

REPUBLIC OF NAURU Government Information Office

## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE by His Excellency President Lionel Aingimea

Monday, 1 June 2020

In this week's situational update President Lionel Aingimea advises that the 52 people who arrived from Brisbane on Friday 29 May will be tested for the presence of coronavirus (COVID-19) this Wednesday. They are currently accommodated at the Meneñ Hotel and Canstruct's Anibare Village.

The President says the science on COVID-19 is evolving and while there are many expert advices, the World Health Organisation (WHO) suggests 5.2 days for the virus to load up in the body and show symptoms. Lab testing is specific to detect viral loading and presence in the body.

The President says different countries have different processes of testing and Nauru is monitoring all these and decisions will be guided by expert advice as the science develops around COVID-19.

The Nauru Government has negotiated and successfully secured two charter flights as agreed to by the Fiji Government. Both flights will be operated by Nauru Airlines.

The first flight will be tomorrow, Tuesday 2 June, arriving at 5.30pm and the second flight scheduled for Friday to allow those currently in quarantine at the Meneñ Hotel to have their lab tests finalised and the rooms vacated, cleaned and disinfected for the new arrivals from Fiji.

Approximately, 140 passengers are expected for both flights.

Government-sponsored students are being accommodated at the homes of Nauru High Commission staff in Suva as they waited for the confirmation of the charter flights.

The legislative drafting team of the Department of Justice has conducted two training sessions for Nauru Police and National Emergency Services on COVID-19 Regulations.

The latest training was on Saturday 30 May and focused on powers of police officers and fixed penalty notices.

The President commends the departments and says this is proactive work that our police force and emergency services are undertaking so they are trained and informed about the Regulations and understand their powers and duties to protect the community.

Following the success of the first drill conducted in ljuw by the National Emergency Services and Nauru Police, a second drill is planned, focussing on the quarantine residences and will also feature a fire drill.

The details and dates of this second drill will be advised accordingly.

Shipping and air services continue to bring in supplies for the island with the last cargo ship unloaded last week filling shop shelves. Air freighter services will resume its normal Friday and Saturday schedule this week.

President Aingimea thanks Nauru Airlines for enabling the additional freighter services over the last few weeks to operate as the island waited for the arrival of the cargo ship.

The phosphate ship is due on 19 June and the next cargo ship on 24 June.

Nauru remains COVID-19 free.

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Issued by: Nauru Government Information Office, Republic of NAURU Ph: +(674) 557 3009 E: <u>gio.nauru@gmail.com</u> / <u>naurugovinfo@gmail.com</u> / <u>www.naurugov.nr</u>