Office of the Ombudsman P.O Box 126 VILA

Dear Sir

I refer to your letter dated 16th July 1999 ref: 5335/7034/L54/mb. The mentioned invoice in your letter were manual invoices, that means this has not been recorded by the system until paid, so we have no other documents or whatsoever relating to these two invoices.

These two invoices were recently entered into the system on 24th March 1999 under one invoice number for a total amount of Vt.477.922.

- 1) I wish to confirm that this invoice still remains unsettled.
- This has only been entered into the Government financial system, refer to the above paragraph and so far we have only sent out one reminded.
- We have no other documents relating to this matter except the description on this invoice.

Full reports on these invoices will have to be obtained from Public Works Department. A written report on this debt will be submitted to the Attorney General Chambers shortly for legal proceedings as soon as we have these reports from Public Works Department.

Mark Bebe

Director of Finance

FINANCE

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Appendix "I"

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GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UNIVERT

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

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Phone - 2-18+3

MEMO

October 19, 2000

To: Chief Accountant Revenue Manager Exchequer Pay Mistress

From: Director of Finance

Subject: Release of UMP Cheques.

Following our instruction to withheld all payments due to UMP Party, we have now had the opportunity to discuss the issue with representatives of UMP. They now have made arrangement to settle their outstanding account with the Government on an installment basis. This installments will be deducted from the monthly contributions made by party members through assignment of their Salaries. As per instruction given (attach) you are to deduct vt5 000 from the contribution on a forthnightly basis, commencing on the 27th October 2000 until the account have been fully settled.

With this new arrangement in place, I now instruct you to release the cheques currently held by us to the representatives of UMP.

Thank you.

Mark Peter Bebe 1 Director of Finance

CC: Jack Nirua - Secretary - UMP

1/2

GOUVERNEMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

MINISTERE DES FINANCES ET DE LA GESTION ECONOMIQUE (MFGE)

SERVICE DES FINANCES ET DE LA GESTION ECONOMIQUE



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT (MFEM)

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

Raynolds T. Garae Senior Investigator For: Hannington G Alatoa Ombudsman of the Republic of Vanuatu. 2 6 SEP 2002 OMBUDSMAN

25th September 2002.

Re: Outstanding Debt UMP PWD Vt.477.922

I refer to your letter of 9th September 2001 to advice that the Finance department was not involved in the original arrangement of how the outstanding figure came about. The finance department just came in to assist both provinces to recover the outstanding.

I enclosed for your information copy of the invoices. There are two separate invoices that summed up to the amount you mentioned in your letter.

You may Contact Malampa and Shefa for further clarification about the arrangement. The Finance manages to recover Vt.175, 000 from the contribution from party members toward the outstanding that leaves Vt.302, 922 yet to recover.

The finance will continue to recover from any payment payable to UMP until the full amount of the outstanding is fully recovered.

Jimmy Andeng

Director of Finance & Economic Development

Appendix "K"



Office of the Ombudsman Bureau du Médiateur Ofis blong Ombudsman



Our Ref: 2390/7034/L54/is

(Please quote this reference in all correspondence)

3 October, 2002

Hon. Jacque Sese Minister of Education Ministry of Education PMB 028 Port Vila

Dear Honorable Jack Sese

RE ALLEGED OUTSTANDING DEBTS BY THE UMP TO THE PUBLIC WORKS - VT477.922

This Office is enquiring into the above matter.

In 1994 the UMP took 19 drums of petrol from the PWD on Malekula to use at their congress. Mr. Serge Vohor spoke to Mr. Gratiano Ruru about the petrol and informed Mr. Ruru that UMP would replace those drums. The total invoice was VT255.322. The other outstanding debts of VT222.600 relates to hiring of G123 Toyota Dyna by UMP during their congress at Erakor in August 1996.

The total debt stood at VT477.922. Following our numerous exchange of correspondences between the former Director of Finance, Mr. Mark Bebe, the UMP managed to reduce the debt to only VT302.922. From the recent response from Mr. Jimmy Adeng, the current Director of Finance, the last transaction was made in January. 2002. (Refer to Mr. Adeng's letter dated 25 September. 2002.)

As you can see these invoices are dated back to 8 years and 6 years respectively but VI302.922 is still outstanding. The UMP is refunding approximately a mere VT1.823 each month.

UMP is a well organized party with many prominent individuals and we believe that should the former Director of Finance, Mr. Mark Bebe, properly dealt with the issue the dept could have been settled a long time ago.

In this respect we suggest that a meeting be convened between UMP appropriate personnel including you as National Treasurer of UMP and the Department of Finance to settle the outstanding account.

Your response by 17 October 2002 on this matter would be appreciated.

3.3.1.3 081. Part Vila.

Tel: (678) 27200 | 26757

Fax: (#5 - 140

Email: omb www.vu@vanuatu.com.vu

Confidentiality is important and is protected by s.28 of the Ombudsman Act. Breaching confidentiality may constitute an offence. This correspondence is directed only to you and anyone in your office with whom it is necessary to communicate in order to provide the information requested. If you have any question about the extent of confidentiality in this matter, please contact the Ombudsman's Office to discuss it.

You may appreciate the fact that we are writing to you with the hope and trust that as a prominent UMP member and, at the same time Minister of Education, you will assist to sort out the matter once and for all.

Please contact the Ombudsman's office if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. Please quote our reference number above in any correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Raynolds T Garae Senior Investigator

For : Hannington G ALATOA

OMBUDSMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

Enclosure: copy of letter from Jimmy Adeng



Appendix "K" Office of the Ombudsman Bureau du Médiateur Ofis blong Ombudsman



Our Ref: -2389/7034/L54/ga

(Please quote this reference in all correspondence)

3 October, 2002

Mr. George Andrews Director General Ministry of Finance Port Vila

Dear Sir

RE ALLEGED OUTSTANDING DEBTS BY THE UMP TO THE PUBLIC WORKS - VT477.922

This Office is enquiring into the above matter.

In 1994 the UMP took 19 drums of petrol from the PWD on Malekula to use at their congress. Mr. Serge Vohor spoke to Mr. Gratiano Ruru about the petrol and informed Mr. Ruru that UMP would replace those drums. The total invoice was VT255.322. The other outstanding debts of VT222.600 relates to hiring of G123 Toyota Dyna by UMP during their congress at Erakor in August 1996.

The total debt stood at VT477.922. Following our numerous exchange of correspondences between the former Director of Finance, Mr. Mark Bebe, the UMP managed to reduce the debt to only VT302.922. From the recent response from Mr. Jimmy Adeng, the current Director of Finance, the last transaction was made in January, 2002. (Refer to Mr. Adeng's letter dated 25 September, 2002.)

As you can see these invoices are dated back to 8 years and 6 years respectively but VT302.922 is still outstanding. The UMP is refunding approximately a mere VT1.823 each month. Can you imagine the biggest UMP refunding only VT1.823 every month. This is a joke. Would the Finance Department treat an individual in the same manner? We do not think so.

Considering the situation we are of the view that the former Director of Finance Department did not take serious action to recover the debt, therefore, we suggest that a meeting be convened between your Ministry, the Department of Finance and the UMF representatives, including Hon, Jack Sese, Minister of Education, (as National Treasurer of UMP) to settle the outstanding account.

We are also writing to Hon. Jacque Sese on this matter.

Your response by 17 October 2002 on this matter would be appreciated.

As you may be aware that where a person fails to provide answers to the requests of the Ombudsman, this Office will issue a Notice compelling that person to come to the Office to give evidence and to provide the required information and documents.

Fax: (673) 27140

uatu Tel: (573) 27200 / 26757 Email: omoud. ((2)yanuatu.com.yu Confidentiality is important and is protected by s.28 of the Ombudsman Act. Breaching confidentiality may constitute an offence. This correspondence is directed only to you and anyone in your office with whom it is necessary to communicate in order to provide the information requested. If you have any question about the extent of confidentiality in this matter, please contact the Ombudsman's Office to discuss it.

You may appreciate the fact that we are writing to you with the hope and trust that as Director General you will assist to sort out the matter once and for all.

Please contact the Ombudsman's office if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. Please quote our reference number above in any correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Rayholds T Garae Senior Investigator

For :Hannington G ALATOA
OMBUDSMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATION

Enclosure: copy of letter from Jimmy Adeng

Jimmy Adeng, Director of Finance Cc:

Appendix "K"



Office of the Ombudsman Bureau du Médiateur Ofis blong Ombudsman



Our Ref: 2391/7034/L54/sv

(Please quote this reference in all correspondence)

3 October, 2002

Hon. Serge Vohor Deputy Prime Minister PMB 051 Port Vila

Dear Honorable Serge Vohor

RE ALLEGED OUTSTANDING DEBTS BY THE UMP TO THE PUBLIC WORKS - VT477.922

This Office is enquiring into the above matter.

You may recall that In 1994 the UMP took 19 drums of petrol from the PWD on Malekula to use at their congress. You then advised Mr. Gratiano Ruru about the petrol and informed Mr. Ruru that UMP would replace those drums. The total invoice was VT255.322. The other outstanding debts of VT222.600 relates to hiring of G123 Toyota Dyna by UMP during their congress at Erakor in August 1996.

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As you can see these invoices are dated back to 8 years and 6 years respectively but VT302.922 is still outstanding. The UMP is refunding approximately a mere VT1.823 each month.

UMP is a well organized party with many prominent individuals and we believe that should the former Director of Finance, Mr. Mark Bebe, properly dealt with the issue the debt could have been settled a long time ago.

In this respect we suggest that a meeting be convened between UMP appropriate personnel including you as Head of UMP and the Department of Finance to settle the cutstanding account once and for all.

Your response by 17 October 2002 on this matter would be appreciated.

Confidentiality is important and is protected by s.28 of the Ombudsman Act. Breaching confidentiality may constitute an offence. This correspondence is directed only to you and anyone in your office with whom it is necessary to communicate in order to provide the information requested. If you have any question about the extent of confidentiality in this matter, please contact the Ombudsman's Office to discuss it.

You may appreciate the fact that we are writing to you with the hope and trust that as a prominent UMP member and, Deputy Prime Minister, you will assist to sort out the matter once and for all.

Please contact the Ombudsman's office if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. Please quote our reference number above in any correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Raynolds T Garae Senior Investigator

For : Hannington G ALATOA

OMBUDSMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

Enclosure: copy of letter from Jimmy Adeng

GOUVERNEMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

MINISTERE DES FINANCES ET DE LA GESTION ECONOMIQUE

SAC POSTAL PRIVE 9058, PORT VILA, VANUATU TEL: (678) 23032 FAX: (678) 27937



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

PRIVATE MAIL BAG 9058, PORT VILA, VANUATU TEL:(678) 23032 FAX: (678) 27937

URGENT

10 March 2003

(Attention: Mr. Raynolds T. Garae)
The Ombudsman of the Republic of Vanuatu
Office of the Ombudsman
PMB No. 9081
Port Vila.

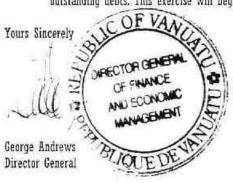
Dear Mr. Garae

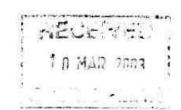
Re: Alleged O/S Debts by UMP to the PWD - VT477,922

Refer to you're your letter Ref. 3365/7034/L54/ga dated 1 March 2003.

I have not seen the letter you referred to in October 2002, however, here is my response:

- We have established a Debt Recovery Task Force in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management to examine ways and means of recovering more than VT500million in debts owing to the government. As part this exercise we will be looking at this particular debt.
- A public notice will be issued to all persons owing monies to the government to pay up within the next two weeks. Failing, we will publish the names of all government debtors at the end of March.
- By this time we intend to use the services of Debt Collecting Agencies to assist us collect the outstanding debts. This exercise will begin in April 2003.





Appendix "M"

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Private Mail Bag 028 Port Vila, Vanuatu

Tel.: (678) 23557 / Fax: (678) 24569

GOUVERNMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

MINISTRE DE L'EDUCATION

Sac De Courrier Privé 028 Port Vila, Vanuatu Tel.: (678) 23557 - Fax: (678) 24569

14 February 2003

Mr Hannington ALATOA OMBUDSMAN Of the Republic of Vanuatu Ofis blong Ombudsman P.M.B. 081 Port Vila

Ref.: 3364/7034/L54/js

Dia Ombudsman,

RE-ALLEGED OUTSTANDING DEBTS BY THE UMP TO THE PUBLIC WORKS - VT477.922.

Mi aknolejem tru long leta ja se mi bin risivim leta blong yu blong deit 7 Mj 2003 mo mi wandem letem yu save se mi nogat eni dokumentesen abaot isiu we i stap antap we mi mi stat blong save tru long kopi blong leta blong yu i kam long mi we yu detem long 3 Oktoba 2002.

Folem ol tingting ia mi save konfirm nomo se UMP Parti i gat kaon long Vanuatu Gavman from we Parti hemi traem blong sotemaot kaon ia tru long didaksen blong ol salari blong olgeta Minista, ol PA mo olgeta sapot staff blong ol ministri we UMP hemi responsibol long hem.

Olgeta didaksen ia i stat long 2001, 2002 mo 2003 be mi sore blong luk se ol stetmen blong Dipartmen blong Faenens oli no soemaot ol didaksen ia. Mi hop se bambae oli provaedem stret mo tru balens we i stap olsem kaon blong UMP.

Blong finisim informesen blong mi, mi wandem talem se i gat sam kwesten we mi stap lukact ol ansa long hem let olsem :

(1) Hu i otoraesem olgeta ekspensis ia blong Malakula mo Erakor?

na Erakor hemi blong UMP o UMP NATORA?

Sapos mi gat moa i

letem yu save.

Yours Sincerely,

EDUCATION

MINISTRE DE L'EDUGATION

Hon. Jacques SE Minister of Education

P.M.B. 028 - PORT VILA - REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

Phone: (678) 22309 Fax: (678) 24569

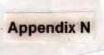
REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PMB 044, PORT VILA VANUATU Tel +678 22888



REPUBLIQUE DU VANUATU

SERVICE des TRAVAUX PUBLICS PMB 044, PORT VILA VANUATU Fax +678 24495



Port-Vila, October 8th, 2003

Our Ref: 641 103/7-53

Mr Hannington ALATOA

OMBUDSMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU P.M.B 081 PORT-VILA



Dear sir,

RE: Working paper on the alleged unreasonable delay in recovering debt from Union of Moderate party (UMP).

Leta ia hemi blong informem yu, se mifala I bin writem wan leta iko long Minister blong Education blong WOKON Vincent I save kat wan appointment wetern hem about matter we I stap long subject, but Minister I bin stap long oversea mo tu President blong Party.

Reason blong meetim Minister blong education, hemi from long leta blong hem "appendix M", hemi mentionem se oli should deductem salary blong olgeta Minister, ol PA mo olgeta support staff blong Ministry we UMP I responsible long hem.

Tingting blong mitim Minister blong Education, hemi blong finemaot stret, olgeta we bae yumi save deductem salary blong olgeta.

Taem Wokon Vincent I mitim minister, bae mifala I informem office blong yu.

(Attached copy blong leta we mifala I sendem iko long Minister blong Education).

Yours Faithfully.

Mr KALWAJIN Skepha Acting Director, PWD.

CC: Wokon Vincent

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PMB 044, PORT VILA VANUATU



REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU SERVICE des TRAVAUX PUBLICS S.P.R. 044, PORT VILA

APPENDIX N

TEL: (678) 22888

Email: pwdho@vanuatu.com.vu

FAX: (678) 24495

VANUATU

MEMORANDUM

Date:

30th September 2003

Ref. 625/03/7.3

From / Du:

Director - Public Works Department

To/A:

Hon. Minister of Education

Subject / Objet:

Meeting for Outstanding Invoices for UMP

Wetem smol note ia, mi wantem askem long yu, supos hemi possible, ikat wan staff blong PWD (WOKON Vincent), I save kame meeting yu long Thursday 2nd October 2003, long 9.30 am, about outstanding blong UMP wetem Dept. blong PWD.

Bae Officer ia, I contactem yu later, blong finemaot supos yu agreed long meeting hem long time ia.

Bae mifala I appreciatem tumas cooperation blong yu.

Kalwajin Skepha Acxting-Director

Public Works Department



GOUVERNEMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU VANUATU

VW

CABINET DU VICE PREMIER MINISTRE

MINISTERE DES
AFFAIRES ETRANGERES,
COMMERCE EXTERIEUR,
COOPERATION ECONOMIQUE,
FRANCOPHONIE ET
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Ref: DPMMEDIATEUR01 V/ Réf: 4537/7034/L78/rsv



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, EXTERNAL TRADE, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, FRANCOPHONIE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Appendix O

Port-Vila, Mercredi 09 Juillet 2003

M. Hannington G. ALATOA Médiateur de la République du Vanuatu

RE: ALLEGED UNREASONABLE DELAY IN RECOVERING DEBT FROM UNION OF MODERATE PARTY BY THE PUBLIC WORKS AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Monsieur le Médiateur,

Suite à votre rapport du 3 Juillet 2003 Ref 7094/2003/24, j'ai l'honneur de rejeter la dette qui m'est débitée incorrectement, injustement et illégalement.

En tant que Président de l'Union des Partis Modérés, je n'ai jamais donné ni d'instruction verbale, ni d'instruction écrite à qui que ce soit pour de telles dépenses décrites dans votre rapport.

Je vous prie de trouver une pièce à conviction prouvant le contraire. Je vous remercie de votre diligence et de votre confiance.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Médiateur, l'assurance de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

S.E.M. Serge Rialuth VOHOR

Vice-Premier Ministre et Ministre des Affaires Etrangere

Président de l'Union des Partis Modérés

Tel: (678) 27045 - Fax: (678) 27832 - Sac Postal Confidentiel 074, Port-Vila, République du VANUATU

