



# Nauru Bulletin

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## Chief sec and justice hold PSA info session

The Department of Chief Secretary held an information session on the Public Service Act as a means to enlighten staff and make the law clearer.

The Human Resources section in conjunction with the Justice department conducted a one day familiarisation workshop last week (7 Oct) for the Nauru Public Service Act 2016 and associated procedures.

The workshop was designed for heads of department and directors for familiarisation and awareness of the various provisions of the new Nauru Public Service Act 2016 and the Regulation on Disciplinary procedures and processes.

The public service plays an important role in state-building, and services offered makes the state visible to its people, often forming the primary tangible link between the government and their people.

The reform of the law governing the public service has taken into account the challenges faced and the changing workforce dynamics of the public service and the need to ensure a well organised system of service delivery.



*The Justice and Human Resources section conducted a one day familiarisation workshop for the Nauru Public Service Act 2016*

The Act will further strengthen the public service's resolve to implement a robust law that is built on the foundation of operational effectiveness and efficiency. The Act offers a more meaningful and constructive mechanism for accountability of all employees.

Notable of these is the inclusion of Public Service Values and a Public Service Code of Conduct and the Regulations which covers the disciplinary procedures and processes. The disciplinary mechanism treats everyone fairly with natural justice and procedural fairness irrespective of ones status.

Other benefits included a practical and reasonable maternity and paternity leave provision, adoption leave, and the 14 days rule on AWOL employees.

Public servants play a critical role in our communities and these values and code of conduct are not intended to create burdensome rules that would be difficult to follow. The values and code of conduct enshrined in the NPS Act 2016 are intended to build confidence between the government, the public servants and ultimately the people of Nauru.

The goals of the Chief Secretary's department are to strengthen and develop the institutional capacity of the Nauru Public Service.

Its objectives and strategies are to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of spending on government administration and services; improve performance of the Public Service; identify capacity gaps and design appropriate strategies to build capacity at individual, organisational and institutional levels•

## World mental health awareness day

Nauru Public Health held a World Mental Health Awareness day this month to promote the issues surrounding the condition and how to recognise people with a mental health condition.

While there are still many unreported cases of mental health cases, the reported numbers are well above a hundred and increasing.

The hospital recently recruited psychiatrist Dr Tobias Smith who is now working with local staff and patients.

Current reported cases for locals are in excess of 150 and 30 refugee cases.

A community day was held on Saturday 8 October with a volleyball tournament, market stalls, kids' activities, face painting, yoga and drumming sessions. Free gifts were also on offer including advice on mental health issues and barbeque lunch.

The theme "let's talk psychological first aid," is aimed at letting the general public know about and become aware of mental health issues among the communities and how to deal with it.

Prizes were awarded on Monday 10 October at the Centennial Hall and a Walk for Life (fun walk around the airstrip) took place on Wednesday 12 October coinciding with the walk for World Food Day•

# Taiwan celebrates 105 years

The Republic of China (Taiwan) celebrated 105 years of its national day on 10 October across the globe in countries of diplomatic allies.

The Nauru Embassy's dinner banquet coupled with the signing of the new five year agreement for medical services was well attended at the Menen hotel.

In his welcome address Taiwan Ambassador Joseph Chow underscored the exceptional relationship Taiwan enjoys with Nauru highlighting the ever strong support Nauru offers Taiwan on the international platform and his countries challenges since the establishment of the ROC in 1912.

"Since that time we have faced all kinds of challenges and adversaries. We have survived and flourished.

"Looking back on our achievements we always remember, and are especially grateful for the goodwill that our many international friends have rendered to us. So tonight is also an opportunity to express our sincere and heartfelt gratitude to all our friends, particularly our friends here in Nauru for your loyal support to us over the years.

"On behalf of my government and the Taiwanese people I extend my sincere thanks and profound gratitude," Ambassador Chow said.

Mr Chow highlighted some achievements and progress in his country notably the election of the first female president of Taiwan.

President Waqa underscored the "enduring spirit of the Chinese people" having risen from "an agrarian society to one of the world's most dynamic and highly advanced civilisations" now forming the Republic of China (Taiwan).

"Today, the Republic of China and the Republic of Nauru share many common values and goals in the advancement of progress and development not only for Nauruans and Taiwanese nationals, but for all citizens of the world. We have been truly close friends



*President Baron Waqa and medical team leader Professor Hsu Hui-heng sign a five year extended agreement for medical services with Taiwan Taichung Veterans' hospital.*

for three and half decades and in those three and half decades, the Republic of China has proven to be a country with a big heart.

"Nauru as always, continues to be an advocate for the Republic of China at international forums, so that they can be represented and heard," President Waqa said.

The highlight of the evening was the signing of the five year extended agreement for medical services with Taiwan hospital Taichung Veterans' Hospital by President Waqa and medical team leader Professor Hsu Hui-heng.

"We are continuing to upgrade the medical collaboration between the hospital and the people of Nauru," Mr Hsu said.

According to Mr Hsu, over the years Taiwan mobile medical teams have attended over 7000 outpatient consultations, 500 home visits, conducted over 300 operations, and have received 29 patient referrals to Taichung Veteran's Hospital in Taiwan.

"Each patient to my hospital, given my busy schedule I insist to visit them and bring them my best wishes."

Mr Hsu said the new agreement just signed is a further commitment to Taiwan's assistance adding that further discussions have taken place with Dr Ola putting emphasis on addressing diabetes as well and provision of medical training at Taichung Hospital over the next five years.

The Taiwan government has provided assistance to Nauru in the form of direct budget funding, contributions to the Trust Fund, set up of poultry and vegetable farming, and assistance in kind in the form of healthy eating programs, medical assistance, and scholarships.

Entertainment was provided by the Kiribati community and a group of secondary school students that recently returned from a cultural exchange trip to Taiwan•

# Fiji celebrates 46th Independence day

The Fiji community in Nauru celebrated its 46th anniversary of Independence at the weekend (Saturday 15 Oct) in conjunction with the celebratory Olympic gold medal victory by Fiji Rugby 7's at the Rio Games.

As president of the Fiji community, His Excellency President Baron Waqa jointly hosted the dinner event with community chairman Maritino Nemani at the civic centre.

The celebrations commenced with traditional introductions followed by the kava and garlanding ceremonies.

In His Excellency's opening address he welcomed guests and



*The Nauru Fijian community celebrate their 46th anniversary of Independence.*

acknowledged the contributions by Fijians that have come to Nauru to take up employment and be part of nation building.

Mr Nemani responded with words of thanks and highlighted the importance of Fiji's independence noting Nauru's long term friendship with Fiji dating back to its pursuit for independence.

Special guests included Madam Louisa Waqa, Cabinet Ministers, Speaker of Parliament, members of parliament, Taiwan Ambassador Joseph Chow and Mrs Chow, and Australian High

Commissioner John Donnelly.

Fiji day is officially on 10 October•



# World food day celebrated in Nauru



*President Waqa with Australia and Taiwan Heads of Missions at World Food Day celebration.*

Nauru celebrated World Food Day (14 Oct) highlighting the effects of climate change and food sustainability.

In his speech His Excellency President Waqa highlighted the importance of world food security in the face of climate change.

The theme for this year's World Food Day is, "climate is changing, food and agriculture must change too."

"Climate change will have a major impact on our food security through increased heat and higher levels of evaporations.

"We already see the impact through coastal erosion and severe storm surge," President Waqa said.

In light of these issues the Nauru Government has commenced preparations towards agriculture and climate change by introducing sustainable agricultural practices in schools and the community.

The department of Commerce, Industry and Environment (CIE) has established climate tolerant plants in cooperation with the Taiwan agricultural mission and the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO).

"The agricultural division is also working towards increasing the numbers within their poultry farm as part of food sustainability," President Waqa said.

His Excellency also mentioned the Ridge to Reef (R2R) project which has been undertaken by CIE with assistance from the Nauru Fisheries, Marine Resources Authority (NFMRA) to help establish a relationship with the Nauruan community in helping to understand how to better manage fish resources for food sustainability.

The Nauru R2R project is in partnership with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the South Pacific Community (SPC), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Food & Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

The Nauru R2R project has established a wet lab in support of fisheries biological sanctuary program.

A social economic survey is also being prepared to determine the consumption of fish resources on Nauru in the face of Nauru's growing population and how to improve the management of those coastal marine resources and how to reduce the negative impact of climate change.

"These activities will continue as we increase our efforts towards sustainable agriculture in the changing of climate," President Waqa said•

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

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NAURU BULLETIN



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