



# Nauru Bulletin

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## President Waqa urge leaders to leave COP21 in solidarity and multilateral cooperation

His Excellency President Baron Waqa urges leaders at COP21 to leave the meeting in solidarity and with a legally binding outcome.

In His Excellency's remarks on 30 November at the Leaders Event of the Conference of Parties (COP21) President Waqa said "after years of excess and wilful ignorance, the climate bill has finally come due. Who will pay?"

"Right now, it is being paid by the poorest and the most vulnerable.

"Small Island Communities pay in the droughts that destroy livelihoods and the record cyclones that steal lives.

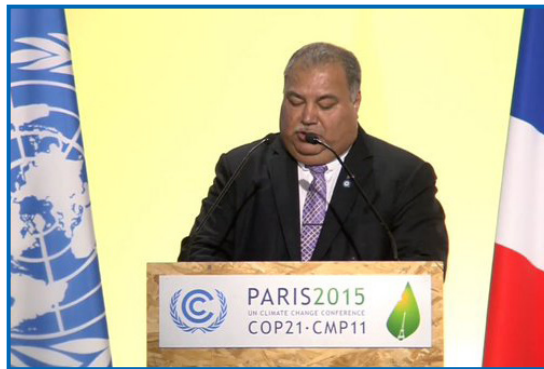
"We see a small toll exacted every day as our shorelines are slowly eroded. Larger payments are made when the foundation of our marine ecosystems are bleached away."

President Waqa said there is a choice.

"We can pay in human misery, or we can pay by seriously investing in a more equitable, more resilient, and sustainable

future. We can invest in ourselves.

"Clean energy not only reduces emissions, but also improves our public health.



*H.E President Baron Waqa delivers his remarks at the leaders event at COP21 in Paris on Monday 30 November*

"Any rational decision-making process would have led us to take these actions even in the absence of the climate crisis. That we have yet to choose safety over suffering will likely confound philosophers and psychologists for generations.

"The task will not be easy and it will not be cheap.

"We have grown complacent in our inspirational rhetoric and good intentions. I do not doubt their sincerity. But this all must change here in Paris. Vulnerable countries and communities alone can no longer

be left to pay the price of climate change," His Excellency said.

President Waqa urged leaders to be in solidarity with each other and to leave the climate talks "with a strong foundation on which to build a new era of multilateral cooperation."•

## Nauru government awards salary increment for public service

The Nauru Government has awarded the Nauru Public Service staff an eight per cent salary increment across the board for all local staff at the last pay period (20 Nov).

This is in line with the current governments' initiative to normalise salaries for public service employees. The 8% increase is back dated to 1 July 2015.

In awarding the 8%, it recognises the cost of living that has increased and secondly a degree of consideration on staff re-classifications by respective departments.

Whilst the current Government

endeavours to appropriate staff remuneration to decent levels, it also encourages staff to do their part and improve their overall work attitude and performance.

Chief Secretary Mr Bernard Grundler said it is imperative for all public service staff.

"We must change our attitude to work smart and grossly demonstrate responsibility and accountability in dispensing our duties.

"The ultimate is our commitment to improve three critical areas in the workplace - our commitment to punctuality, improve absenteeism and

lift our work performance to desirable levels," Mr Grundler said.

Whilst Government has delivered on its promises to improve staff salaries, employees including HoD's are expected to demonstrate best workplace practices and leadership and deliver efficient and effective service to the people internally and externally.

Cabinet has approved that going forward all re-classification of existing roles will be required to meet new strict justification requirements with the Department of Human Resources and Labour•

## Australian high commissioner Quinn bids farewell

The Government of Nauru hosted a farewell dinner in honour of outgoing Australian High Commissioner Martin Quinn at the Menen hotel on Friday 13 November.

The Guard of Honour mounted by the Nauru Police Force was accorded to Mr Quinn upon his departure on Monday 23 November at the Nauru International Airport.

At the farewell dinner, President Waqa offered his governments' heartfelt thanks and appreciation for Mr Quinn's continuous support during his tenure.

Mr Quinn made his last courtesy call on President Waqa in the Office of the President on Thursday 19 November.

President Waqa thanked Mr Quinn for his services and for making the relations between Nauru and Australia "smooth".

In conclusion President Waqa invited the High Commissioner to return for the Independence Day celebrations in January 2016.

In response Mr Quinn said that "Nauru has a friend in Australia" including members of the Australian government and opposition. One of his final functions, Mr Quinn hosted a belated Armistice Day luncheon at the Menen hotel on 18 November where he invited Nauru's senior citizens – affectionately known as Young at Hearts.

Mr Quinn served as the Australian high commissioner to Nauru for two years. He presented his credentials to President Waqa on 29 April 2014. Ms Amanda Jewell will be Charge de Affaire until the new high commissioner is announced.



*Martin Quinns boards his departure flight at the end of his term as Australian high commissioner to Nauru*

## British high commissioner makes last visit before term ends

The outgoing British High Commissioner Dominic Meiklejohn made a courtesy call on President Waqa to say farewell as his two year term as high commissioner to Nauru is expected to end by the end of 2015.

President Waqa thanked Mr Meiklejohn for his unwavering support and assistance to Nauru and wished him well in his future endeavours.

Mr Meiklejohn presented his credentials to President Waqa in October 2013 and is based in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

## Graduates receive cert IV in HRM

The Department of Human Resources and Labour (HRL) together with the Australian Human Resources Institute (AHRI) hosted the graduation ceremony for the first group of students of the Professional Certification IV in Human Resources Management.

A total of 26 students comprising of managers, directors and secretary level staff representing all departments enrolled for this course - 24 graduated whilst two were unsuccessful.

The event was held at the Centennial Hall on Thursday 12 November. The chief guest was His Excellency President Hon. Baron Waqa M.P who presented the students with their Professional Certificate IV in HRM from the Australian Human Resources Institute (AHRI).

This professional certificate IV in HRM is Australian accredited and globally recognised certification conducted by AHRI in countries outside of Australia. Nauru is the latest inclusion.

This program is part of a series of capacity and professional development programs conducted by the NPS Human Resources to assist staff in developing new skills, knowledge and understanding in applying best practices and methods in managing people in the workplace.

"Strategically, this is part of government's initiative to ensure that NPS has a workforce that can multi-skill, apply innovation and creativity and deliver best outcomes sustainably," Senior Government HR Adviser Mr Maritino Nemani said.



*Twenty-four students graduate in Professional Certification IV in Human Resources from the Australian Human Resources Institute*

His Excellency reminded the students that "this graduation isn't the end of a tough journey. It is the beginning of a beautiful one."

"Make the right choices and back them up with plain old hard and smart work. Your graduation ceremony is a celebration of the fact that you are now ready to go out there and make Nauru a better place," President Waqa said.

In attendance were Cabinet Ministers, the Speaker of Parliament, Chief Justice, Taiwan Ambassador, the executive staff of the judiciary, Heads of Department, families and friends, as well as the Board and CEO representative of AHRI Mr Paul Begley.

The ceremony concluded with refreshments and a graduation dinner at the Anibare restaurant.



## Armistice day commemorated

Armistice Day was commemorated with the traditional wreath laying service at the cenotaph at government office on 11 November in remembrance of the fallen of World War II.

Official proceedings began after the arrival of His Excellency Honourable Baron Waqa and Madam Louisa Waqa.

Flags were lowered to half-mast before the singing of the Nauru national anthem. Two minutes silence was observed in remembrance of those that perished during the war. This was followed by the playing of the Last Call.

President Waqa laid the first wreath on the cenotaph followed by Honourable Cyril Buraman representing the members of the Nauru Parliament. Nauru Chief Justice His Honour Joni Madraiwiwi also laid a wreath on behalf of the Justice department followed by members of the diplomatic corps, and other organisations.

Mr Gaouwa Daoe laid a wreath on behalf of the Truk Island returnees.

Scout master Ishmael Fritz laid the final wreath on behalf of the



*His Excellency President Baron Waqa lays the first wreath on Armistice Day*

Nauru Scouts before the flags were raised to full mast and the Ode of Remembrance was read signaling the end of the official program.

Light refreshments followed•

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## Commonwealth secretariat offers assistance over political differences

The Commonwealth Secretariat visited Nauru early November on a fact finding mission in light of Nauru's political situation to mediate and propose ways forward to resolve political differences.

Solomon Islands Minister for Foreign Affairs Milner Tozaka and Advisor to the Commonwealth Secretariat Albert Marina met with His Excellency President Baron Waqa and Cabinet ministers during the two-day (11-13 Nov) visit.

The visiting team offered various types of assistance especially for the justice, judiciary, and foreign affairs sector•

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## Nurses attain post grad certificate

The graduation ceremony for the Post Graduate Certificate in Public Health Nursing took place at the Civic Centre conference hall on 19 November.

Director of Nursing Mrs Moralene Capelle welcomed guests and introduced the graduates before Associate Professor Illoi Rabuka gave a briefing of the training program.

"They were able to meet all requirements successfully and they were able to pass the final exam," Professor Rabuka said.

Professor Rabuka also forecasted that 2016 will be the year of growth for health training with the assistance from Fiji National University (FNU) through the World Health Organisation (WHO) funding.

"Fiji National University will assist with curriculum development and staffing through WHO and other agency funding", Professor Rabuka said.

His Excellency President Baron Waqa extended his congratulatory remarks and awarded the certificates.

His Excellency said he was pleased for the graduates and that their achievement is not only an honour to themselves but it is also an honour to their families and their country as well.

"God has blessed us with the joy of seeing these nurses graduate and I wish them well," President Waqa said.



*Graduate nurses with President Baron Waqa and Madam Waqa, and Professor Illoi Rabuka*

Acting Secretary for Health and Medical Services Mr Rayong Itsimaera also offered his congratulatory remarks, followed by the presentation of graduation certificates and prizes.

The dedication of the graduates was presided over by Reverend Morley Thoma followed by the cutting of the graduation cake which was conducted by Madam Louisa Waqa and the graduates.

The official program closed with the vote of thanks delivered by student graduate Isabella Dageago and Principal Training Officer Vania Scotty•

## Climate must be a permanent UN security agenda item: President

His Excellency President Baron Waqa addressed the Seventieth Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on 30 September underscoring the issue and importance of climate change and remembers the 70th anniversary of the return home of Nauruans that were forcibly evacuated to Truk Island during the Second World War.

His Excellency describes the United Nations as a successful organisation, saying legitimacy is the backbone to the success of the UN.

“Therefore, to strengthen the legitimacy of the United Nations, I propose that the road ahead be guided by three principles: universality, adaptability, and accountability,” President Waqa said.

His Excellency said the adoption of the 2030 Development Agenda demonstrates the leaders’ “ability to learn from past experience and create an approach better tailored to the needs and circumstances tailored for all nations”, and the “welfare of human beings”.

“Education, public health, gender equality, clean water, oceans, energy and more importantly, a strong family unit – these are some of the blocks on which our future must be built,” President Waqa said.

His Excellency said “aid must be predictable and sustainable” and should not be used “as a weapon to advance partisan political ends.”

Nauru called on the UN Security Council to make climate change a permanent agenda item, supplemented by the appointment by the United Nations Secretary-General of a Special Representative on Climate Change and Security.

“In addition, relevant organs of the United Nations should conduct an assessment of their capacity to respond to the security implications of climate change,” President Waqa said in his statement.



*President Baron Waqa addressing the UN General Assembly*

World Leaders opened the General Debate at the United Nations celebrating its 70th anniversary and closed the special summit on the adoption of the 2030 Agenda.

President Waqa presided over the plenary meeting in his capacity as the Vice-President of the General Assembly for the 70th Session.

Over the course of the week President Waqa met with Russia’s foreign minister Sergey Lavrov, Japan Prime Minister Abe in relation to the annual Japan-Pacific Islands meeting.

President Waqa also attended a breakfast meeting with Australia’s Foreign Minister Julie Bishop, and Pacific Island Forum Leaders.

His Excellency also met with Nauru’s traditional and non-traditional development partners on the margins of the General Assembly to recognise the long-standing cooperation and further strengthen relations with the eventual implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development•

## Nauru focus on climate talks at pacific leader’s summit

His Excellency President Baron Waqa led the Nauru delegation to the Pacific Islands’ Forum Secretariat Leaders’ Summit in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea on 8-10 September.

The meeting discussed a range of issues including the Framework on Pacific Regionalism, notably the sustainable management of fisheries, concerns about climate change, the economic and educational opportunities of information and communication technologies, responses to address cervical cancer, and concerns of the human rights issues in West Papua.

Leaders expressed support towards the UN Summit for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and committed to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as call for support to commitments under the SAMOA Pathway and Addis Ababa Action Agenda with particular attention to the region’s ‘unfinished business’ on the MDGs.

Nauru’s focus was on the issue of climate change and its effect on small island states.

On the margins of the leaders’ summit President Waqa engaged in bi-lateral meetings with several leaders including those of the United States, Italy, Cuba, the Federated States of Micronesia and Papua New Guinea.

In the meeting with PNG Prime Minister Peter O’Neill, discussions centred on PNG’s request for regional cooperation on a range of issues including climate change, the West Papua issue, nurses training, and police cooperation in particular information and training.

The PNG leader offered that his country’s police academy is willing to accept Nauru police officers for training from 2016.

President Waqa was accompanied to the Forum by Madam Louisa Waqa, Finance Minister David Adeang, Members of Parliament Milton Dube, Cyril Buraman and Lyn-Wannan Kam, Presidential Counsel Peter Jacob, Secretary for Foreign Affairs Mike Aroi and Aide-de-Camp David Canon.

Nauru will host the Forum meeting in 2018•



## President Waqa visit students in Cuba

At the invitation of the Cuban Government, President Baron Waqa made a stopover in Havana, Cuba after the United Nations General Assembly in New York and discussed cooperation projects in the field of medicine and training. His Excellency also met with Nauruan students studying medicine.

President Waqa met two of the three medical students. One student is in his final year with the other two in their fifth year with two more years before they complete their studies.

Cuba has accepted and funded Nauruans on medical scholarships for the past several years as well as send teams of medical personnel to Nauru to work at the Republic of Nauru Hospital.

A team of doctors are expected to arrive soon to take up positions at the Nauru General Hospital•



*Nauruan students Lyana Menke and Peter Demauga studying medicine in Cuba met with President Waqa and delegation*

## Government gives \$1000 to communities for Angam

On behalf of the Nauru Government His Excellency President Baron Waqa met community leaders to present them with monetary donation as part of this year's Angam Day celebrations.

Community leaders received \$1000 each for their community as part of the government's assistance towards the historic date.

The event was also attended by Cabinet ministers.

Speaking on behalf of community leaders Mr Tyrone Deiye expressed their appreciation of the contribution and said that the generous contribution will greatly assist community preparations for Angam day celebrations.

A total of 13 community representatives received the cash donation•



*Community leader for Aiwo Tyran Capelle receives her community's cash donation from President Baron Waqa on behalf of the Nauru Government*

## Police remembrance day

The Police Remembrance Day was commemorated with a church service at the Orro Congregational Church on 13 October.

The service was presided over by Police Chaplain Reverend Roger Mwareow and attended by His Excellency President Baron Waqa, Madam Louisa Waqa, and distinguished guests.

The congregation was upstanding at the arrival of the Nauru and Fiji flags in remembrance of fallen officers from Nauru, Fiji and Papua New Guinea in 2015.

The flag procession was followed by the singing of the Nauru national anthem by the Nauru Congregational Church Youth choir.

Police Commissioner Corey Caleb read the scripture reading before delivering a speech on behalf of the Nauru Police Force (NPF) in remembrance of police officers that have dedicated their lives to protect their country. This followed the recital of the police prayer by members of the NPF.

President and Minister for Police and Emergency Services Hon Baron Waqa then delivered an appreciation speech.

The service concluded with a sermon and hymn.

The flags were then retrieved by the police flag bearers before President Waqa and Madam Waqa were escorted from church by Rev. Mwareow.

Police Remembrance Day is a significant day in the police calendar where members of the police force are remembered and honoured.

Police Remembrance Day was initiated in April 1989 during the Conference of Commissioners of Police where it was unanimously agreed the service would be held on 29 September each year, the feast day of Saint Michael the Archangel Patron Saint of Police•



*NPF flag bearers exit the church service with the Nauru and Fiji flags*



## Quarantine opens new office

The Nauru Quarantine office announced the opening of its new office space with a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Nauru Airport on Friday 17 September.

The new office space will be used for quarantine capacity building and as a base for visiting consultants.

After official proceedings ended, the Minister of Justice and Border Control Honourable David Adeang was given the honour of cutting the ribbon before being shown around the new premises by the Director of Quarantine Mr Asterio Appi.

In his welcome remarks Mr Appi expressed his thanks to the Ministry of Justice for its assistance in the creation of the premises for quarantine operations.

Mr Appi said the new office will bring many benefits and enable the quarantine office to better execute its role in protecting Nauru's borders from unwanted pests and diseases.

Mr Appi said the old quarantine office will now be used for operational purposes and the frontline to handle customer care issues.



*Minister for Justice and Border Control David Adeang cuts the ribbon at the official opening of the new quarantine office*

“With the expansion of our economy, the demand for the services of quarantine has increased dramatically. Before we recruited staff I secured the space first that will be enough for at least seven more people,” Mr Appi said•

## TWG update on hospital redevelopment

The Technical Working Group (TWG) for the RON Hospital redevelopment project convened on Friday 11 September for updates on phase one of redevelopment works for the RoN hospital.

Health and Services Advisor Ms Lee Pearce said the TWG governs the work that is being undertaken during the three phases of rebuilding.

“So it’s being done in three phases and so phase one will be completed by February next year,” Ms Pearce said.

During the meeting, the TWG was updated by the operational working team about phase one activities that has commenced or has completed. This included clearing the area of unexploded and general cleanup of the hospital grounds.

“Now since July they have been checking out the grounds for unexploded bombs, they have been doing a hospital cleanup. Now they’re working towards moving services including the dental, lab, pharmacy, x-ray and then the next bit would be the preparing of the ground,” Ms Pearce said.

Services such as dental, pharmacy, laboratory, X-ray unit and the dressing clinic were temporarily out of service over the weekend from 25 to 28 September due to the relocation. A supply of medicine was placed in the emergency department to cater for pharmaceutical needs.

Hospital services were expected to resume on Tuesday 29th September•



## Health signs MoU with Fiji uni

The Nauru Ministry of Health and the Fiji National University (FNU) successfully negotiated and signed a memorandum of understanding for training of health staff on 25 August 2015.

In the past, the hospital has been heavily dependent on expatriate health personnel for delivery of its health care services. The signing of the MOU between FNU and Nauru Health, will set the foundations and contribute to the development of tertiary education on island for local staff.

“We’re just trying to build capacity locally rather than send them out and so for some can carry on working and study. For some they might need to go out [overseas for training],” Ms Pearce said.

As part of the agreement FNU also aims to set up a satellite centre to assist in further development and training purposes•



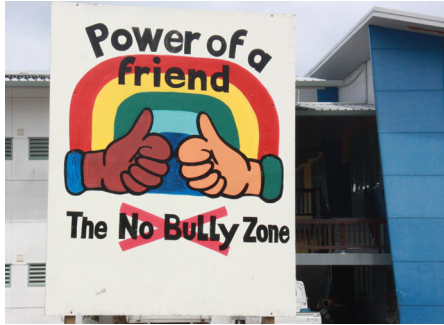
*Nurse Vivian Nottle at work in the emergency department, RoN Hospital*

## Nauru college establishes anti bully policy

The Nauru College (NC) principal and staff commenced their anti-bullying awareness campaign in the mid-year term that resulted in the compilation of the anti-bullying policy.

A committee was formed largely of NC teachers and a small group of parents.

The committee's role is to establish strategies for the anti-bullying campaign which resulted in the compilation of the policy.



The committee continuously collects data on the various forms of bullying and has already found that some forms of bullying such as physical, cyber, and psychological bullying has

happened within school grounds.

The most common form in schools is cyber bullying.

It is understood that students use social media to access information about others outside school hours and then use the information to tease and mock fellow students when they are on school grounds.

Mrs Taumea said the reason they pushed for the anti-bullying awareness campaign is because her school is multicultural and did not expect students to experience bullying within the learning environment.

Mrs Taumea expects all members of the school community to prevent bullying by being role models as well as to promote appropriate behaviour and respectful relationships•

## Nauru rugby sevens in olympic qualifier

The Nauru Rugby Sevens team took part in the Olympic qualifying tournament in Auckland, New Zealand earlier this month (November).

Team Nauru scored one try in the match against the Solomon Islands, then two tries and a conversion against American Samoa.

Prior to the team's departure President Baron Waqa presented the team with gifts and wished them well and reiterated the value of discipline and how the team should conduct themselves during tournament.

Captain of the sevens team Kristidis Menke thanked President Waqa for his supportive words and affirmed that the team will give their utmost best in the upcoming tournament and for a successful outcome•

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NAURU BULLETIN



Republic of Nauru

## Government hands over 20th house

His Excellency President Baron Waqa officially handed over the keys to the 20th house completed under the Government's new housing scheme.

His Excellency said a few words to the family and encouraged them to take care of their house and to make extensions to it if they wished.

President Waqa handed over the keys to Bruce Diema and partner Geraldine of Baitsi district.

The scheme offers an interest-free housing loan provided by the Nauru government to Nauruan families which is repayable over 15 years.

Each house is valued at \$44,000.

Local company Our Construction constructed the house. There are currently six houses left under the housing scheme•

## Jose nominated youth worker finalist

The Nauru Government acknowledged Nauru National Youth Coordinator Alpha Gwein Jose for having been selected as one of 14 finalists for the 2015 Commonwealth youth worker of the year award.

The ceremony was hosted by President Baron Waqa and acting Minister for Education Shadlog Bernicke in the Cabinet room on 6 November.

Mr Jose was nominated because of his work giving vulnerable young people a sense of purpose and contributed to the social cohesion of youths on Nauru.

The nominees are selected from the 52 Commonwealth countries.

The winner is selected by a panel of representatives of the Commonwealth youth program and young people. The winner is from Uganda.

This year's theme for is "Youth workers creating paths to peace" acknowledging the roles of outstanding youth workers from Commonwealth countries•



*Jose receives gift from acting Education Minister Shadlog Bernicke acknowledging his nomination as finalist for the 2015 Commonwealth youth worker of the year*

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