



Nauru Bulletin

Issue 11-2013/87

9 July 2013

Finance department lead discussions on the new public procurement system

This week (Monday 8 June) the finance department held a briefing at the Chief Secretary's conference room, to present the new reforms for public procurement procedures.

The new procurement measures are designed to improve the quality of public procurement for the government and to reduce procurement costs by purchasing in bulk.

The new system and procedures is expected to commence on 1st September following the approval of the 2013-14 Budget.

At the briefing, Procurement specialist Michael Burge from the finance department outlined the work that was carried out and articulated the way forward for public procurement reforms.

The International Procurement Agent Mr Malikienas also made a presentation and explained his role at the government warehouse and as the in-country procurement manager.

A number of government heads of department and state owned enterprises were invited to hear about the new changes in public procurement.

Work began on the procurement reform in March 2012 and legislation was unanimously passed by parliament in the

same year (6th November 2012).

The reforms include the development of a Government of Nauru Public Procurement Manual, which was approved by Cabinet in June of this year as well as the appointment of an international procurement agent to be based on island.

The contract for the service was signed on 5th June 2013, between the Nauru Government and United Kingdom based Charles Kendall & Partners Ltd and Brisbane based Project Procure Pty Ltd. The two companies were selected following an international tender process.

The two companies Charles Kendall & Partners and Project Procure who will operate out of Brisbane placed Mr Malikienas in country on 1st July. Mr Malikienas will be based at the government warehouse•



Mr Malikienas is the in-country manager for International Procurement Agents Charles Kendall & Partners and Project Procure

Government increases welfare support for the aged and disabled

The Government of Nauru recently approved an allowance increase for the aged and disabled, the first payment of which was made at the last pay period ending Friday 21 June.

The welfare support was introduced several years ago with \$50 a fortnight. The latest increase from \$100 to \$150 is the third increment since the scheme was introduced.

Combined, there are 135 Nauruan citizens above the age of 60 and disabled people that receive the government allowance•

Visiting dignitaries make courtesy calls on H.E President Baron Waqa

His Excellency President Baron Waqa received three courtesy visits in the past two weeks from visiting dignitaries beginning with New Zealand High Commissioner Mr Mark Ramsden last week (25 -26 June).

Mr Ramsden arrived on Monday (24 June) and his first courtesy call was to the Australian High Commissioner Mr Bruce Cowled.

The following day he visited the acting Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Trade Michael Aroi before his official visit with President Waqa.

He also visited cabinet ministers, several heads of departments and members of parliament.

President Waqa hosted a dinner reception in honour of Mr Ramsden whose three year term as High Commissioner to Nauru will end.

At the reception President Waqa expressed his appreciation to the New Zealand government for their assistance in meeting the priorities set out in Nauru's National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS).

"In future, perhaps Nauru and New Zealand could cooperate further on a number of projects that would benefit our two countries and the region as well, especially in areas such as trade, fisheries, the environment, education and transportation," President Waqa said.

Mr Ramsden was appointed by Cabinet in 2009 as New Zealand High Commissioner to the Republic of Nauru with residence in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

New Zealand's assistance and support to Nauru continues in many aspects of Government in particular with justice, fisheries and the education sector under NZAID.



President Waqa presents a wooden plaque of Nauru to NZ High Commissioner Mark Ramsden at a dinner reception



President Waqa with Singapore High Commissioner Verghese Mathews

Following the departure of the New Zealand High Commissioner, President Baron Waqa received the Singapore High Commissioner Mr Verghese Mathews last week (27 June) at the presidential office.

Upon arrival Mr Mathews met with Transport Minister Valdson Dowiyogo at the airport VIP lounge, followed by a meeting with Director of Civil Aviation Ms Melany Bill.

The following day Mr Mathews paid a courtesy visit to President Baron Waqa to discuss the upcoming International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) meeting in September.

The High Commissioner also hosted a dinner reception at Anibare Bay restaurant for President Waqa and Madam Waqa as well as cabinet ministers, Speaker of Parliament Ludwig Scotty, and various Heads of Department.

Mr Mathews is Singapore's High Commissioner to the Republic of Fiji and concurrently

Ambassador to the Pacific Islands Forum.

Nauru is a member of ICAO which supports all aspects of International Aviation and brings together States and key industry organisations to determine areas of strategic priority, develops policies and standards, coordinates global monitoring, analysis and reporting initiatives, and delivers targeted assistance and capacity building.

Also during the week Fiji's Ambassador to Nauru Mrs Litia Mawi was on island for a week (26 June-3 July) to pay a courtesy visit on His Excellency President Baron Waqa and to discuss the upcoming inaugural meeting of the Pacific Island Development Forum (PIDF) in August.

The Ambassador also met with cabinet ministers where she highlighted the need for current mindsets to shift from a focus on vulnerability towards valid and reasonable models and alternative visions for the Pacific.

Ambassador Mawi also met with Speaker of Parliament Ludwig Scotty and department secretaries.

President Waqa hosted a dinner reception for Mrs Mawi at the Anibare Restaurant, Menen Hotel.

During her visit the Ambassador was taken on a tour of the Republic of Nauru (RON) Hospital, the Nauru Secondary School and met with Fijian teachers on Nauru including these working under the Fiji Volunteer Scheme (FVS).

Prior to the Ambassador's visit to Nauru, she visited other Pacific Island countries to discuss issues on the upcoming PIDF meeting.

Nauru has been attending the PIDF on engaging with the Pacific since 2010.

The PIDF inaugural meeting will be targeted at engaging leaders from key sectors in implementing the concept of green economic policies in Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS)•



Fiji's Ambassador to Nauru Mrs Litia Mawi presents President Waqa with artifacts from her country during her courtesy visit

COP not happy about road trauma for 2013

Message from the Commissioner of Police, Richard Britten

Last year, 2012 in Nauru, the Nauru Police Force (NPF) experienced an increase in deaths resulting from road trauma. Road trauma is calculated by the number of incidents occurring on our roads as a result of motor vehicle accidents or accidents where a person is killed directly relating to road usage.

Last year we recorded four fatalities in Nauru which could be classified as road trauma. For 2013, having just reached the half way mark into the year, we are already at four deaths.

A lot of these deaths could be avoided and most were attributed to alcohol. Drivers of motor vehicles need to be aware that whilst in charge of a motor vehicle, they are responsible for their actions.

In the event they are involved in an accident which results in the death of someone, they will be held directly responsible for that death and will be charged accordingly. Being intoxicated behind the wheel of a motor vehicle is no excuse and the courts will not look favourably on this type of behaviour.

The NPF Traffic Unit has been increased to ten members and has recently been given additional transport in an attempt to address this growing concern. A harder stance on intoxicated drivers is the only way to deal with people who are not interested in looking after themselves or other road users.

The NPF are currently assessing the introduction of breathalysers into Nauru given the number of alcohol related issues we are experiencing.

The Motor Traffic Act is under review to introduce harsher penalties and give police more powers on our roads. The police must act to deter this type of behaviour before Nauru continues on its downward spiral and more lives are lost through senseless

and selfish acts.

Over the past 12 months, more and more vehicles have arrived on the island. Traffic congestion is increasing and with it comes frustration and anger by some drivers. This leads to a lack of judgment in some cases which in turn is a recipe for an accident.



COP Britten urges motorists to be responsible drivers

I encourage all drivers to maintain their vehicles by having front and rear lights, indicators and brakes in good working order. Refrain from driving on our roads intoxicated and arrange for a friend to be the designated driver if you over indulge in the consumption of alcohol. Be patient and leave home early to avoid delays.

Do not drink and drive or you are likely to face the full penalty of our judicial system. Loss of life not only causes hardship to others, it causes a loss to Nauru especially if young persons are the victims of these senseless acts•

New passport making machine starts producing back orders of passports

The Department of Justice and Border Control is now producing Nauru passports again following several months without the passport machine.

The new D3000 passport printer originally arrived last month (25 June) but was sent back to Thailand the following day to software company Chanwanich Co., Ltd to reinstall program components consistent with the old printer and the department's software programs.

The passport printer which arrived back from Thailand this week (8 July) replaces an older and disused printer.

Since its arrival the passport officers have been working round the clock to process passports. By the end of the week 150 passports would have been produced.

The D3000 printer cost AUD \$15,857.60 and is manufactured by German company Digital Identification Solutions in Singapore•



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

It is produced by the Government Information Office (GIO).

The GIO was established in May 2008 and is a section of the Office of the President.



Republic of Nauru

Office contact:

Government Information Office
Government Offices
Yaren District, Republic of Nauru

director.information@naurugov.nr
Mobile: +674 5573009
www.naurugov.nr