



SOLOMON ISLANDS GAZETTE

NO. 126

Wednesday 2nd September

2026

EXTRA-ORDINARY GAZETTE

[707]

SHIPPING ACT 1998

(No. 5 of 1998)

MARINE INQUIRY INTO MV ANJEANETTE CASUALTY AND APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF MARINE INQUIRY

I, Thierry Nervale, Director of the Solomon Islands Maritime Authority, give notice of the following:

1 Marine Inquiry

Under section 84(c) of the *Shipping Act 1998*, a Marine Inquiry is caused into the fire that occurred onboard the Motor Vessel Anjeanette (“MV Anjeanette”) at the Wate 2 domestic jetty, Point Cruz, Honiara, on 4 July 2026, the subsequent sinking and total loss of the vessel off Ngella on 5 July 2026, and the presumed loss of life arising from the casualty.

2 Appointment of Board of Marine Inquiry

Under section 86(1) of the *Shipping Act 1998*, the following persons are appointed to the Board of Marine Inquiry (“the Board”) to conduct the Marine Inquiry:

- (a) Leonard B. Chite, as the Chairman;
- (b) Simon I. Wame, as a member;
- (c) George Tatireta, as a member.

3 Term of Marine Inquiry and appointments

The term of the Marine Inquiry and the appointments is on and from 1 September 2026 to and including 31 October 2026.

4 Terms of reference

The Board shall inquire into and report on the following matters:

- (a) the circumstances, sequence of events and causes or contributing factors relating to the fire, explosions, sinking and total loss of MV Anjeanette;
- (b) the circumstances relating to the reported missing person, Joseph Tauto,

who is presumed to have died as a result of the casualty;

- (c) cargo acceptance, cargo documentation, loading, stowage, dangerous goods, fire-risk cargo, use of accommodation spaces for cargo, and compliance with applicable maritime requirements;
- (d) the control, recording and accounting of all persons onboard, including crew, contractors, workers, visitors and other noncrew persons;
- (e) manning, certification, seafarer employment arrangements, watchkeeping, fire patrols, crew preparedness and senior command arrangements while the vessel was loaded at berth;
- (f) initial firefighting, abandonment of the vessel, emergency communications, port response, decisions to tow the vessel, salvage options, search and rescue coordination, pollution risk and marine pollution response;
- (g) whether any failure of duty, misconduct, breach of law or noncompliance with maritime obligations may have contributed to the casualty or response;
- (h) safety issues requiring corrective action by the owner, operator, master, crew, charterer, cargo interests, the Solomon Islands Maritime Authority, the Solomon Islands Ports Authority, Fire and Rescue Service, Royal Solomon Islands Police Force or any other relevant person or agency;
- (i) recommendations required to prevent similar casualties and strengthen domestic maritime safety, response coordination and regulatory oversight.

5 Conduct of Marine Inquiry

The Board must conduct the Marine Inquiry in accordance with the *Shipping Act 1998* and the *Shipping (Marine Inquiries and Investigations) Regulations 2011*.

6 Report

The Board must make a report in writing to the Director of the Solomon Islands Maritime Authority by 31 October 2026.

Dated this first-day of September 2026.

THIERRY NERVALE

DIRECTOR OF SOLOMON ISLANDS MARITIME AUTHORITY
