



Press Release: GOVERNMENT SIGNS AMENDMENT TO NISCOL CONCESSION AGREEMENT

Luganville, Santo – 3rd July 2025 | The Government of the Republic of Vanuatu, through the collaborative leadership of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Minister of Internal Affairs, and the Minister of Infrastructure and Public Utilities, and witnessed by the Minister of Lands, today officiated the signing of the Amendment to the NISCOL Concession Agreement. The ceremony was held at the NISCOL compound in Luganville.

Delivering his official remarks, the Minister of Internal Affairs described the occasion as *“more than just a formality”*, affirming that the agreement is a reaffirmation of a shared commitment to responsible, transparent, and productive port operations in the northern provinces.

“Ports are the heartbeat of island economies,” the Minister stated. *“They connect our islands to markets, supply chains, and essential services that support the well-being of our people.”*



He emphasized that the Addendum to the Concession Agreement is the outcome of thorough consultation, reflection, and negotiation, and that it ensures the partnership between the Government and NISCOL continues to serve the interests of the people of northern Vanuatu.

The original NISCOL Concession Agreement, granted in November 2015, remains valid for a 50-year term. The amendment signed today does not extend the concession period, but rather introduces improvements designed to enhance the performance, accountability, and governance of the company.



The amendment includes the following key provisions:

- Expands NISCOL's business activities beyond stevedoring, enabling it to engage in additional commercial ventures.
- Allows for increased investment in company assets and human resources.
- Grants authority to manage other neighbouring wharfs, including **Litzlitz Wharf**.
- Provides flexibility in working hours and the recruitment of new staff to support operational demands.
- Clarifies NISCOL's obligations regarding wharf management.
- Strengthens internal governance structures to enhance performance and ensure profitability for shareholders.

The Minister highlighted the alignment of this amendment with national objectives under the **National Sustainable Development Plan**, especially in the areas of:

- Infrastructure and service delivery,
- Good governance and transparent public-private partnerships, and
- Empowering provincial and local economic participation.

This signing marks a significant milestone in the Government's efforts to enhance port operations and public-private partnerships in Vanuatu. It represents not the final destination, but a critical step toward a future where our ports are managed in a modern, efficient, and accountable manner—delivering shared value for all ni-Vanuatu. The Government expresses its confidence that this amended agreement will serve as a model for future collaborations, founded on mutual respect, transparency, and inclusive economic growth for our provinces and people.

For media enquiries,

Send an email through our website: [Ministry of Internal Affairs of Vanuatu](https://moia.gov.vu)

Contact: 33200

Ministry of Internal Affairs

P.M.B 9036, PORT VILA, VANUATU



Pres Rilis: NASONAL GAVMEN I SAENEM AKRIMEN BLONG AMENDEM LONG NISCOL CONCESSION

Luganville, Santo – 3th July 2025 | Gavman blong Ripablik blong Vanuatu, anda long wok tugeta blong Deputy Prime Minister mo Minista blong Finance, Minista blong Internal Affairs, mo Minista blong Infrastructure mo Public Utilities, mo wetnes hemi Minista blong Lands, i mekem ofisiol saen blong *Amendem NISCOL Concession Akrimen* tede long NISCOL compound long Luganville.

Long toktok blong hem, Minista blong Internal Affairs i talem se folem saen ia i no wan formaliti, be i wan impoten step blong strongim wok tugeta blong ol patna long gud fasin blong wok, transperen governance mo prodaktiv port operesen long ol provins long not.

“Hafen hemi hat blong ekonomi long ol aelan,” Minista i talem. “Hemi konektem yumi long ol maket, saplae mo ol impoten sevis we i stap sapotem gud fasin blong laef blong ol pipol.”



Minista i talem se amendmen ia hemi kamaot afta long plante miting, tingting mo tokbaot, mo i soem strong tingting blong Gavman mo NISCOL blong mekem partnership ia i gohed blong sevem gud intres blong pipol blong not Vanuatu.



NISCOL Concession Agreement we i bin stat long Novemba 2015, i stap valid blong 50 yia. Amendmen oli saenem tede i no ekstendem taem blong akrimen, be i mekem sam impoten jenis blong impruvum wok, akontabiliti mo gud fasin blong jajem performens blong kampani.

Sam moa samting we i stap insaed long amendem:

- NISCOL i save go aot moa long wok blong stevedoring mo open long ol narafala bisnis.
- Kampani i save invest moa long ol asset mo wokman.
- Kampani i save managem ol narafala wharf olsem Litzlitz Wharf.
- Kampani i save wok long fleksibol haoa mo tekem moa wokman blong mitim demand.
- I klia long ol risponsibiliti blong kampani long saed blong managem wharf.
- I putum strong governance insaed blong kampani blong mekem i save mekem gud wok mo benefitim ol shareholder.

Minista i talem tu se ol jenis ia i go stret long ol national prioriti insaed long National Sustainable Development Plan, long saed blong:

- Gud infrastraka mo sevis
- Gud governance mo transperen partnership long pablik mo praevet sektor
- Mo strongim partisipesen blong provins mo local ekonomi

Saen ia hemi wan bigfala step blong stretem gud ol port operation mo gud wok tugeta long pablik mo praevet sektor. Hem i no lasfala step, be wan impoten pat long rod blong mekem ol port blong yumi oli blong tede, oli save wok moa gud, save mekem benefit i go long olgeta ni-Vanuatu.

Blong save moa,

Visitim website blong MoIA: <https://moia.gov.vu>

Ring long: 33200

Ministry blong Internal Affairs

PMB 9036, Port Vila, Vanuatu