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Validation Workshop on First National Financial Inclusion Strategy (NFIS)

The Reserve Bank of Vanuatu (RBV), in partnership with the Pacific Financial Inclusion Program (PFIP), will conduct a validation workshop on Vanuatu's first National Financial Inclusion Strategy (NFIS) with key stakeholders from industry, relevant government and consumer representatives on Thursday 8th March, 2018. The validation workshop will be held at the RBV Building.

The validation workshop follows from the completion of the one-to-one consultation process on the NFIS which was organized by the RBV and PFIP in July 2017. Following on from these consultations, a draft NFIS was formulated based on the feedbacks received during those discussions. In October 2017, the draft NFIS was completed and sent to all key stakeholders for their review. The final phase of the consultation process is the validation session.

The key objectives of this workshop are to: (i) Present the final draft of the NFIS; (ii) Seek final input from participants on its entirety as to whether the document well represents the stakeholders' views and proposals for further improvements; and (iii) Provide suggestions for way forward. All key stakeholders of Financial Inclusion in Vanuatu are invited to attend this validation session for their final inputs before the RBV finalizes the document.

The NFIS is the policy document that provides the roadmap of the financial inclusion journey with the ultimate aim of improving access to and usage of appropriate financial services by the underserved adult population and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) in Vanuatu. The strategy focuses on four key priority areas that are critical to achieving progress in financial

inclusion in Vanuatu. These are; creating an enabling policy environment and financial infrastructure; promoting and foster inclusive products and services channels; MSME finance & development; and financial literacy & consumer empowerment.

The Financial Inclusion Strategy is scheduled to be launched on the 28th of this month.

The Reserve Bank of Vanuatu