



# Nauru Bulletin

Issue 17 - 2025/300

## Nauru, Australia launch security strategy, fulfils PIF commitment

The National Security Strategy for Nauru was officially launched by President David Adeang and Australian High Commissioner Matthew Barclay at the Boe Declaration site, 6 November, reaffirming that national security is about safeguarding the dignity of Nauruans, their sovereignty, and future.



*President Adeang and High Commissioner Barclay launch security strategy document*

“National security for us in Nauru is not defined by our military might or territorial disputes. It is defined by the strength of our people, the stability of our economy, and the sustainability of our environment.

“And it is about protecting our way of life, our food systems, our mobility, our digital space, and our right to a livable future,” President Adeang said underscoring that Nauru’s challenges are complex.

Nauru is faced with disruptions in global supply chains to the growing impacts of climate change, exposure to cyber threats and transnational crime, and economic shocks that test national resilience.

By launching the strategy, Nauru fulfils a Pacific Islands Forum Leaders charge outlined in the 2018 Boe Declaration on Regional Security, that each PIF member country commits to strengthening their respective national security approaches by developing national security strategies, and strengthening national security capacity building including through training.

Launching the Strategy at the Boe Declaration site reinforces the message and determination of the

leaders’ declaration on regional security focusing on shared commitment to peace, security and resilience. The Declaration recognises an expanded idea of security, including human, cyber, environmental, and emerging security issues.

President Adeang says the strategy provides a clear and coordinated framework to confront traditional and evolving security challenges, guided by sovereignty, unity, and vision for a secure and sustainable Republic.

He adds that Nauru recognises it cannot stand alone in this effort and expressed sincere gratitude for Australia’s steadfast partnership and in helping shape the Strategy.

“As one of the world’s most vulnerable nations, Nauru continues to call on the international community to recognise the urgency of our situation, and to adopt the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index as a fair basis for support and action,” President Adeang said.

High Commissioner Barclay reiterated that as Nauru’s security partner of choice, Australia is serious about its responsibility to address Nauru’s challenges and stands ready to provide financial support, technical expertise and collaborative work.

“Our proudest example of this has been continued engagement by the Australian Federal Police in working alongside the Nauruan police force for the past 20 years; and we’ve been proud to work with the NSC as they develop this strategy for the people of Nauru.”

The strategy will be implemented with Australia’s commitment of \$40m under the Nauru-Australia Treaty, while its annual \$46m for development assistance will continue to focus on human security challenges. Security Advisor to the President and Chair of the Nauru National Security Committee, Shonadeen Adeang says the security strategy is to consolidate the all Nauru’s existing security issues, identify new security challenges, and strengthen solutions against these challenges.

“The NSS is our guideline in how to improve our everyday lives and our future,” Ms Adeang said.

*(cont pg 2...)*

## Remembrance Day

His Excellency, the Acting President Lionel Aingimea laid the first wreath at the ceremony commemorating the 107th anniversary of Remembrance Day, 11 November.



*Nauru observes two minutes silence on Remembrance Day*

The signing of the Armistice between the allied powers of Great Britain, France and Germany on 11 November 1918, marked the end of the four years of the First World War.

The Nauru Police Force, as the Memorial Guards lowered the flags of Nauru, Australia and New Zealand to half mast, before the opening prayer and the procession of the wreath laying.

Following were the reading of the Ode of Remembrance, playing of the Last post, two minutes' silence and the playing of the Reveille before the flags were hoisted to full mast.

Remembrance Day honours the service men and women who died during wars, conflict and peace keeping operations.

Formerly known as Armistice Day - in reference to the German surrender in 1918, the name was changed to Remembrance Day in 1945.

#lestweforget2025



## Nauru, Australia launch security strategy, fulfils PIF commitment (...from pg 1)

"It adapts an expanded concept of security, from traditional security to securing our basic needs and everyday livelihoods including our health and education, securing our air and sea transportation, supply chains, securing our nation from effects of climate change, our borders and securing sustainable economy."

The Strategy incorporates a roadmap that is aligned with the National Sustainable Development Strategy.

Australia's commitment to regional peace and security are outlined in the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, led by the strong foundations of the 2018 Boe Declaration and the Biketawa Declaration. Its cooperation in the Pacific covers a broad range of areas including defence, policing, law enforcement, border management, climate and disaster resilience, human security, and cyber security. //

**CORRECTION:** Please note correction to the portfolios for Minister Shadlog Bernicke published in Nauru Bulletin edition 16-2025, published 4 Nov 2025, to include Infrastructure Development.

The complete portfolios as follows:

Minister for  
Infrastructure Development  
Nauru Media  
Information, Communication Technology (ICT)  
Telecommunications  
Cenpac Corporation  
Nauru Utilities Corporation  
Nauru Phosphate Royalties Trust.





## Deputy minister warns diabetes is a national crisis

On behalf of President David Adeang, Deputy Minister for Public Health Rennier Gadabu attended the World Diabetes Day at the Naoero Public Health Centre, 14 November, and warns that diabetes is not just a health issue—it is a national crisis.



*Hon Gadabu urges citizens to choose healthier meals, stay active, and support each other*

“Diabetes weakens our workforce, drains our health system, and steals years from our people. If we do not act, our children will inherit a future defined by illness,” DM Gadabu said.

Mr Gadabu emphasised that diabetes is a chronic condition which has become the “greatest health challenge of our time and Nauru alone carries one of the highest diabetes rates in the world” quoting more than one in five adults living with the disease, and 40 per cent of pregnancies affected by gestational diabetes.

He urges citizens to choose healthier meals, reduce sugar intake, stay active and support each other in prevention and care; and communities such as schools, churches, and families to spread awareness and encourage prevention.

He calls for continued support of partners for resources, expertise and funding; and to the government to increase and dedicate funding for non-communicable diseases, explaining “this is not an expense – it is an investment in the future of Nauru”.

“Remember, diabetes is preventable. Together, we can protect our children, strengthen our nation and defeat this epidemic,” Deputy Minister Gadabu said.

Reflecting on the theme, ‘Diabetes across life stages’, DM Gadabu urged “let us commit to supporting initiatives that promote diabetic education across to healthcare, and resources to those affected with diabetes.” //

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## Government increases fortnightly allowance for all seniors

The Government of Nauru has revised and increased the fortnightly allowance for senior citizens effective, 6 November, accompanied by provisions of water, electricity, rice and flour.



*‘Young at Hearts’ Mary Kaierua and Violet Mackay enjoy a day out at a government event*

In consultation with Cabinet, President David Adeang says following the recent allowance increase for the ‘Young at Heart’ group, it re-evaluated its financial commitments to senior citizens and agreed to extend the increase to all Nauruans aged 60 years and above.

Those aged 60-69 years will now receive \$400 per fortnight from \$335; 70-74 years will receive \$500 from \$385; the 75+ age group will receive \$600 from \$385; and the Young at Hearts will get an additional \$500, therefore receiving \$1000 per fortnight.

The initial increase was announced in Parliament on 26 October by President Adeang, to top-up the fortnightly allowance for the Young at Heart group, from \$385 to \$500, including monthly allocations for electricity (300 units) and water (10,000 litres), as well as a one-time provision of bags of rice and flour, gifted on Angam day.

The Young at Hearts are the group of Nauruans who survived the occupation of Nauru during World War II and were the first group of senior citizens to be paid a fortnightly allowance when the program started following the Global Financial Crisis in the mid- 2000s.

It is recognising their lives and acknowledging their contributions to Nauru, but importantly to provide some independence through financial support.

The announcement in Parliament comes on the eve of the 93rd anniversary of Angam Day, which is celebrated annually on 26 October. Angam celebrates resilience, triumph and the survival of the Nauruan race following near extinction after the influenza epidemic in the 1920s and World War II. //

## President Adeang highlights leadership, resilience and regional collaboration at Micronesia Executive Leadership training

Nauru government and parliament officials participated in a leadership training focusing on pressures and key issues that shape Micronesia's future, hosted by the Pacific Security College, at the Australian National University, in Canberra, 10-14 November.



*President Adeang calls for deeper regional collaboration across Micronesia at executive leadership meet*

The five-day Micronesia Executive Leadership Course offers a rare opportunity to bring together representatives from the Pacific community who are united by shared aspirations.

Speaker of Parliament Marcus Stephen led the Nauru delegation which included Minister Charmaine Scotty, and deputy ministers Russ Kun, Ranin Akua, Tawaki Kam, and Timothy Ika. They were joined by MPs from Palau, the Marshall Islands, and diplomatic representatives from the Federated States of Micronesia and Kiribati.

Delegates attended an Acknowledgement of Country ceremony on arrival at the ANU and welcomed by PSC Director Professor Dave Peebles.

His Excellency President David Adeang then addressed the Micronesian leaders and legislators reflecting on more than two decades of public service and the personal and national resilience that have shaped Nauru's journey.

The President highlighted the powerful role of family and community support throughout his career in leadership.

"Leadership is not an individual pursuit," he said. "In Nauru, our extended family system gives us strength. It allows us to serve our country while being there for our children, grandchildren, and community."

The course included sessions on effective leadership, geopolitics and geoeconomics, leadership reflections, Pacific security issues, strategy, policy and delivery, Pacific regionalism, climate change, and economic growth.

Participants also engaged in a 'Futures exercise: Micronesia 2025', centred on the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, and explore questions such as what will the journey for Micronesia involve and what will it be like in 2050.

President Adeang shared personal stories of balancing public responsibilities with caring for his seven children and five grandchildren, noting that the close-knit nature of Nauru's small community reinforces accountability and trust between leaders and citizens.

Reflecting on his earlier tenure as finance minister, President Adeang described inheriting a collapsed economy, with frequent power outages, shortages of essential services, and loss of public confidence.

"We had no choice but to rebuild. It required sacrifice, humility, and direct conversations with our people."

He underscored the pivotal role of community understanding and participation in implementing tough economic reforms.

One of the national milestones President Adeang highlighted was the establishment of the Nauru Trust Fund, which now stands at approximately AUD \$460 million, built through a long-term strategy of setting aside at least 10 per cent of the national budget annually.

"That fund represents the sacrifices of our community. It is the foundation of Nauru's economic resilience."

As finance minister under previous administrations, President Adeang was instrumental in the establishment of the NTF and the re-establishment of the Nauru Superannuation Fund.

Nauru Super is a critical support mechanism to ensure all Nauruans on Nauru can support their retirement. This scheme is strengthened with an increase in employers' contributions, which was passed in the 2025-26 budget, and will be implemented in early 2026.

President Adeang acknowledged the critical economic partnership with Australia, including the acceptance of asylum seekers and long-term visitors. He described the process of engaging communities face-to-face to earn their trust and support for initiatives that brought financial stability and new opportunities to the country.

"We succeeded because we were transparent, because we spoke directly with our people, and because they trusted that the sacrifices were for Nauru's future."

President Adeang called for deeper regional collaboration across Micronesia, particularly to improve airline connectivity and achieve economies of scale.

"For small island nations, no one can go it alone. Regional partnership is not just beneficial—it is essential."

He invited Micronesian leaders to engage in further discussions on collaborative approaches to regional aviation operations to enhance mobility, trade, and economic growth across the Pacific.



## **AFP supports Nauru policing, CPP training**

(...from pg 4)

Through the Nauru Australia Policing Partnership, Nauru police officers, including the president's Close Personal Protection team, underwent a two-week CPP foundations course delivered by the Australian Federal Police.



**Police training reaffirms Nauru, Australia partnership**

Twenty-two NPF officers took part in the AFP-led training aimed to enhance security capabilities in the Pacific, covering threat assessment, defensive tactics, emergency response, and VIP protection protocols.

Held at the NPF station, 20-30 October, the Australian High Commissioner Matthew Barclay stepped in to role play as a high office holder.

AFP instructors Ghaz Ahmedi and Michael Ronan, travelled to Nauru to share their knowledge while delivering the course curriculum which is adapted from the AFP's CPP foundation program.

NPF Acting Commissioner Imram Scotty commended the training and looks forward to the continued relationship in enhancing the safety and security of Nauru and its people.

"This course is a testament of the ongoing partnership between the Australian Federal Police and the Nauru Police Force. I am grateful for the continued collaboration between our two organisations ata amin bwini (we are family), this training is a significant milestone for the Nauru Police Force and the first of its kind in Nauru."

AFP NAPP Senior Responsible Officer Dom Stephenson noted the participation of the first two female officers ever, highlighting the NPF's efforts towards gender inclusivity in the specialist policing roles.

"This programme highlights the strength of the ongoing partnership between Pacific nations, working alongside the AFP to further enhance security capability in the region."

Mr Stephenson underscored that threats to high office holders are escalating globally and the importance of enhancing specialist capabilities to mitigate this threat is critical to regional security across the Pacific.

Graduates received their certificates on Friday, 30 October. //

## **President Adeang highlights leadership, resilience and regional collaboration at Micronesian Executive Leadership course**

In closing, President Adeang emphasised the values that have guided his 24-year political career: "Faith, family, and community remain our compass. Leadership means keeping community relationships close and never forgetting who we serve."

He encouraged the next generation of Micronesian leaders to embrace hard work, relationships, and unity as the foundation for future progress.

The sessions are delivered by experts from the Australian National University and other institutions including the Pacific Fusion Centre, Development Policy Centre, Tony Blair Institute for Global Change.

The course provides participants an opportunity to reflect on their leadership journeys, navigate person and professional challenges, examine the evolving strategic geopolitical competition, and the complex security challenges of the Pacific including climate change, geopolitics and transnational crime.

The course also shares lessons from effective government responses around the world and how they can be applied in Micronesia, and explore key economic challenges, growth and opportunities facing Micronesia and the broader Pacific region.

The session on Pacific Regionalism provided reflections on the Pacific Islands Forum leaders meetings and its related processes, giving participants an understanding of the current issues, and what Micronesian countries can expect ahead of the 2026 meeting in Palau.

The Pacific Security Centre has a holistic approach to Pacific security taking the lead from the Forum leaders' Boe Declaration on Regional and the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent. //



## Women are anchors of resilience: Amb Daniel

Ambassador to the UN Lara Daniel delivered closing remarks at the joint side event with the Group of Friends on Women, Peace and Security, held at the Permanent Mission of Germany, New York, 29 Oct, highlighting that gender equality binds climate change, peace and security.



**Ambassador Daniel says investing in women's leadership and gender-responsive climate action is imperative**

"Integrating gender and climate security perspectives into National Action Plans and relevant global frameworks, such as the Sustaining Peace Agenda and the Rio Conventions, will help deliver more coherent, inclusive, and sustainable outcomes."

Ambassador Daniel said that despite growing recognition of women's leadership in peacebuilding and climate adaptation, "only 0.035 per cent of global climate finance currently supports initiatives that address the intersection of gender, peace, and security".

"We welcome the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund's Women and Climate Security Initiative as a promising step towards addressing this disparity," Ambassador Daniel said but urges that further collective action is required to ensure that climate finance is gender-responsive, conflict sensitive, and directly

accessible to women and grassroots actors in fragile and climate-vulnerable contexts.

For Nauru climate impacts are prolonged droughts, coastal erosion and disruptions in fisheries.

"In such contexts, women are the anchors of resilience. They manage scarce household resources, sustain informal safety nets, and maintain cohesion when economic or environmental shocks occur."

Gender equality and resilience are at the heart of Nauru's National Sustainable Development Strategy, recognising that development cannot be sustained if women are excluded.

"Nauruan women have long been community mediators, church leaders, and peacebuilders. Their leadership in addressing social issues, supporting education, and guiding responses to natural hazards demonstrates the WPS agenda in action at the local level," the Ambassador said.

She says Nauru takes inspiration from Pacific initiatives which are expanding women's participation in regional security and climate diplomacy, and reinforce cooperation commitments in Nauru's Gender Responsive Climate Change Policy, linking Nauru's national actions to broader regional frameworks that advance gender equality, peace, and security across the Pacific.

"Investing in women's leadership and gender-responsive climate action is therefore not only a moral responsibility, it is a strategic imperative for resilience, stability, and peace in small island societies like ours." //

## NPF holds 2025 graduation, awards ceremony

Acting President Lionel Aingimea congratulated Nauru Police Force recruits and seasoned officers for their service and enforcement of the law at the 2025 police graduation and awards ceremony, 14 November.

The Acting President encouraged the officers to be proud of themselves and the uniform they wear.

"As officers you are the most visible arm of government, as representatives of government and to enforce law, you are that face. It is your job, your duty, first and foremost to yourselves and equally to the Nauru Police Force and above all to your government and your God."

The NPF presented the Commissioner's Awards of Appreciation to 26 officers recognising their commitment and notable contributions in 2024 that has been vital in maintaining law and order in the communities. Six officers also received the Commissioner's Certificate of Achievement for outstanding accomplishments and professionalism.



**A/President Aingimea encourage officers to be proud of the uniform**

Other prestigious medals were also awarded including four officers receiving the Long Service medal recognising a decade of loyal service to the NPF; the International Law Enforcement Partnership medal awarded to another four officers for their efforts in enhancing global partnerships through international service. Six officers received the Outstanding Performance Medal acknowledging sustained excellence over four years or during key national operations; and the highest honour – the Bravery Medal was awarded to 20 officers for their extraordinary valour in safeguarding the public. //



## New runway perimeter fencing to include widened footpath, lighting



*Installation of fence posts expected to finish in January.*

Re-fencing the airport runway perimeter is well underway with a couple hundred metres of fence posts already installed.

As part of the Airport Project, the new security fencing is being constructed inside the existing fencing with an elevated height of approximately 2.44 metres along the sides running parallel to the runway, to satisfy airport security requirements, and 1.3 metres at either end of the runway which is similar to the existing fence height.

A new wider footpath will also be made, providing a safe walk path for people who frequent the length of the runway for exercise and fitness.

For increased security for the airport, barbed wire will also run along the entire length of the fencing, and solar-powered lighting are proposed to light the new footpath.

In partnership with the Nauru Department of Transport and Directorate of Civil Aviation, the project is funded by the Australian government through the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP). The project work is led by Downer Group, a leading provider of integrated infrastructure services across Australia and New Zealand.

Stage 1 of the project commenced in October and expected to be completed in January 2026 is installing the fence posts; while stage 2 expected to start in March 2026 will be in the installation of the new footpath and a new airport vehicle service road inside the fenced area.

Stage 3 involves installation of the fence mesh and barbed wire, and this is expected to run from March to June 2026.

Both fences will be visible throughout the works as the existing (old) fence will remain in place until the new fence is fully built. The depth for fence post excavation is approximately 800mm.

Work commenced in front of the airport terminal building and proceeding East towards Meneng. Work will only be done during the day, and excluding Sunday.

Earlier this year, a specialist unexploded ordnance (UXO) subcontractor, RPS, did a thorough check of and excavated several UXO before the fencing works commenced. This vital work was important to ensure the safety of the community and Downer staff.

The fence works are overseen and supported by the Department of Transport, the airport aviation management, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through AIFFP and the Australian High Commission, Palladium as the project management and supervision consultant, and technical advisors Beca.

A grievance redress mechanism is in place for the public to lodge concerns and complaints about any part of the project. Grievances and general enquiries can be directed to [nauruairportproject@downergroup.com](mailto:nauruairportproject@downergroup.com) or [vincianadegia@gmail.com](mailto:vincianadegia@gmail.com) or by phone to 5547008, 5548020 or 8880675 //

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