



Nauru Bulletin

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Employment and services tax revised

The Employment and Services Tax schedule that was published in the Employment and Services Tax Act 2014 has been amended as published in Government Gazette 136-14.

The new schedule repeals and replaces the Schedule contained in the Employment and Services Tax Act 2014.

The new schedule lists the rates of employment tax as follows:

	Employment Income	Rate
Monthly Employment Income	\$0 - \$8000	0%
	Above \$8000	10%
Fortnightly Employment Income	\$0 - \$3690	0%
	Above \$3690	10%
Weekly Employment Income	\$0 - \$1845	0%
	Above \$1845	10%

The rate or rates for an employee with a pay period other than monthly, fortnightly or weekly will be advised by the Secretary of Finance to the employer under section 17 (3) of the Act.

Section 17 – Withholding of tax from employment income

(2) An employer must notify the Secretary, in writing, in relation to an employee that is a resident individual if the employer pays employment income to the employee that is subject to tax under section 11 on a basis other than monthly, fortnightly, or weekly.

(3) If an employer has notified the Secretary under subsection (2), the Secretary must advise the employer, by notice in writing, of the amount of tax to be withheld by the employer from the employment income paid to the employee and the employer must withhold tax accordingly.

The rate of employment tax applicable to a non-resident individual is 10% and the rate of services tax is 10%.

For further clarification please contact the Deputy Secretary Revenue, Mr. Terry Greenwood, on 557 9265 or email terry.greenwood@naurugov.nr or Secretary for Finance Mr Martin Hunt martin.hunt@naurugov.nr or 557 3133 ext 252•

Government and Ronphos sign contract to rebuild centennial hall

The Government of Nauru signed a contract with Ronphos Corporation for the reconstruction of the Nauru Congregational Church Centennial Hall last week (9 October) in the Cabinet room.

His Excellency President Baron Waqa, Cabinet Ministers, the Chief Secretary and CEO for Ronphos among others were present at the signing.

Chief Secretary Bernard Grundler and Ronphos CEO Jim Gearing both signed the six month contract on behalf of the Nauru Government and Ronphos respectively.

Director of Human Resources & Labour and general secretary of the Nauru Congregational Church Council Ms Peta Gadabu handed over the contract to Mr Gearing. Construction will commence next month.

The proposed upgrade will feature a new fellowship meeting room, public toilets and a change room. The existing concrete foundation will remain but the upper structure of the hall will be demolished and rebuilt.



Chief Secretary Bernard Grundler (L) and Ronphos CEO Jim Gearing shake hands after signing the contract to rebuild the church hall

The Centennial Hall was constructed in 1987 by the Nauru Congregational Church for the celebration of the centenary of the arrival of Christianity on Nauru•

Taiwan celebrates 103 years

His Excellency President Baron Waqa and Madam Waqa joined the 103rd anniversary celebrations of the national day for the Republic of China (Taiwan) at the Menen Hotel last week (7 Oct).

Taiwan Ambassador Joseph Chow welcomed guests and shared a few words about Taiwan's current economic standing and offered his appreciation to the Nauru Government for its continued support to Taiwan on the international platform.

President Waqa responded with as much appreciation for the Taiwan Government for all its aid and technical assistance in various areas, notably in health.

Ambassador Chow conferred cash prizes to representatives of the community softball tournament sponsored by the Embassy.

Health Minister Valdson Dowiyogo gave certificates of appreciation to members of the visiting Taiwan Mobile Medical Mission.

Cabinet ministers and various government officials attended the event which featured cultural performances from Nauru, Kiribati, Tuvalu, New Zealand and a wonderful dance performance by the staff of the Taiwan Embassy, technical mission and the visiting medical team.

Similar to last year the celebration was held a few days before the actual date of the national day of 10 October, allowing Taiwan nationals on the island to enjoy this special day.

On 28 September the second Taiwan Mobile Medical Team comprising of a nephrologist, ophthalmologist, gynecologist, and two nurses arrived on island and saw past and new patients.

On 6 October the team paid a courtesy call on President Waqa and presented the president with a gift before their departure on Wednesday. This is the second Taiwan medical team to visit this year.



Above: Leonard Alona receives the winners prize for the Taiwan Embassy sponsored softball tournament on behalf of Denig community from Ambassador Chow

Below: Taiwan's mobile medical mission pay courtesy call on President Waqa at the conclusion on their 9-day medical mission



Nauru surf club and Miss Nauru unveil new beach safety signage

His Excellency President Baron Waqa attended the unveiling of the new precautionary sign board last week (8 Oct) at the Gabab Channel which provides swimmers with safety tips and how to escape rip currents.

Sponsor of the sign board and supporter of the Nauru Surf Club and Lifeguard Services Miss Independence Nauru, Kauai Oppenheimer welcomed His Excellency, Madam Waqa and guests to the unveiling and expressed appreciation to those who have given their support to the Nauru Surf Club and its community work.

Miss Oppenheimer unveiled the new board featuring a diagram of the channel with arrows guiding swimmers out to sea if they get caught in a rip, and simple instructions to swim back to the side of the channel.

Vice President of the surf club Mr John Short spoke about the background of the surf club and its humble beginnings underscoring that the Nauru lifeguards are amongst the best qualified and trained lifeguards in the Pacific region.

Mr Short also expressed his gratitude to the Nauru Government for its continued support to the club.

President Waqa congratulated the surf club for its wonderful work in the community and thanked Miss Nauru for her sponsorship and support to the club. He particularly highlighted that it was encouraging to see that a role model such as the Miss Nauru title is contributing good work in the community.



Miss Nauru 2014 Kauai Oppenheimer unveils new signage at the Gabab channel

The nippers or junior lifeguards demonstrated a surf lifesaving scenario clearly showing their ability and knowledge in lifesaving techniques.

Nauru lifeguards are posted at the Gabab and Anibare boat harbour from 11am to 7pm each day.

Eigigu - approved garage and insurance company

It is notified for general information that as published in the Government Gazette 134-14 Eigigu Holdings Corporation trading as Eigigu Transport Services is an approved garage for the purposes of the Motor Traffic Act 2014; and is a competent authority, on behalf of the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and Licences, to receive and process vehicle registration applications.

It is also notified that Eigigu Holdings Corporation trading as Eigigu Financial Services Inc., is the approved Insurance Company for the purpose to offer Third Party Insurance Policy in Nauru under the Motor Traffic Act 2014•

Bendigo bank information seminars

Representatives of the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank made another visit to the island last week to conduct another round of information seminars and speak to customers about their accounts.

The focus of the visit was to resolve customer identification issues and account and banking information.

The issues relate mainly to customer identification (ID) documentation such as incomplete applications, names varying across IDs, differing signatures, and incomplete IDs.

The team say that response was not as strong as previous visits, and the seminars were attended by approximately 200 people.



Bendigo bank representatives speaking to local bank clients during the week long information sessions

At the time of the visit there were approximately 700 letters, statements, bank cards and PINs that were still uncollected at the post office.

While the team and staff of the Planning and Aid Division have since home delivered some of this mail, customers are urged to routinely check their postal box for unclaimed letters and correspondence from the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Bank said an agreement on the summary terms and conditions of a banking service being set up is still being looked at•

Customs & revenue office explains new legislation

The Nauru Customs and Revenue Office hosted an information session on 29 September for the public and key clients about the new customs legislation that was recently passed at the September sitting of parliament.

Attendees were also introduced to the new harmonised classification coding system which enables the customs officers to classify all imported products as well as generate key statistics such as the quantity or volume of imported goods and how much revenue is being generated from imports.

Importers are now also able to complete an electronic template to record a list of their imported goods. This would enable customs officers to deduce information easier and efficiently.

They also noted the removal of import duty on water tanks, rice and products related to fishing, pharmaceuticals, and education; but the increase in import duties for alcohol and tobacco products.

There are still many challenges that need to be addressed such as the shortage of staff however the department is keen to continue improving its services•

Year 8 scholarships conclude

The government's annual year eight scholarship exams is underway at the Civic Centre conference hall last week (7-10 October) for subjects in English, mathematics, science and social science.

Year eight students from Kayser College and Nauru College sat the four exam papers over four days for a position in the top 15 to become eligible for a full high school scholarship sponsored by the Government of Nauru.

The top 15 students will have the opportunity to further their high school education at a Fiji school at the start of the 2015 academic year.

A total of 80 students sat the scholarship; 69 on Nauru, nine in Fiji and two in Australia. Results will be announced in the next coming weeks.

The Education Department is also preparing the Year nine scholarship exam which will be held later this month (29 Oct- 1 Nov)•

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Republic of Nauru

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