



# Nauru Bulletin

Issue 10-2014/107

11 July 2014

## President delivers message for a stronger work force on public service day

Public servants enjoyed a two-day event last week (3-4 July) to celebrate public service day and reflect on the achievements and importance of the public service.

On day one, Thursday 3rd July, departments showcased their work and information about their department, followed by novelty sporting events in the afternoon, and lunch was prepared by Transfield Services who are the service providers at the Regional Processing Centre (RPC).

The formal part of the program however was on day two, Friday 4th July, following the round the airstrip wheel-a-thon.

His Excellency President Baron Waqa delivered his welcome address with a strong message encouraging public servants to move forward and deliver better work performances and to excel and further their education.

“On my part, my government is doing what it can to assist members of the Public Service to improve

themselves. As an example, there will be a salary increase across the board for all Public Servants to be implemented very soon,” the president said.

Implementation is expected on 1 September 2014.

His Excellency also announced the introduction of a scholarship scheme for public servants to commence in 2015.



*Director HR&L Peta Gadabu wins the employee of the year award*

The program which will be open to mature aged students is an opportunity for public servants' career development and enhanced decision making processes that will ultimately benefit Nauru.

The synchronised marching event on day two was well contested for with the Correctional Services officers' magnificent display of talent scoring full marks in all the technical aspects but lost to the education department for not having marching music.

The employee of the year award went to Ms Peta Gadabu, director of human resources and labour.

The department of the year was awarded to the education department.

Similar to last years' PSD, monetary donations were collected of which were dedicated to the Nauru Disabled Peoples' Association and the Able/Disabled Centre. A total of \$1508.70 was collected over the two-day event.

Public service day is observed by the United Nations on 23 June•

## UN rep pays courtesy call on President Waqa

His Excellency President Baron Waqa received the regional representative of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) for the presentation of credentials last week (30 June) at the Presidential Office.

Mr Thomas Albrecht was on island to visit the regional processing centre as well as meet with the refugees now living within the Nauruan community.

During talks with President Waqa about the asylum seekers and refugees on Nauru Thomas Albrecht was pleased and encouraged to learn that the refugees living in the Nauru community are able to seek employment, their children continue to go to school as well as other positive aspects of their lives and wellbeing as they integrate with the local community.

Mr Albrecht encouraged Nauru to be open with information disclosure and conveyed the UNHCR's readiness to assist Nauru in anything pertaining to the organisation.

Mr Albrecht visited the RPC and met with the centre operation managers, representatives of the Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection, and service providers. He also had a meeting with members of the Nauru Community Consultative Committee (CCC) and was encouraged to learn of the progress and assistance the committee has rendered to the refugees.

Mr Albrecht is based in Canberra. He arrived on Saturday 28th June and departed Wednesday 2nd July•

## President's UK trip wrap up

His Excellency President Baron Waqa was recently in London on the invitation of the UK government to attend the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence Against Women in Conflict from 10 to 13 June.

While Nauru does not experience such incidents, the summit was an opportunity to network and engage in discussions given Nauru hosts a processing centre for asylum seekers and refugees that have been exposed to violence in times of conflict.

Nauru is host to just over 1000 asylum seekers at the Regional Processing Centre (RPC) and 99 refugees that currently reside in the Nauru community.

At the summit, President Waqa also met celebrity and Special Envoy for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Angelina Jolie and partner Brad Pitt.

President Waqa used the opportunity to invite Ms Jolie to Nauru in her capacity as the Special Envoy to the UNHCR. Ms Jolie accepted the president's invitation. The date of her visit will be announced at a later date.

Following the summit, President Waqa and Madam Louisa Waqa travelled to Buckingham Palace to meet Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The president had an hour meeting with the Queen where he presented her with a traditional model canoe.

Madam Waqa also presented Her Majesty with a poetry book by Nauruan students titled, 'Nauru: My homeland. My heart. Our Thoughts'.

President and Madam Waqa were accompanied by the acting Director of Police Corey Caleb, Director of Women's Affairs Joy Heine, and Aide-de-Camp David Canon.



*UNHCR Special Envoy Angelina Jolie accepted President Waqa's invitation to visit Nauru when they met at the Global summit to end sexual violence against women in conflict*

*Photo: David Canon*

## Nauru donates \$50k to PIDF at second summit

His Excellency President Baron Waqa attended the second Pacific Island Development Forum (PIDF) last month (17 June) on invitation by Fiji's Prime Minister.

Issues discussed at the summit centred on the concept of green growth in a blue economy and sustainable development.

At the summit President Waqa made a contribution of AUD\$50,000 on behalf of Nauru to the PIDF, and announced the intended creation of a new position for a PIDF coordinator under the president's ministry.

On the margins of the summit President Waqa had a bi-lateral meeting with Indonesia's President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

At the bi-lateral meeting Mr Yudhoyono extended an invitation for President Waqa to visit Indonesia before stepping down from office on 20 October.

## Correctional officer returns from Japan training

The Nauru Correctional Services has welcomed the return of one of its senior staff from training in assessment and treatment of special needs offenders held in Japan.

Senior Correctional Officer in Administration Bruce Lee Adam is the first Nauruan to participate in the six-week course learning the different types of offenders such as men, women, juveniles, the disabled and the elderly and how as correctional officers should treat them.

Mr Adam and the nine other participants from different countries listened to professors from the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) and experts from Japan. The participants also visited the largest prison in Japan and saw firsthand how offenders were treated.

The training was sponsored by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) with the objective of giving criminal justice officials from the Asia and Pacific region, an opportunity to share experiences, gain knowledge, and examine concrete measures against crime, especially the assessment and treatment of special needs offenders.

Mr Adam returned last month (20 June) and is working on implementing what he learnt to his colleagues.

NAURU BULLETIN



*Mr Adam with his certificates from the Japan training*



## Hsiang bids farewell and Chow takes up Taiwan ambassador posting

His Excellency President Baron Waqa received the new ambassador for the Republic of China (Taiwan) to Nauru this week (8 July) at the Presidential Office for the presentation of credentials.

Prior to taking up his Nauru posting, Ambassador Chin-Fa Chow served as director general of the Taipei Economic and Cultural office in Sydney Australia. He replaces Timothy Hsiang as resident ambassador.

Upon arriving at the government office Mr Chow presented copies of his letter of credence to Secretary for Foreign Affairs & Trade Mr Michael Aroi before being received by the acting Director of Police Corey Caleb for the playing of the national anthems and inspection of the police Guard of Honour.

Mr Chow was later escorted to the President's Office for the presentation of credentials.

In his introductory message Ambassador Chow thanked Nauru for being a staunch ally of Taiwan over many years and expressed particular gratitude on behalf of his government President Waqa's statement at the UN General Assembly supporting Taiwan's "meaningful participation in the specialised agencies of the United Nations."

President Waqa accepted the letter of credence and congratulated Mr Chow on his appointment as ambassador of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to Nauru.

His Excellency highlighted the good relations and cooperation between the two countries and gave assurance of Nauru's continued support for Taiwan at the international arena.

Mr Chow also paid courtesy calls on cabinet ministers.

President Waqa hosted a dinner reception for the ambassador the following evening (Wednesday 9 July).

Mr Chow joined the military service in the early 1980s before starting his career with the department of foreign affairs a few years later.

Ambassador Chow arrived earlier this week on Monday 7 July following the departure of his predecessor Timothy Hsiang.



*Left - Former Taiwan ambassador to Nauru Timothy Hsiang accepts parting gift from President Waqa  
Right - New ambassador Chin-Fa Joseph Chow presents his credentials to President Waqa*

Last week (2 July) Timothy Hsiang bid farewell to Nauru at the completion of his three year posting as resident ambassador to Nauru.

Mr Hsiang was involved and instrumental in community based projects and government infrastructure notably the installation of solar powered lighting around the island, schools and government buildings and donations of bicycles to the health department.

Mr Hsiang was also influential in the increase of Taiwan government scholarships for Nauruans from two to five last year and then a further increases to six scholarships this year.

The ambassador is an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Nauru and was actively supportive in the club's fund raising efforts that support community initiatives.

He will take up his next diplomatic posting in Kuwait•

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](mailto:director.information@naurugov.nr)

Mobile: +674 5573009

[www.naurugov.nr](http://www.naurugov.nr)