



# Nauru Bulletin

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## Phase 2 ground breaking ceremony learning village

The Ministry of Education and the Australian High Commission conducted a soil turning ceremony to officially mark the beginning of the second phase of development for the learning village at the site between the Nauru Police station and Nauru Secondary School on Thursday, the 11th of August 2016.

The ceremony was conducted jointly by the Minister for Education Honourable Charmaine Scotty and Australian High Commissioner to Republic of Nauru John Donnelly.

Also present at the ceremony was Acting President Honourable Valdon Dowiyogo and Minister for Telecommunications Minister, Honourable Shadlog Bernicke.

Minister of Education Charmaine Scotty remarked that the day marked another exciting milestone in the history of our educational development.

“We envisage that this learning hub will offer excellent facilities, diverse and exciting campus life to learning which will be accessible to all those with disabilities and those that are able. We welcome all Nauruans, refugees and others to take this opportunity to excel in life” Minister Charmaine said.

Phase two of the Learning Village plan encompasses of the completion of the Nauru USP centre, community library and a community centre for education



*The Minister for Education Honourable Charmaine Scotty and Australian High Commissioner to Republic of Nauru John Donnelly conducted a soil turning ceremony to officially mark the beginning of the second phase of the learning village*

providers including the University of New England, Fiji National University as well as other post-secondary providers.

To date, a total of \$7 million has been committed to the completion of the facilities jointly funded by Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the Government of Nauru.

Australian DFAT has contributed \$4.48 million towards this project with an

additional \$1 million to be contributed in the near future.

The Government of Nauru has committed \$1.5 million towards the Learning Village project as well as aid-in-kind contributions. This includes some financial grants and exemptions with a total worth of \$0.5 million.

The Government of Nauru's total contribution towards this project will be two million dollars.

Australian High Commissioner John Donnelly also offered his congratulations to Minister Scotty and the Ministry of Education on the work on the project. Commissioner Donnelly added that he looked forward to the next stages of the completion of the Learning Village.

It is expected the new centre will bring about some benefit to the Nauru community generally by increasing access to information for the Nauruan community, having coordinated pathways available for higher learning, improved resourcing and centralised facilities and improved higher education experience for students.

A New Zealand based company Craigs Construction Limited has been awarded the construction contract for phase two of the project with construction work expected to be completed in September of next year•

## Swearing in of new lay Magistrates

An oath ceremony was conducted at the Ministry of Finance on Friday the 26th of August 2016, to induct four new lay magistrates into the court.

Members of the judiciary oversaw the swearing-in ceremony to which the Minister of Justice was a witness.

The ceremony concluded with congratulatory remarks by the Minister of Justice David Adeang congratulating the group on their appointment as lay magistrates.

Minister Adeang encouraged the newly appointed members to recommend changes to further improve the justice process.

Newly appointed lay magistrate Mr Vincent Detenamo also offered some concluding remarks assuring the Minister his keenness to his role and working to address complex issues in the court processes.

The four new lay magistrates comprise of Mr Vincent Detenamo, Ms Bronnia Detagouwa, Mr Victor Soriano and Ms Julie Olsson•

# Taiwan farewells new students

The Ambassador for the Republic of China (Taiwan) His Excellency Joseph Chow hosted a dinner reception on Tuesday the 16th of August 2016.

The dinner was held at the Meneng hotel for five scholarship students Garrik Akken, Michelle Bagaga, Raemyna Itsimaera, Juliet Uera and Amelia Bernicke who will be departing for Taiwan to resume university studies.

At the dinner, Minister for Education Charmaine Scotty congratulated the students and thanked Taiwan for their continued support in higher education. Minister Scotty also encouraged the students to do their best and return to be active contributors to the Nauru's human resource.



*Minister for Education Charmaine Scotty and the Ambassador for the Republic of China (Taiwan) His Excellency Joseph Chow posing with the five students; Garrik Akken, Michelle Bagaga, Raemyna Itsimaera, Juliet Uera and Amelia Bernicke.*

Deputy Speaker and former Taiwan graduate Mr. Asterio Appi shared his experience and congratulated the students on their selection to pursue higher studies.

In closing, His Excellency Ambassador Joseph Chow also offered his congratulations to the students. Ambassador Chow encouraged the new students to cherish their opportunity, to make friends with other foreign students and expand not only their

knowledge but their experience of other cultures.

Presently, there are 36 Nauruan students in total that are studying in the Republic of China (Taiwan)•

# UNPS Consultations for SDGs

A United Nation Pacific Strategy (UNPS) consultation was held on Monday the 22nd of August 2016, at the RONPHOS training centre to develop a support strategy for development priorities in light of the Sustainable development goals agenda (SDGs).

The UNPS consultation has three main goals; firstly, to foster a clear understanding of the national stakeholders of the UNPS process and the role of partners in planning and implementation of the framework.

Secondly to engage government and key stakeholders from various sectors of Nauru in a consultative process to foster ownership of the UNPS.

And thirdly, to reach an agreement with national stakeholders on possible areas of UN support based on national and sub-regional development priorities on comparative advantage and mandate of the UN together with the input of the evaluation which will contribute to the formulation of the new UNPS.

In an interview with local media, UN resident Coordinator, Ms Osnat Lubrani remarked that she was pleased with the work that is progressing on the UNPS.

“We’re very pleased that the government has facilitated with our support some pre-consultations so we don’t really want to consult just with the government but also with people and hear their views”, Ms Lubrani said.

The consultation invited government representatives, civil society and community members for discussions on the type of support they want to see in the coming years as well as how



*United Nation Pacific Strategy (UNPS) consultants Aleta Miller (left) and Ms Osnat Lubrani (right) on Nauru to assist in Sustainable development goals agenda (SDGs).*

they wish the UN can align with their priorities.

Ms Lubrani indicated that the discussions were mixed on further talks on the SDGs which will continue further into the near future.

“This is really a beginning of the process, this is something that the UN will continue to support Nauru to do over some time” Ms Lubrani said.

Ms Lubrani explained that UN adopted Millennium Development Goals had eight goals that was successful in reducing poverty and highlighted some of the new aspects of the SDGs.

“Everyone has to be involved, everyone has to think and own this and that’s where we really need to make sure that everybody know what they are about and that’s going to be the first phase”, Ms Lubrani said.

UN women representative Aleta Miller said that they were pleased to be able to participate in the discussions on the SDG priorities.

“With the SDGs we’re very happy to be here and doing this process very early so that Nauru’s got full opportunity to take advantage on the next coming years to achieve on these goals”, Ms Miller said.

Ms Miller also remarked on a point that was raised in the consultation that placed particular importance on programming and planning for persons with disabilities.

The consultation marks the beginning of formulating a path forward to updating the Nauru Sustainable Development Strategy priorities•

# Bendigo Bank present Mastercard

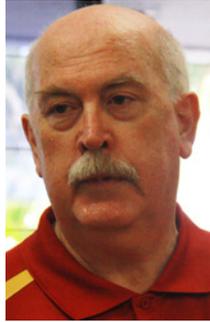
A short presentation was held at the Ministry of Finance office on Tuesday the 23rd of August 2016, for the arrival of new debit Mastercards.

The new banks cards were presented by Bendigo Bank manager Greg Watson to the Minister of Finance Honourable David Adeang.

In an interview with local media, Mr Watson explained the differences with the Mastercard and the Bendigo Bank cards.

Mr Watson explained that one essential benefit of the Mastercard is that it will enable customers to shop online as well as use the same card in ATMs anywhere in the world. Mr Watson explained that the Mastercard can be used more widely than the Bendigo Bank card. The Bendigo Bank card has limitations.

Mr Watson also indicated that discussions have been planned for more bank products to be accessible in the Bendigo bank of Nauru.



*Bendigo Bank  
General Manager  
Greg Watson*

“What we’re trying to do is have discussions with Bendigo bank to give us access to the full range of products that are available in Australia... so that’s coming up in the future,” Mr Watson said.

Furthermore, Mr Watson announced that Bendigo Bank plans to develop more in the future.

“We’re going to be at the end of this month lowering the fees for the ATMs we’re lowering them from two dollars fifty to two dollars”, Mr Watson said.

The Bendigo bank has about 7000 accounts which has increased significantly from 12 months ago which is expected to increase as more customers take on additional bank products.

Mr Watson added that the Redy scheme with Eigu supermarket and is set to occur in the coming weeks•

# Nauru Power-Lifters set world records

A small presentation ceremony was held at the Nauru Government cabinet room on Wednesday the 24th of August 2016, to congratulate three Nauruan male power-lifters for their world record breaking lifts made during the 2016 First Pacific Invitational and Fitness Expo which was held at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre in Melbourne, Australia on the 30th of April 2016.

The three power-lifters, namely Bronco Deirenauw, Steven Melekiola and Deamo Baguga each broke world records in their respective weigh division in squat, bench press and deadlift.

Bronco Deirenauw who competed in the 93kg open division, broke the world record for squat with his personal best at 303.5kg.

Mr Deirenauw managed to lift three times his body weight, which put him in the class of few athletes who have managed to accomplish this feat.

Steven Melekiola competed in the 105kg open division, breaking the world record for Bench Press, in which he bench pressed 222.5kg.



*Hon. Minister for Sports Valdon Dowiyogo poses with the Nauru Power Lifters. (from right) Kingston Adam, Gerard Jones, Steven Melekiola, Bronco Deirenauw and Cronisa Amwano representing Deamo Baguga.*

Also noted for his performance is Deamo Baguga, who competed in the 83kg open division. Here Mr Baguga not only lifted three times his body weight, he also broke the world record for deadlift in which Mr Baguga lifted 320.5kg.

Also gratitude and recognition is given to the consistent efforts made by the head coach Mr Gerard Jones in helping Nauru athletes achieve world record performances.

Mr Gerard Jones had commented earlier that he wish that more Nauruan

youngsters between the ages of 9 to 13 join the Nauru Power-lifting federation.

Mr Kingston Adam was also mentioned for his great work as Secretary for the Nauru Power-lifting Federation.

Minister Valdon Dowiyogo made a small speech commending the three athletes on their success and also encouraged them to look forward representing Nauru in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic games.

In closing, His Excellency President Baron Waqa awarded each lifter with cash prizes and congratulated them for their world class sporting performance•

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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