



Nauru Bulletin

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Nauru grants refugee status to families and single men, now residing in the community

The Governments of Nauru and Australia achieved a significant milestone this week following the handing down of refugee status determinations to asylum seekers residing at the Regional Processing Centre (RPC) on Nauru.

On Tuesday 20 May, 20 determinations were announced with 13 granted Nauru's protection, and again on Thursday 22 May, 21 determinations were announced with 10 granted protection.

The first group consists of nine people in three families and four single adult males.

The second group on Thursday consists of six people in two families and four single adult males.

Family members will reside at their new accommodation at the Anibare Lodge and a separate site at topside for the single adult men.

An informal dinner is being organised by Save the Children Australia at the Lodge this evening (23 May).

Around 40 people, mostly families, will be settled by the end of May.

The Nauru Community Consultative Committee (CCC) is setting up a buddy system to encourage community integration and engagement with the refugees. The program is already receiving a positive response from the community.

Local groups such as the Rotary Club of Nauru will also be organising social events with the refugees.

The refugees will be allowed to freely move around the island, seek employment and be part of the community. The children will continue to attend local schools.



Yosef (centre), his wife and children are among the first families to be granted refugee status on Tuesday 20 May

Nauru continues to assist Australia in the regional problem of people smuggling by hosting the RPC and managing the refugee status determination process.

The refugees will move into more permanent and more suitably located accommodation in the second phase of their housing arrangements.

"Nauru is ready to welcome our new guests and we have put in place a 'buddy system' to help them integrate into island life. We hope they will enjoy our hospitality and friendship and we are confident they will discover peace and fulfillment while they are with us," Nauru's Justice Minister David Adeang said.

In a statement issued this week Australian Immigration Minister Scott Morrison said a settlement package will be provided commensurate with living standards in Nauru and support based on need rather than entitlement.

"The settlement package will include language and vocational training, connection with local employment, orientation, initial accommodation and a living allowance as appropriate. The intention is to have resettled refugees standing on their own feet within 12 months," Mr Morrison said.

Primary health care and special care will be provided through an IHMS run Settlement Health Clinic at the local Hospital and providers at the RPC respectively.

Save the Children Australia and International Health and Medical Services are assessing the needs of these refugees.

Those that do not receive a positive determination will remain at the RPC pending return or removal to their home country or a country where they have right of residence.

The Government of Nauru will continue to hand down refugee status determinations in the coming weeks•

Government offers \$500 for small businesses

The Nauru Government is supporting locals start their own small business by providing start-up funds to assist in their business endeavour.

The initiative which offers \$500 to ten successful applicants was suggested by President Baron Waqa.

The Nauru Media Bureau will monitor the progress of each business every few weeks.

In a brief address President Baron Waqa said while the scheme offered small start-up cash, it would be beneficial for those who would otherwise be unable to generate enough funds to start a business in the first place.

President Waqa said that in light of the current cash flow on the island from payments of pending salaries, RONWAN, and land rental entitlements, his government saw it as an opportunity to encourage Nauruans in saving, or spending their money wisely hence the title of the scheme, *Wo eō mijiōn, Wo raña wam mark*, or “don’t forget, look after your money.”

One hundred and six individuals submitted their names and business proposals to be in the draw for the start up cash. Ten names were drawn from the lot and received sponsorship of \$500 from the government. An additional sponsorship was offered by Honourable Milton Dube, Member of Parliament for Aiwo.

The overall 11 winners received their \$500 cash to start their small businesses. Similar offers will be made in the future to assist more Nauruans start a small business•

Digicel donates laptops to support nursing staff

National telecommunications provider Digicel expanded their assistance to the health department by donating 12 new laptops to the nursing staff to support training, development and data collection from district visitations.

Acting Secretary for Health Dr Setareki Vatuwaqa received the laptops from Digicel Nauru’s general manager Ms Lorne Roge at the Republic of Nauru (RON) hospital yesterday (22 May).

Dr Vatuwaqa expressed his gratitude to Digicel for the donation as well as for the continued assistance in supplying fruit, bottled water, and juice for patient lunches.

Six of the laptops will be used by the 12 primary health care workers for research and data recording obtained from their community rounds while the remaining will be used for nurse training.

The Health Department is next planning to establish a new internet service following the hospital fire last year that destroyed the infrastructure•

Court staff benefit from NZAid training

The Nauru Judiciary Department has selected two assistant clerks of court to undergo a two week attachment training with the registry of the High Court of Fiji.

Laurie Tebouwa and Surely Kamtaura were selected by the Registrar of the Supreme Court, Mr Graham Leung, who is keen to build capacity for young and talented Nauruans.

The training commenced this week (19 May) and will learn about registry procedures, custody of exhibits, diary management and maintenance of court files.

During their training they will be supervised by the head of training at the Fiji judicial department, Mr Semisi Bainivalu, who will help build various skills for court.

The training is funded by the New Zealand government who have been supporting and assisting Nauru continually in many aspects of government in particular with justice, fisheries and the education sector under NZAID.

The assistant clerks departed Nauru last week (16 May) and are expected to return early next month (2 June)•



President Baron Waqa picks the first name in the draw for the \$500 start-up cash for a small business



Digicel Nauru GM Lorne Roge donates 12 laptops to health department



Training recipients (L-R) Surely Kamtaura and Laurie Tebouwa with A/Chief probation officer Lena Porte and Registrar Graham Leung, who recommended the training

Notice to Deposit Holders

Bank of Nauru (In liquidation) (“BON”)

The payment of a second distribution to deposit-holders of BoN will commence from 29 May 2014 at the Nauru Revenue Office (“NRO”).

This 2nd dividend will be a capped dividend up to \$100. Deposit-holders who have not received a 1st dividend will be entitled to collect up to \$200 of their outstanding claim. Any claim below \$200 will receive their full claim.

Deposit-holders who have already received a 1st dividend will only be entitled to collect up to a further \$100 of their outstanding claim.

At time of collection, deposit-holders will be required to agree to their final balance before receiving the 1st distribution, and any deposit-holder who does not agree to their balance as it appears in the records will have an opportunity to dispute their balance at a later stage. Any disputed balances will be ineligible for the current distribution, but will be entitled to the distribution once the claim is agreed.

Deposit-holders who have already collected their 1st dividend are not able to dispute their account(s) during the 2nd dividend process.

The distribution will be paid from 29 May 2014 to 31 July 2014. Deposit-holders are encouraged to attend the NRO during this period.

Please bring passbook(s) for your account(s) to assist in quick identification and processing of your claim.

If you have any questions, please ask the staff at the NRO•

Harris posted to Bangkok as deputy consul



Klenny Harris takes up to posting at Nauru's Thailand office as deputy consul-general

The Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade has posted regional director Klenny Harris to its Thailand mission as the deputy consul-general for one year.

The office which is based in the Thai capital Bangkok oversees Nauru's foreign interest in the Asian region and looks after the welfare of Nauruans studying in Thailand at various tertiary institutions.

Klenny has been working for DFAT for five years and has been posted to Nauru's overseas missions in Brisbane.

He left for Thailand at the end of March•

Register for the buddy system

As the public may be aware, the status determination process for asylum seekers residing at the Regional Processing Centre (RPC) is progressing well with decisions being handed down commencing this week.

This means that asylum seekers found to be genuine refugees will be allowed out of the camps at topside and allowed to live among the local community.

The Nauru Consultative Committee (CCC) is setting up a friendship network or a Buddy System to support community engagement and friendship between the local community and the refugees once they are living in the community.

If you are interested to make friends with the refugees or are able to spend some time to talk to them or assist with getting them around the island, then this is the program for you.

To register your name for the Buddy System please call George Gioura, Save the Children Community Liaison Officer, on 558 9819; Suzie Scotty, Acting Chairperson for the CCC on 5565035; or Tricia Roland, Deputy Chair CCC on 5582700.

The initial residence for the refugee families will be at the Anibare Lodge (near The Bay Restaurant) and the Fly Camp at topside for single adult males. For the second phase of their housing arrangements, the refugees will be moving into more permanent and more suitably located accommodation.

More information will be made available to the public as they come to hand•

The Nauru Bulletin is a fortnightly publication of the Government of the Republic of Nauru.

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NAURU BULLETIN



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