



Nauru Bulletin

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President Kun meets Australian PM Albanese for first bilateral meeting

His Excellency President Russ Kun met with Australia's Prime Minister Anthony Albanese for their first bilateral meeting in Brisbane on 27 April.

"I am pleased to meet with Prime Minister Albanese to discuss matters of importance, cooperation and priority for our countries," President Kun said.

"Our two countries have had a close relationship and longstanding partnership that will continue for the advancement of our countries, people and the region."

President Kun and Prime Minister Albanese discussed Nauru and Australia's shared priorities for regional security, climate resilience and regional connectivity.

Australia is supporting infrastructure projects in Nauru through the Australian Infrastructure



President Kun's first bilateral meeting with PM Albanese since taking office in September 2022

Financing Facility for the Pacific. These include Nauru's Airport Refurbishment Project and the East Micronesia Cable Project.

"Australia and Nauru have a strong and longstanding partnership, and we continue to stand together as members of the Pacific family," Prime Minister Albanese said.

Prime Minister Albanese reaffirmed that his government is committed to deepening ties with our Pacific family through partnerships built on trust, cooperation and shared aspirations for our region.

President Kun was accompanied by Nauru's High Commissioner to Australia Camilla Solomon, Secretary for Foreign Affairs & Trade Dominic Tabuna, and Principal Secretary to the President Sasi Kumar. The Australian High Commissioner to Nauru Dr Helen Cheney was also in attendance •

Anzacs remembered in Nauru dawn service

His Excellency, the Acting President Wawani Dowiyogo attended the dawn memorial service commemorating the 108th Anniversary of Anzac Day, in Anibare district, 26 April.

Acting President Dowiyogo said that the people of Nauru, Australia and New Zealand remember and pay their respects to the brave soldiers who risked their lives and made the ultimate sacrifice to ensuring peace.

"We acknowledge the courage and dedication of those who served, and we express our deepest gratitude for their sacrifice," the Acting President said.

"Let us honour the memory of the ANZACs by striving towards a world where conflicts are resolved through dialogue and understanding, and where every individual is able to live in peace and freedom."

First observed in 1916, Anzac Day honours the service men and women of Australia and New Zealand who landed on Gallipoli in 1915, during the First World War.

The Master of Ceremonies, Kylie Archer acknowledged the close bonds of mutual respect that were forged between the military personnel of Australia and New Zealand.



Acting President Wawani Dowiyogo pays respects on Anzac Day

France Ambassador Leger presents credentials

His Excellency President Russ Kun received the letter of Credence of François-Xavier Leger accrediting him as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of France to the Republic of Nauru, 14 April.



Ambassador Leger inspects the Nauru Police Force guard of honour before presenting his credentials to President Kun

President Kun commends France’s commitment to the fight against climate change and applauds France’s recent One Ocean Summit and their support towards the Kiwa initiative project on Nauru.

“My country believes that building strong diplomatic relationships is essential for promoting regional and global cooperation,” President Kun said.

“We welcome the opportunity to deepen our bilateral relations with France, particularly in areas of economic cooperation and cultural exchange.”

Anzacs remembered in Nauru dawn service

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“There is a mateship amongst service personnel. A mutual respect, a bond, and a selfless dedication to proudly serve their country,” Ms Archer said.

“We should be very proud of our highly trained and professional defence forces, Australia and New Zealand, of which many of you here today have been a part of.”

Detective Superintendent Greg Mowle of the Australian Federal Police reflected on the losses that the Anzac forces sustained after an eight-month stalemate in which time, he says, over 11,000 Anzacs had already lost their lives.

Acting President Dowiyogo joined Australian High Commission Chargé d’Affairs Clarrisa Goh, Detective Superintendent Greg Mowle, and Nauru Police Commissioner Iven Notte in laying wreaths in honour of the fallen.

After the recital of the Ode of Remembrance by New Zealanders Mr Lonnie Taurua and Mr Jamie Harris, the Last Post and the national anthems of the three countries were played by members of the Nauru Police Force Brass Band. A minute silence was observed thereafter.

Ambassador Leger commits to further strengthening relations between the two countries and says fighting against the impacts of climate change is one of the top priorities of France’s foreign policy.

Mr Leger also acknowledged Nauru for the positive role in the Pacific Islands Forum and the incoming Secretary General Baron Waqa.

“As you know, France is a Pacific nation. With New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Wallis and Futuna, we are impacted by the climate change in the South Pacific, and the rise of the sea level.

“In that regard, we are looking forward to developing and deepening our dialogue with Pacific Insular States, in particular with Nauru,” Mr Leger said.

The French Development Agency (AFD) introduced the Kiwa initiative, which aims at supporting nature-based solutions to climate change. The ongoing Pacific organic learning farm network project is financed by Kiwa and carried by the Pacific Community (SPC).

France, being one of the founding members of the European Union and a member of the United Nation’s Security Council, strongly advocates multilateralism and regional architecture.

Ambassador Leger says international law and peaceful resolution of conflicts should prevail.

“As a fellow member of the global community, Nauru shares the same values as France’s commitment to upholding international law and promoting multilateralism,” President Kun said.

“Nauru shares your belief that the peaceful resolution of conflicts is critical to promoting stability and prosperity,”

Mr Leger spent the day visiting the higher ground initiative (HGI) site, Nauru Port, Naoero Museum and paid a courtesy call on Secretary for the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT) Dominic Tabuna.

Nauru and France re-established diplomatic relations on 26 November 1997 •

The service was held on the premises of the accommodation village for Australian service providers in Anibare district on the eastern side of the island •



Korean ambassador progresses feasibility study for health centre rebuild

The Ambassador for Korea Young-kyu Park headed a delegation to Nauru to conduct a feasibility study on rebuilding the Nauru Public Health Centre, 22-24 April.

The Ambassador was accompanied by the Director and Deputy Director of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) office in Fiji and experts on health care, medical equipment and construction work.

The feasibility study is targeted at supporting the Public Health Center rebuild as a follow-up to the meeting between President Russ Kun and Mr Sung-min Jang, the Korean Presidential Envoy and Senior Secretary for Future Strategy on 20 March.

Ambassador Park and his delegation toured the Public Health Center and the RON Hospital before meeting with the Minister for Health Timothy Ika.

The Ambassador also paid courtesy calls on Acting President Wawani Dowiyogo, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs & Trade Asterio Appi, and health staff Director Susana Nakalevu and Director for Operations Dominic Cain.



Korean Ambassador Park and delegation and the public health team meet to discuss ways forward for the health centre's rebuilding plans

The delegation later met with local architecture companies and hospital equipment suppliers before departing the country on 24 April •

President's visit to Honolulu underscores US-Nauru relations

His Excellency President Russ Kun visited Honolulu and the USS Arizona Memorial accompanied by Hon. Rennier Gadabu, Hon. Pyon Deiye and Hon. Jesse Jeremiah on 20 April.

Deputy Commander Lieutenant General Stephen D. Sklenka of the US Indo Pacific Command (Indopacom) welcomed President Kun with an honours ceremony and a US Pacific Fleet barge tour during his visit.

The visit underscores the importance of the strong and enduring relationship between USA and Nauru.

During the visit, His Excellency and his delegation had bilateral meetings with Deputy Commander Lt. Gen. Sklenka and Commander Rear Admiral Michael H. Day of the US Coast Guard. They discussed issues of mutual interest and explored opportunities for further collaboration.

During the meeting, President Kun recognised the role of US Indopacom in maintaining order throughout the Pacific, including Nauru. President Kun expressed his concern about the Pacific economy and stability, including IUU Fishing, Transnational Crime, and trafficking of illegal drugs.

His Excellency further emphasised the need to provide humanitarian assistance to the Pacific Region due to the devastating effects of climate change.

Both US Indopacom and the Coast Guard committed to



President Russ Kun observes a moment of silence for a wreath dedication at the USS Arizona Memorial

enhancing the stability in the Asia Pacific Region by promoting security cooperation and peaceful development.

President Kun also visited Pearl Harbour on 20 April with Lt. Gen. Sklenka, and observed a moment of silence for a wreath dedication at the USS Arizona Memorial.

The delegation also visited the East West Centre and the Asia Pacific Centre for Security Studies (APCSS) Academic Institution •



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DEMA launches ecosystem restoration, land management project

The Department of Environmental Management & Agriculture (DEMA) held a two-day inception workshop and project steering committee (PSC) meeting for the United Nation's Environment Program - Global Environment Facility (GEF) at the Nauru Campus community room, 26-27 April.

The purpose of the workshop is to launch a full sized project entitled "Ecosystem restoration and sustainable land management to improve livelihoods and protect biodiversity in Nauru" and present the goals, objectives and implementation approach.

It is a six-year project with a total value of US\$3.5M funded by the GEF.

The outcome of the project will improve ecosystem services in Nauru, achieve land degradation neutrality through integrated landscape management and conservation, and sustainable use of biodiversity.

GEF Project Chief Technical Advisor Catherine Garnett-Santiago and Project Manager Haseldon Buraman conducted the meetings on day two as they discuss with the project steering committee (PSC) the expected outcomes of the project and provide strategic guidance to achieve the deliverables on time.

Ms Garnett-Santiago says this is the first workshop meeting and it was very successful from day one with over 50 stakeholder representatives from relevant departments.

The PSC members include stakeholders from the Department of Environmental Management and Agriculture (DEMA); Department of Climate Change and National Resilience (DCCNR); Lands Management & Survey (DLMS); Finance; Planning & Aid (PAD); Home & Cultural Affairs; Education; Justice & Border Control; People Living with Disability; Women & Social Development Affairs (WASDA); Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation (NRC); Republic of Nauru Phosphate Corporation (RONPHOS); Taiwan Technical Mission (TTM); United Nations Environment Program (UNEP); Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Program (SPREP); Chamber of Commerce; Eco Nauru; Nauru Farmer's and Grower's Association; Nauru Women's Group – Women's Empowerment Nauru Association; district community leaders from Buada, Ijuw, Anabar and Anibare; and landowners in targeted project intervention landscapes.

The PSC members will meet twice a year for updates and reports on the project •



GEF Project Chief Technical Advisor Catherine Garnett-Santiago (seated left) and Project Manager Haseldon Buraman (standing far left) with heads of departments, community and regional representatives.



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Republic of Nauru

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