



Parliament meeting passes amendment bills & RONWAN for aged beneficiaries

The Nauru Parliament convened a sitting on 6 August with two amendment bills being passed which included the Refugee Convention Amendment Bill and Customs Amendment Bill 2015.

After the opening prayer was said, there was Questions on Notice time followed by Questions without Notice and Ministerial statements and concluded with the tabling of the Refugee Convention Amendment Bill and Customs Amendment Bill 2015.

During Questions on Notice time several issues were raised by the Member for Ijuw and Anibare Mr. Riddell Akua including the congestion for service from Bendigo Bank and the mooring project aimed at improving the mooring system of Nauru's Shipping industry. Other points raised during Questions on Notice included subleasing of land by Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation.

Questions without Notice shortly followed with questions being responded to from government of its management of its various portfolios. During questions without notice time, the Minister of Nauru Phosphate Royalties Trust (NPRT) stated that an announcement is going made after parliament sitting to payout the RONWAN monies to beneficiaries aged 70 years and above.



Parliament passes the Refugee Convention Amendment Bill and the Customs Amendment Bill on the last Parliamentary Sitting held on the 6th of August, 2015

Additionally, the Minister of Finance was queried about the salary rise for public servants. Minister Adeang reiterated that the government has already approved two million in a previous parliament sitting towards salary increases and that it is currently being processed the Human Resources department to determine the correct rates.

After a brief adjournment for lunch, parliament reconvened for the reading of a report by the Parliamentary Privilege Committee. In the report the Privilege Committee presented its findings in regards to the conduct of the two members for Meneng, which resulted in their suspension from Parliament. The Chair of the committee Mr. Cyril Buraman MP read the findings of the report which stated that there were onerous breaches of well-established privileges. Mr Cyril Buraman concluded to "leave the matter to the wisdom of the house to determine the next course of action". Members

agreed to have the matter debated at the next sitting.

During the Presentation of ministerial statements His Excellency President Baron Waqa presented his report on the his recent trip to Japan for the Pacific Alliance Leaders Meeting (PALM). The outcome of the meeting was fruitful with Japan agreeing to donate \$US 450,000,000 worth in aid for climate change assistance for Pacific islands.

Following ministerial statements, bill amendments were next on the agenda with a submission of the Refugee Convention Amendment bill. The amendments to the Refugee Convention Bill included an extension for the time for appeal from 28 days to 42 days. After the initial determination from the office of the Secretary of Justice, applicants are allowed to submit an appeal within 42 days to the Refugee Determination Tribunal for a review. The Minister of Justice honourable David Adeang stated that consultations have been made with the Chief Justice during the review process and the amendment makes for a just and fairer system.

A small change was also made to the Customs Act when the bill was introduced to the house. The amendment included a change to the definition of "forfeited goods". "The change aims to remove the ambiguity from the act and ensures that consistency is maintained in the act", Minister Adeang said.

United States Ambassador-designate presents her credentials

His Excellency President Baron Waqa received a courtesy visit from the United States (US) Ambassador-designate to the Republic of Nauru, Her Excellency, Ms. Judith Beth Cefkin. (Wednesday 12 August).

Ambassador Cefkin inspected the Nauru Police Force guard of Honour before being escorted to the Office of the President to present her credentials to His Excellency Baron Waqa.

In her address to the President, Her Excellency Ambassador Cefkin reaffirmed her country's support against curbing the effects of climate change on vulnerable small nations like Nauru. His Excellency President Waqa, then offered a few words welcoming the ambassador and congratulating her excellency on her appointment as Ambassador-designate. President Waqa highlighted that he looks forward to working with Ms Cefkin.

After the presentation of her credentials Her Excellency then made courtesy calls on the Speaker of Parliament Honourable Ludwig Scotty, Minister of Finance Honourable David Adeang and the Minister for Education thus concluding her itinerary for the day.

For the next two days of her excellency's visit, Ms Cefkin will be escorted on a drive through tour of the Regional Processing Centers followed by a courtesy call on the Acting High Commissioner of Australia Mr Daniel Heldon.



Her Excellency, Ms. Judith Beth Cefkin United States (US) ambassador-designate to the Republic of Nauru presenting her credentials to His Excellency President Baron Waqa

Afterwards, her visit Ms Cefkin made several courtesy calls on Minister of Health Honourable Valdon Dowiyago, Minister of Sports Honourable Shadlog Bernicke and Minister of CIE Honourable Aaron Cook.

Her Excellency also called on Members of the opposition before officially concluding her visit with a luncheon hosted by His Excellency president Waqa•

Able Disable Taiwan Trip 2015



The five students from the Nauru Able Disable Centre Abraham Ika, Rumina Doguape, Stanford Tsiode, Jane Quadina and Nicholson Kepae pose with His Excellency Baron Waqa and his wife Madam Louisa Waqa along with Minister of Education Charmaine Scotty and Minister Aaron Cook along with Taiwan Ambassador to Nauru Joseph Chow and Madam Chow

A dinner reception was held in honour of five students from the Nauru Able Disabled Centre, who will be travelling to Taiwan this week on Friday (14 August) to Taiwan as part of strengthening of bilateral ties between the governments of Nauru and Republic of China (Taiwan).

The students accompanied by their parents and a teacher will be travelling to experience the culture as well as appreciate the disabled facilities for people with special needs in Taiwan.

In his address, Taiwan Ambassador to Nauru Joseph Chow assured guests that the group will be in good hands as the specialist Eden Social Welfare Foundation will take care of them for the duration of the stay in Taiwan. According to Ambassador Chow the institution has extensive experience in catering young people with a variety of special needs.

The function which was hosted by the Republic of China (Taiwan), was also attended by His Excellency Baron Waqa and his wife Madam Louisa Waqa along with Minister of Education Charmaine Scotty and Minister Aaron Cook.

His Excellency honourable Waqa said that he endorsed the trip he is sure that the students will enjoy themselves as did other previous trips that preceded this one.

This year Abraham Ika, Rumina Doguape, Stanford Tsiode, Jane Quadina and Nicholson Kepae will look forward to travelling to Taiwan, as well as seeing and experiencing the culture of another country.

During the function the five students from Able Disable Center Nauru were treated to a video presentation which briefly introduced some of the activities they might experience when they tour Taiwan.

The dinner function was held at the Anibare Bay restaurant at Meneng Hotel•

Nauru nurses presents research

The Nauru public health services completed their training and research on the location community health living. The presentation took place at the civic conference room on Friday 7th August 2015.

Miss Iloi Rabuka lecturer education trainer at the RON hospital, congratulated the post graduate nurses for completing their task.

The nurses combined their research and presented their findings to the public. Nurse Stacey Cain asked the people what they needed to improve living at the location compound.

Some of the main recommendations included to provide their own wheelie bins, community support, stop littering, cleaning competition, rebuild the houses or to allow government to use it with the full landowner support•



Miss Iloi Rabuka congratulates all those that participated and completed their training and research on the Location Community for a healthy living

Water and Sanitation master plan

The first draft of the Water and Sanitation Master Plan was completed and presented at the Commerce Industry and Environment (CIE) project office on Friday (7 August 2015).

Non-Revenue Water (NRW) Macallan Fiji Ltd engineer, David Cox consulted with community representatives and the heads of State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) on the draft detailing some of aspects of the study into the Nauru water supply system.

The meeting followed an initial meeting that took place in March with key stakeholders to lay the technical groundwork for the study.

During the presentation, community representatives were briefed about the main aspects of the first draft and were asked to contribute to possible amendments that could be revised at the second stage of drafting of the master plan.

The plan is set to undergo further drafting and further amendments to be made before the final draft is committed to the Nauru Development Committee (NDC) and the Project Steering Committee (PSC) for finalization and approval.

The main aim of the master plan is to assess the existing water and sanitation situation and then develop a Capital Works Program up to and including the 20 year planning horizon from 2015 to cater for current and future needs.

The plan is expected to be finalized in October before it proceeds to the NDC for further amendments•

Indian high commission donates cheque to seawall project.

The Indian High Commissioner, His Excellency Anumula Gitesh Sarma presented a cheque for \$450,000 US dollars to assist the sea wall project at a short ceremony in the government cabinet room on Friday (7 August).

His Excellency Baron Waqa received the cheque and offered his thanks to High Commissioner Sarma for his huge assistance he is giving to Nauru. "This funding you offered will go a long way in securing the shore", President Waqa said.

His Excellency Anumula Gitesh Sarma stated his government would like to be involved in assisting any way they can to help Nauru.

The seawall project is still ongoing for the affected areas that are mainly located towards the north of Nauru.

Works will be completed by Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation•



The Indian High Commissioner, His Excellency Anumula Gitesh Sarma presented a cheque for \$450,000 US dollars to HE President Baron Waqa to assist in the sea wall project

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