



Opening Remarks by Mr. Brian Winji
The Telecommunications, Radiocommunications and
Broadcasting Regulator,
The Chairman of the Global Symposium for Regulators
on the occasion of the Opening of ITU GSR2019
Warwick, Port Vila, Vanuatu

**Your Excellencies,
The Prime Minister of Vanuatu, The Hon. Charlot S. Tabimasma,
Hon. Ministers of Vanuatu,
Hon. Ministers of ITU Member States,
Secretary General of ITU, Mr. Houlin Zhao,
Director of Telecommunications Development Bureau, Mrs. Doreen
Bogdan-Martin
Elected Officials of the ITU,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen....**

1. It is with **great honour and respect**, as the Chairman for this event, and on behalf of my fellow colleague Regulators in the Pacific Region, take this opportunity to thank you all respected delegates who have come from far, far and near to present in this very important and high level meeting.
2. I thank you all and especially your Excellencies and the Hon. Ministers of the ITU states for making up your time to travel and attend this meeting, and be part of live discussions, debates and **experience our connected lifestyle, connect with our natural beauty** and experience the level of communications development in this part of the world.
3. I also want to take this opportunity to thank the hard working staff of the ITU and the country host, the Government of Vanuatu for investing your resources to make this event a good start already!

4. And I thank the Interpreters who will make it easier for all of us throughout this week to understand each other and **promote inclusivity connectivity** at our level of discussions and presentations.

Excellencies, Honourable Ministers and Distinguish Delegates!

5. I am very honoured as a young Regulator, to take up the responsibility of Chairmanship, to have you all, distinguished personalities, ICT development Experts, Policy and Regulatory Experts, ICT Innovators, the ICT service and product suppliers to be here with us today and throughout the week to share with us your unique experiences and the global common issue which must somehow be addressed at our level.
6. This week's interactive sessions as you can see from the program are based on practical regulatory experiences which we can learn and build from to connect the remaining citizens who are still experiencing traditional modes of communications.
7. Inclusive Connectivity is a big topic that is not only setting the scene for discussions but can challenge our regulatory approach as to how we can better improve or efficiently assist with creating and promoting conducive regulatory environment that will bring in the remaining citizens.
8. There will be challenges ahead of us in connecting **“the disconnect”**, particularly on some specific consumer experiences. I would like to give you my favourite example, the connected consumers who are now disconnecting

them from practical experiences and spend more time with their favourite devices and **virtual reality**.

Excellencies, Honourable Ministers and Distinguish Guests!

9. The **Fast Technology Evolution** has “no waiting time” for the Policy Makers and the Regulators to take more time debating the issues contributing to the progression of the establishment of the Regulatory environment, but signal the need to collaborate **appropriately and transparently**. Thus the need of having such high level meeting to bring experts together to discuss workable way forward to address issues encountered at all levels.
10. I am sure the sessions throughout the week will provide all of us this incredible opportunity to share our knowledge and experiences, and learn from each other and at the same time experience the natural beauty of our islands in the Pacific, and here in Port Vila.
11. May I also take this opportunity to wish you all the best throughout this week and encourage you to let us know any experiences or issues that needed our attention on for redress and we will attend to.

Thank you!
