



Positive feedback for RPC open centre

The Open Centre arrangements for the Nauru Regional Processing Centre have been received with interest and positive feedback from asylum seekers who reside at the two camps – RPC 2 and RPC 3.

In the latest update from Operations Managers at the camps, the Open Centre arrangements have been very successful with very positive feedback from the participants of the Open Centre.

The Open Centre commenced on 25th February 2015 initially for three days a week between 9.00am to 5.00pm, allowing a select number of asylum seekers from the RPC access across the community for certain hours of the day.

This has increased to four days a week – Monday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday.

Up to 60 asylum seekers per day now participate in the Open Centre.

During school holidays the Open Centre

operates every day but reverts to the four days when school resumes.

Operations Manager at RPC 1 Berilyn Jeremiah said the mood has been very positive among the asylum seekers since the Open Centre began.



One of the popular swimming spots Anibare harbour is frequented by locals, refugees and asylum seekers

“The mood in the centres since the commencement of this arrangement has been very positive.

It [open centre] has helped them with their behaviour and are copying better

with their situation. We noticed they’re relaxed a bit in terms of behaviour and attitude.

“We also thank the community for helping the asylum seekers and the asylum seekers appreciate the assistance from Nauruans and for welcoming them into our Nauruan society,” said Ms Jeremiah.

Prior to participating in Open Centre, all asylum seekers are given training and education about Nauruan culture, general behaviour and conduct, and boundaries around private homes as well as restricted areas such as the airport runway, fuel farm and the power station.

All participants of the Open Centre will have agreed to and signed an Open Centre Code of Conduct agreeing to their responsibilities and conduct outside camp.

Additional community liaison officers are stationed in each district to cater for the Open Centre•

Minister Adeang attends ADB annual and reaffirms relations with Russia

Nauru’s Minister for Foreign Affairs & Trade attended the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Baku Azerbaijan this month (April) and used the opportunity to stop over in Moscow and Abkhazia.

Minister Adeang was in the Russian capital Moscow to discuss cooperation projects followed by a goodwill visit to Abkhazia to enhance relations and cooperation between the two countries.

Minister Adeang met with the President of the Republic of Abkhazia Raul Khadjimba reassuring Russia of Nauru’s strong standing in the relations.

Meanwhile, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov was delighted when Speaker of Parliament Ludwig Scotty accepted Abkhazia’s invitation last year to observe their country’s election.

Mr Lavrov used this example to inform other Pacific island leaders at the UN General Assembly in New York last year of Nauru’s efforts to strengthen relations with Russia•



Minister Adeang and President of Abkhazia exchange gifts following meeting reaffirming diplomatic relations and cooperation

Photo: www.apsnypress.info

President Waqa receives the ambassador-designate of Italy and the high commissioner-designate of India for the presentation of credentials

Last month His Excellency President Baron Waqa received the Ambassador-designate of Italy and the High Commissioner-designate of India for the presentation of letters of credence.

His Excellency President Baron Waqa received Mr Pier Francesco Zazo of Italy at the Presidential Office on Monday 23rd March for the presentation of credentials and later on 30 March Mr Anumula Gitesh Sarma of India also presented his credentials.

On both occasions the ambassador and high commissioner presented copies of their letters of credence to Secretary for Foreign Affairs & Trade Mr Michael Aroi before being received by the Director of Police for the playing of the national anthems and inspection of the police Guard of Honour.

As per usual procedure, the visiting dignitary is later escorted to the Office of the President for the presentation of credentials, accompanied by official remarks, followed by a private meeting.

Afterwards the ambassador and high commissioner makes courtesy calls on government ministers and the speaker of parliament as well as other senior government officials and members of the diplomatic corps.



(Top) Ambassador-designate of Italy Mr Zazo inspects the police honour guard prior to a courtesy call on President Baron Waqa and later in the week President Waqa receives the high commissioner-designate of India Mr Sarma for the presentation of credentials

ILO to develop situational analysis for employment

The Government of Nauru is engaging the assistance of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to develop a situational analysis for employment for Nauru.

Professor Jim Arrowsmith of New Zealand’s Massey University met with key officials of each department, state-owned entities and a community organisation this week (20-22 April) to get an understanding of employment that will assist in recommendations about employment, skills and opportunities for expanding decent work opportunities domestically and to increase employment through participation in well-regulated labour migration schemes.

Prof. Arrowsmith is responsible for drafting the Situational Analysis of Employment Policies which will be used as a tool to inform the development of a new National Employment Policy in Nauru.

“An Employment Policy is an important way to develop and coordinate strategies around job growth, education, skills and decent work.

“Senior officials, major employers and other key stakeholders are all committed to sustainable employment for Nauruans and



Prof. Jim Arrowsmith is responsible for drafting the situational analysis of employment policy for Nauru

an effective Employment Policy can provide a road map for bringing ideas and actions together.

“This includes responses to climate change in terms of job opportunities in Nauru and overseas,” Professor Arrowsmith said.

The project which links climate change and labour migration will outline problems and issues of employment and suggest priorities and practical elements for implementation by the Nauru Government.



The Ambassador for the Republic of China (Taiwan) Joseph Chow donated a Mercedes Benz to President Baron Waqa in a simple handover in front of the government office last week (14 April).

The 2006 vehicle was formerly used by the ambassador. It will now be used for government service.



HRM participants receive course materials for phase 2 of Australian accredited training

The twenty-five participants of the TNPS Capacity and Professional Development program received additional course materials this week (Wed, 22 April) for the second phase of their training program.

Phase two of the training will be the accredited Australian Human Resource Management Certificate IV Qualifications and will commence from Monday 4th May 2015.

His Excellency President Baron Waqa gave out the course materials in a gathering at the cabinet room.

Phase One of the program was an intensive week-long training in February conducted by Scott Bourke of the Australian Human Resources Institute (AHRI).



Seated L-R: Secretary Corporate Services Peta Gadabu, Senior HR Advisor Maritino Nemani, HE President Baron Waqa, Chief Secretary Bernard Grundler, Secretary to Cabinet Sasi Kumar, with course participants

The training is part of the Nauru Government's commitment to strengthen its human resource capacity in the public service to enable the delivery of effective and efficient service to its people.

The training was initiated and organised by Senior Government Human Resources Advisor Maritino Nemani with the support of the Chief Secretary within the Ministry of Public Service•

Madam Waqa embraces international women's day

Nauru joined the international community in celebrating International Women's day on Monday 9th March with a national program including a church service at the Orro Congregational Church in Aiwo.

The service was attended by His Excellency President Baron Waqa, Madam Louisa Waqa, cabinet ministers and senior officials.

Madam Waqa addressed the congregation during the church service underscoring this year's theme *Make It Happen* as a "fantastic theme".

Madam Waqa embraced the commitment and cooperation between men and women, regardless of their differences to make it happen through love, peace and understanding.

"I talk of the Nauruan mother who wakes every morning to

prepare her children for a brighter future, I talk of the Nauruan father who works underneath the heat of the afternoon sun to ensure that his children have food, clothing and shelter, I talk of the Nauruan community who continue to come together to embrace differences with compassion.

"I talk of the Nauruan who through love, peace and understanding is making it happen for Nauru.

"Every decision we make every day has an impact on our lives and the lives of our loved ones.

"We always aspire for a better life for ourselves and those we love," Madam Waqa said.

As luncheon was served following the service, secondary students engaged in a debate with the topic for and against women in parliament•

Taiwan midshipman cruising and training squadron to visit Nauru

The 2015 ROC (Taiwan) Navy Midshipman Cruising and Training Squadron is scheduled to visit the Republic of Nauru this weekend from 26 - 28 April.

The Goodwill Squadron, consisting of three naval ships with approximately 850 crew members, is led by Commander Rear Admiral Lin, Yu-pin. This is the second visit of this kind since 2006. As a gesture for goodwill and continued commitment from Taiwan, the ROC Navy Squadron will ship in loads of stationary and footballs to donate to the Nauru Government.

An official welcoming ceremony will be conducted at the Civic Centre on Monday, 27th April 2015 at 9.00am.

The ROC Navy cadets will also perform a marching band, honorary guards and martial arts at the Nauru International



Airport tarmac on the same day at 3.00pm.

However, if it rains, the performance will be transferred to the Kayser College hall.

The admissions to the above-mentioned performances are free of charge, and the public is encouraged to take this rare opportunity to witness the showcase of a modern ROC Navy•

Nauru Airlines' newest addition VH-YNU

Nauru Air Corporation welcomed the newest aircraft to its fleet with the blessing of VH-YNU on Tuesday 24 March at the Nauru International Airport.

The additional aircraft is the youngest in the fleet and brings the airlines' fleet to five planes including the freighter plane.

Mr Bowmaker also announced at the ceremony that the airline will commence flights to other destinations in the near future.

Minister for Nauru Air Corporation Hon David Adeang said the government had discussed earlier on about expanding the airline acknowledging that everyone could make a contribution for Nauru and the airline.

He said no-one would run the airline for Nauru but the people of Nauru.

"So let's do it right, let's do it properly," Minister Adeang said.

The airline is making positive progress in providing regular and frequent air transport for the island as well as good business opportunities for itself and local businesses.

In the wake of Cyclone Pam that devastated Vanuatu last month (March), a number of countries offered support to assist the relief effort and Nauru Airlines is also pleased to be part of the relief effort by providing freight charter services on behalf of several donor entities.



Country manager Limay Uera accompanies Pastor Palik Agir for the blessing of VH-YNU

The first of these charter flights flew directly from Brisbane into Port Vila on Monday 23 March.

The airlines Chief Executive Geoffrey Bowmaker said he was very pleased that "Nauru Airlines is able to play a small part in the extraordinary efforts being made worldwide in the recovery activities for Vanuatu at this time."

On another cooperative front in the Pacific, Nauru Airlines has undertaken during the month of April, all flying operations on behalf of Solomon Airlines who's aircraft has entered a period of planned maintenance.

This adds upwards of 30 hours additional flying for Nauru Airlines each week over this period•

Appi joins quarantine team

The Nauru Customs and Quarantine Office welcomed its newest staff, Director of Quarantine Mr Asterio Appi.

Mr Appi recently completed and graduated with a Master of Environment specialising in environment protection from Griffith University in Brisbane Australia.

Mr Appi said he hopes to apply vigorous monitoring and protection of Nauru's borders from pests and diseases which are key to the work the quarantine team hopes to achieve.

Having previously graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Taiwan's National Pingtung University of Science & Technology, Mr Appi comes to the Quarantine office with a valuable insight and understanding of the values of protecting Nauru's environment from pest and disease.

After graduating from Taiwan he worked with the Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment which he says has some similarities to what he does now.

"It is about protecting and caring for the environment from degradation particularly from the negative impacts of invasive alien species that can be brought in through the point of entries in Nauru. For Example the ship ports and the airport.

Asterio Appi joins the customs office with high hopes as director of quarantine.

Pictured here in his graduation attire from National Pingtung Uni Taiwan



"However the scope slightly differs, in that the issue of food safety is taken into account and that most of our work and responsibilities [at quarantine] are dictated and is regulated through the Agricultural Quarantine Act 1999 and the Plant and Animal Quarantine Regulation 2004," Mr Appi said.

Making the change from CIE to the quarantine office was purposely for the experience Mr Appi said.

"Biosecurity and border protection has always captured my interest however, when the opportunity presented itself I took it. It is also point to note that the passion for Nauru's very vital and fragile ecosystem is still at heart and the collaboration with relevant government and external bodies to solidify and strengthen our borders from the threat of pests and diseases that can damage the ecosystem is key to achieving any positive change."•

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