



PRESS RELEASE

The Trade Dispute Tribunal wishes to advise the public on its roles, procedures and process, and the fees. Trade Dispute Tribunal in other words may refer to as the “Employment Tribunal” begun its operations to serve the workers or employers who are aggrieved at their workplace. This tribunal is an informal court set up under the Trade Dispute Act [CAP162].

Our roles are to consider the facts tendered by the employers and employees and make a decision following the relevant laws. We only make decision on trade disputes cases. A trade dispute case has to be between a worker and his employer or between workers and workers. Trade disputes are grievances arising from a contract of employment, termination, suspension, matters of disciplines, conditions of work at the work place, membership and facilities of trade union members, and machinery of negotiations are some but not an exhaustive list.

The procedure and process of the Tribunal is shown in the flow chart below.



The worker or employer may nominate a person to represent him but that person must not be a lawyer. Lawyers are not allowed. Rules of evidence that applies in the supreme and magistrate court does not apply at the Tribunal.

Tribunal has fees for the worker or employer to pay. The Claim fee is VT 10,000, and when a Defendant has a counter-claim the fee is VT 5,000. This is a one-off fee to pay.

Since, the Tribunal has limited time frame, our rules allow us to strike out case if you do not attend and may make a decision in the absence of a party.

We are established by the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu to settle your trade dispute within 3 months and you do not have to pay any huge amount of legal cost.

Do not hesitate to contact our Office on 33200 Voip 2585 for more information, and you are welcome to visit our Office at the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the Former Land Transport Office to ask questions about the tribunal.



OUR LOCATION

Ministry of Internal Affairs

Below is our Office.

