



Nauru Bulletin

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Nauru observes two minutes' silence on Remembrance Day

Two minutes silence was observed during this years' Remembrance Day ceremony in front on the government office complex as the flag flew at half-mast.

His Excellency President Baron Waqa and Madam Waqa arrived at the ceremony shortly before 11am on 11 November to the waiting dignitaries and police honour guard standing at attention around the cenotaph.

The national flag was lowered to half-mast before the opening prayer was delivered by Reverend Roger Mwareow followed by the singing of the national anthem.

The laying of wreaths was led by President Waqa followed by Speaker of Parliament Ludwig Scotty, the Resident Magistrate Emma Garo, Taiwan Ambassador Joseph Chow, Australian High Commissioner Martin Quinn, Chief Secretary Bernard Grundler and Director of Police Corey Caleb.

Representatives from other organisations also laid wreaths including Magin Jacob representing Nauruan WWII survivors and returnees from Truk Island (now Chuuk).

The "Last Post" was played followed by the reading of the Ode of Remembrance by master of ceremony Dexter Brechtefeld.



His Excellency President Baron Waqa lays the first wreath at the Remembrance Day ceremony

Two minutes silence was observed to remember the war dead and Nauruans that endured the invasion of armed forces and destruction of war.

The Reville was played as the flag was hoisted to full mast and the ceremony concluded with a prayer by Father Saimone Kokoria.

Originally called Armistice Day, 11 November is commemorated each year to remember the war dead following the First World War.

The signing of the armistice was done on 11 November 1918 and was observed by Germany and its Allies.

The red Flanders poppy has been used as the flower to remember and honour the fallen.

Its symbolism became accepted throughout the allied nations as the flower of remembrance to be worn on Remembrance Day.

President Waqa meets Indian PM Modi

His Excellency President Baron Waqa and other pacific island leaders met in Fiji last week to meet with the Indian prime minister as an opportunity for dialogue and share experiences and issues of common interest.

In his speech President Waqa thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for visiting the pacific so early in his term in office.

"It confirms to us that you understand the urgency of the unique challenges we face and how seriously you take your responsibility as a leader in the international community," President Waqa said.

His Excellency used the opportunity to highlight and reiterate the effects of climate change and the vast challenges and problems the pacific island countries face as a result.

President Waqa also highlighted the number of issues on sustainable development faced by Nauru underscoring that "India could certainly provide resources and expertise that will benefit all of the Pacific peoples."



H.E President Baron Waqa met with Indian PM Modi in Fiji

Please note the President's full statement has been circulated separately. A copy may be requested.

President attends 2nd Korea-Pacific Islands foreign minister's meeting

His Excellency President Baron Waqa recently attended the Second Korea-Pacific Islands Foreign minister's meeting in Seoul Korea this month (23-26 Nov) in which he emphasised regional issues and regional cooperation.

President Waqa underscored the vision and objectives Pacific leaders shared and agreed at recent regional meetings such as the Framework for Pacific Regionalism endorsed by leaders at the 45th Pacific Leaders summit; the Samoa Pathway outcome document concluded by Pacific leaders at the 3rd United Nations International conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS), which articulates key priorities moving forward, particularly in relation to climate change, oceans and seas, energy and means of implementation.

President Waqa also highlighted the urgency in moving rapidly to implement solutions and what is best for Pacific fisheries and the lead the Parties to the Nauru Agreement has taken to address this as well as the recognition that Pacific leaders have taken by endorsing the Palau Declaration – the Ocean: Life and Future, charting a course to sustainability.

President Waqa concluded by inviting Korea to “join the newly formed Pacific Ocean Alliance and a stakeholder and partner in the journey for strengthened and integrated ocean management”, as well as welcomed Korea's recent interest in expanded trade and investment in the Pacific region.

President Waqa called on Korea to “support ‘Deepening Regionalism’ as a means to enhancing sustainable and inclusive development in the Pacific.” •



President Waqa with leaders from Korea and the Pacific at the 2nd Korea-Pacific island foreign leaders meeting in Seoul

Please note the President's full statement has been circulated separately. A copy may be requested.

Government progresses plans on setting up banking services on island

The plans for banking services in the form of an agency set up is progressing with Greg Watson, general manager of First Commercial Ltd., returning to Nauru to take charge of customer issues.

First Commercial Ltd., is not associated with the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank, but rather it is assisting the Nauru Government who is negotiating the banking facility with Bendigo Bank.

Mr Watson first visited Nauru in January and this trip is to work with the finance department help resolve customer identification issues for those who have got bank accounts, especially those whose accounts are already active.

Approximately 1700 customers have opened an account but around 300-400 have only presented one form of identification. The public is advised that a second form of identification is needed to meet the general requirements of opening and using a bank account.

Mr Watson is making media appearances this week and public consultations to both explain the important processes for the facility to be set up and to take on board any questions and queries from the public.

Mr Watson understands the public may be discouraged that it has been a long time since the initial plans of a banking facility was initiated but encourages the public that the project is still being progressed and the agency type facility will be set up.

Mr Watson will be on Nauru until Wednesday 3rd December and will be based at the Nauru Revenue Office (NRO). He will eventually return to Nauru to manage the agency once it is set up.

If you have questions about your account you may email greg.watson@firstcom.com.au •



Greg Watson, General Manager of First Commercial Ltd., is working closely with the government to address customer account set up and establish banking services on Nauru

President Waqa receives Korean Ambassador Kim

The Ambassador-designate for Korea to Nauru Mr Seong-in Kim presented his credentials to His Excellency President Baron Waqa this month (13 November) at the Presidential Office.

Mr Kim upon arriving at the Government office was received by Director of Police Mr Corey Caleb for the playing of the national anthems and inspection of the police Guard of Honour.

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

Following a brief introductory exchange between the Ambassador and President Waqa, His Excellency accepted the letter of credence and a private meeting ensued.

Afterwards Mr Kim made courtesy calls to Speaker of Parliament Mr Ludwig Scotty, cabinet ministers, and several government officials followed by a dinner reception that same evening hosted by President Waqa in honour of his appointment.

The next day (14 November) Mr Kim made further courtesy calls on various State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs).

The Ambassador arrived last week (12 November) and departed the same week (15 November).

Mr Kim earned a Masters in International Economics and served



Ambassador Seong-in Kim inspects the Nauru Police Guard of Honour before presenting his letter of credence to President Baron Waqa

as the director-general with the Korean ministry of foreign affairs and trade prior to his appointment as Ambassador – designate.

Nauru and Korea established diplomatic relations in August 1979.

The Korean Government has aided Nauru throughout the years especially in the Transport Department and the department of Information and Communications Technology (ICT)•

Australia donates dental equipment

The Australian government through its Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) and the International Health and Medical Services (IHMS) donated dental equipment to the Nauru dental clinic last week (21 Nov).

Assistant Secretary Regional Processing Operations Nauru, Mr Simon Schiwy handed over the equipment to Secretary of Health Rykers Solomon in a simple ceremony outside the clinic.

Mr Schiwy said Australia appreciates the ongoing support of the Government and people of Nauru and hopes the equipment will assist the dental unit in the treatment of its patients.

The equipment comprises an amalgamator for fillings, a water distiller and a steriliser that would keep infection control to a standard•



Sec Health Rykers Solomon receives the dental equipment from Simon Schiwy

Government rewards power lifters for world record achievements

The Government of Nauru awarded another two sports cash reward to power lifters Jezza Uepa and Bronco Deiranauw for their exceptional achievements at last months' Pacific Challenge in Sydney Australia.

Mr Uepa now holds the world record in the squat with his 413kg lift and 978.5kg total, making him the strongest man in the world.

Mr Uepa was off island at the time the awards be presented so his mother Vani Uepa received his cash award of \$15,000 on his behalf, both for achieving the top spot and for his record breaking lifts.

Mr Deiranauw placed third overall and was awarded \$1000.

The Waqa Government introduced the incentive to reward and recognise the achievements of Nauruan sportsmen and women that win medals at international sporting events.

Acting Minister for Sports Aaron Cook conferred the awards in the Cabinet room.



World record holder Jezza Uepa's award was received by his mother, Vani (centre). His fellow lifters, manager and coach were present at the ceremony including third place lifter Bronco Deiranauw (second from right)

For more information www.powerlifting-ifp.com •

World Diabetes' day and White Ribbon Day celebrated

The Women's Affairs department and Health department recently celebrated White Ribbon day and World Diabetes day with their host of activities.

The health department hosted numerous competitions last week (22 November) acknowledging World Diabetes day commencing with a fun walk from the civic centre to the Naoero public health centre.

A walk around the airstrip was organised for white ribbon day this week (24 November) with participants from various government departments, the public and service providers from the Regional Processing Centre.

White Ribbon Day began in 1991 and is the world's largest male-led movement to end men's violence against women and is now active in more than 60 countries.

White Ribbon is observed annually on November 25 and it signals the start of the 16 Days of Activism to Stop Violence against Women. The campaign ends on Human Rights Day (10 December)•

Government hands over two houses under the new housing scheme

His Excellency President Baron Waqa presented the keys to the 15th and 16th houses in the government housing scheme to homeowners last week (17 November).

The first house handed over belonged to Hedmon and Sandy Hedmon in Baitsi district and the second house to Ramson and Bermina Agege in Anibare district.

Six local construction companies are engaged in the housing project. Jatel Construction was awarded the contract to build Mr Agege's house and Eigigu Holdings Corporation (EHC) was awarded Mr Hedmon's house.

There are seven houses awaiting construction under the new government housing scheme.

The provision to construct 26 houses was budgeted for in the 2012-2013 fiscal year for Nauruan families largely to address overcrowding and the general design of the houses are three bedrooms, an open plan living and kitchen area, bathroom, and laundry.

To be eligible for the interest-free loan, an applicant was required to establish that they were living in an overcrowded household; must be able to demonstrate their ability to repay the loan over 15 years and to provide evidence of land ownership for the location of the house•



*(L) Bermina Agege meets President Waqa at the hand over of her family home in Anibare district
(R) Mr and Mrs Hedmon also received the keys to their home the same day (17 Nov)*

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

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Republic of Nauru

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