



## President Kun delivers first address at UNGA

***Nauru calls for renewed UN multilateral systems and financial architecture to keep with the times***

His Excellency President Russ Kun delivered his first address at the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), 21 September.

In his address President Kun highlighted several key issues, including the ever growing need for reforming the United Nations' (UN) international institutions in order to better meet the challenges of the 21st century, and echoed the remarks of Secretary General António Guterres.

"We need to renew the UN Multilateral System, reform the Security Council and redesign the international financial architecture because it is just not working anymore, and it is an outdated system that has been in place for too long," President Kun said.

He says the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is key to making meaningful changes on the work to addressing global issues.

While the UN community adopted the 2030 Development Agenda "we must admit that we are far from on track to achieve them and by extension to achieve sustainable development for people and planet".

"Given the resources which have been allocated at the regional and international level to achieve the SDGs, this is deeply concerning."

President Kun stated that climate change remains an issue for international security and can seriously put the progress of the SDGs at risk.

With a trend of ever increasing frequencies of climate change related disasters, steps must be taken to mitigate the adverse effects and keep within the 1.5 Celsius



*HE President Russ Kun delivers his first address before the UNGA as Head of State*

[Photo: UN]

limit to curb temperature rise.

On that point, President Kun said the trajectory of global emissions cannot be expected to slow down if viable, energy alternatives are not provided.

"Deep seabed minerals hold the answer with polymetallic nodules providing the alternative for big emitters to make a just energy transition away from fossil fuels and towards much cleaner and renewable energy technologies."

President Kun called on members of the International Seabed Authority (ISA) to fulfil its obligation and finalise the exploitation regulations that ensures collection of seafloor minerals are conducted with utmost responsibility.

With the recent signing of the treaty on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdictions (BBNJ), Nauru welcomed the treaty and further called for support from the international community.

The treaty includes provisions for the conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of components and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits

arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources.

Nauru's commitment to a stringent capture and contain policy to minimise the spread of COVID-19 was not without the support of external partners.

President Kun thanked Nauru's diplomatic allies for their strong support during the pandemic and their continued support in providing additional health practitioners and medical supplies.

Nauru remains an ardent supporter of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and once again called for their recognition and right to practice and engage in the global forum on implementing the SDGs.

President Kun brought to attention education as another crucial element for accelerating the 2030 Agenda.

While Nauru aims to improve the quality and broaden the scope and reach of education, prioritise quality infrastructure, matched with relevant curricula, President Kun said none of it can happen without teachers.

He stressed that teacher attraction and retention is a worldwide issue, including for Nauru.

"The demands and lack of support towards the teaching profession is manifesting in a lack of qualified teachers in our islands. We need to do more and better on this front."

In conclusion, President Kun urged the UN for reform, lest Nauru and other SIDS become "victims within the global architecture" and compromise the freedom and sovereignty of Nauru •

## Sea rise, ocean acidification threatens Nauru

Nauruan lawyer Anastasia Adire led the Nauru delegation and presented the country's statement before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) in Hamburg, Germany, stressing the harmful effects of climate change on the marine environment of small island states, 13 September.



*Anastasia Adire presents Nauru's case against climate change to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea*

The oral submissions for case number 31, Request for an advisory opinion submitted by the commission of Small Island States on climate change and international law, was introduced by Ms Adire who is also the legal adviser to Nauru's permanent mission to the UN and her colleague Professor Eirik Bjorge. They are accompanied by team member Ms Joan Yang.

Ms Adire welcomed the initiatives and leadership of the Commission of Small Island States on climate change and international law in these proceedings and welcomed the Commission's positive engagement with SIDS and with members and non-members alike.

"One reason the present proceeding is so important to Nauru is that the population of our island is a people of the ocean. Our lives are inextricably linked to the Pacific Ocean specifically.

"Nauru is among the States most affected by climate change. We face significant challenges caused by climate change and its deleterious effects.

"The effects of climate change have the potential to impact our coastal infrastructure, food and water security, public health and safety, and local ecosystems," Ms Adire said.

She underscores Nauru's dependence on marine resources and the marine environment for its subsistence and economic development, and the "catastrophic repercussions" of climate change "for the livelihood and economic well-being of the population of our island."

Ms Adire says the initiative to such proceedings originated with SIDS because it has long been evident to SIDS that not only should the global climate be protected, but there is also a pivotal connection between climate change and the oceans.

She referenced the foresight of Malta, when in 1988 the UNGA adopted a Resolution titled Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind.

"This resolution, the first of its kind to address climate change, identified that 'certain human activities could change global climate patterns, threatening present and future generations with potentially severe economic and social consequences'."

Also in 2009, a UN Resolution titled Climate change and its possible security implications, whereby the UNGA expressed its deep concern "that the adverse impacts of climate change, including sea-level rise, could have possible security implications".

Ms Adire says however, one of the problems Nauru faces today in relation to sea level rise and climate change was well described in the 2016 UN Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations related to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

She cites the 2016 statement, "Climate change threatens the very existence of some small island States. Global warming expands ocean waters and melts land-based ice, causing sea levels to rise."

"If the residents of small island States are forced to evacuate and find other homes, the effects on their human rights, including their rights to self-determination... will be devastating".

Devastating is sadly right, she says.

"Whilst of course Nauru will continue to exist, and its baselines and existing maritime entitlements will remain unaltered, climate change poses an existential threat to Nauru's population and to its vital needs. It represents serious security risks to the livelihoods and to the subsistence of our island population."

Ms Adire says sea level rise and ocean acidification are two ways in which the effects of climate change poses such a threat to Nauru.

The higher ground initiative (HGI) is one of Nauru's plans to address sea level rise. The HGI is the planned and managed migration of the population to the higher elevations of the island – to safeguard national security and the vital needs of Nauru's population.

Ocean acidification is also of great concern to Nauru with reefs and marine life being eroded owing to it.

Fisheries are vital for the subsistence of Nauru's population and a major source of national revenue.

Ms Adire says studies have shown that ocean-warming has decreased sustainable yields of certain fish populations and the effect is especially pronounced in the Pacific Ocean.

"The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates that a 20 per cent decline in fish production from coral reefs by 2050 could threaten nutritional security," Ms Adire said.

Professor Bjorge's presentation dealt with three points such as the law of the sea which he says as a hub for interconnection and communication, has always been at the cutting edge of international law; an interpretation of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS); and the applicable law in the proceedings.

Mr Bjorge explains the ripple effect of the actions of one state or a group of states in the context of ocean space, such as drawing baselines



*(L-R) Joan Yang, Anastasia Adire and Professor Eirik Bjorge representing Nauru at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea*

*Cont pg 3...*



## Sea rise, ocean acidification threatens Nauru

...from pg 2

around coasts or delimiting maritime zones, inevitably affects other states and potentially their populations and means of subsistence.

“Similarly, when a State fails to comply with its obligations to protect and preserve the marine environment, then that, too, affects other States, as well as their populations and the latter’s means of subsistence,” Prof Bjorge said.

His second point on an interpretation of UNCLOS, Prof Bjorge says during the time of the Third Conference on the Law of the Sea, climate change was not part of the law of the sea agenda, thus the impacts of climate change on the marine environment goes beyond the legal interpretation of the provisions of UNCLOS.

The question of applicable law was his third point and highlighting Article 293 of UNCLOS, ‘A court or tribunal having jurisdiction under this section shall apply this Convention and other rules of international law not incompatible with this Convention’.

Nauru’s presentation concluded stressing the obligations of States Parties to UNCLOS to protect and preserve the marine environment in respect to climate change including ocean warming and sea level rise to avoid depriving people, especially of developing countries, of their means of subsistence •

## Supreme court welcomes judge Keteca

Judge Kiniviliame Tamanilagi Keteca was sworn in as a judge of the Supreme Court of Nauru under a five year contract, 11 September.

Acting President Timothy Ika presided over the ceremony and witnessed by Secretary for Justice and Border Control Jay Udit, Registrar Ronald Prakash and others.



*Judge Keteca joins the Nauru legal fraternity*

As required under the Nauru Constitution, Judge Keteca swore to be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Republic of Nauru and that he will do what is right to all manner of people according to law, without fear or favour, affection or ill-will.

Judge Keteca graduated with a Master’s Degree in international law at the International Maritime Law Institute in Malta and served as Platoon Commander and legal advisor with the Royal Fiji Military Forces.

He joined the Fiji Office of the Solicitor General as the legal advisor to the commissioner of police, director Fiji Law Reform Commission, principal legal officer, and State solicitor from 1977 to 2006 when he joined the Fiji judiciary until 2009.

He later pursued an academic career in law and taught at the University of the South Pacific in 2012 then at the University of Fiji from 2018, prior to taking up the Nauru appointment •

## Police start special roster

The Nauru Police Force (NPF) commenced its three month special roster bolstering police presence in the wider community to curb rising criminal activity, 19 September.



*Police Commissioner Notte calls on public support to ensure children are not participating in acts of crime or antisocial behaviour*

Police Commissioner Iven Notte says these measures were put into effect after there was increase in criminal activities within the community. Crimes include theft, violence, underage drinking, and traffic violations.

Most of the offenders are children under the age of 18, with some as young as nine years old.

Police Commissioner Notte calls on the support and cooperation of parents and community leaders to ensure that children are not participating or encouraging further acts of crime and antisocial behaviour.

The special roster especially helps to minimise traffic violations and cases of drunk driving. Police officers will be rostered on round the clock, 24/7 to further ensure the safety of the general public.

The NPF will continue to monitor crime rates and make necessary changes to the roster and overall planning, based on the reports they receive on a day to day basis •





## Nauru signs BBNJ treaty

His Excellency President Russ Kun signed the Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) treaty, 22 September.

The treaty aims to protect the ocean, as well as address key environmental challenges including the mitigation of the adverse effects of climate change and preventing the loss of biodiversity in international waters.



*President Russ Kun signs the BBNJ Treaty aimed at protecting the ocean and address key environmental challenges*

During His Excellency's address at the United Nations General Assembly, President Kun said Nauru is proud to have been actively engaged in the negotiations and successful conclusion of the treaty on BBNJ.

"As a big ocean state, a healthy productive and resilient ocean is a pillar upon which our future rests.

"Nauru welcomes the adoption of the agreement earlier this year and calls for international support to build our capacity to ratify and implement the provisions of the BBNJ agreement including the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resource," President Kun said in his address at the UNGA.

While implementing a variety of provisions the treaty aims to be applied in a manner which cohesively compliments other existing treaties and frameworks to ensure the conservation and sustainability of the ocean.

Furthermore, the treaty includes provisions for capacity building, transfer of marine technology and financial mechanisms which can be used to support Small Island Developing States (SIDS) like Nauru and other Pacific island countries around the region.

Nauru now joins over 190 other countries around the world in signing the treaty •



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## Sir Hammer DeRoburt day

A memorial service commemorating the 101 anniversary of the birth of Nauru's founding father and first president, the late Sir Hammer DeRoburt was held at the Orro Congregational Church, 25 September.

His Excellency the Acting President Martin Hunt and Cabinet ministers attended the memorial service followed by the laying of wreaths at the late president's resting place at Boe cemetery.



*Acting President Martin Hunt lays wreath at the grave of former president, the late Sir Hammer DeRoburt*

The church service led by Pastor Jessa Agadio, included songs rendered by various church choirs and bible readings and prayers by various group representatives including one from Riben DeRoburt, grandson of the late Hammer DeRoburt.

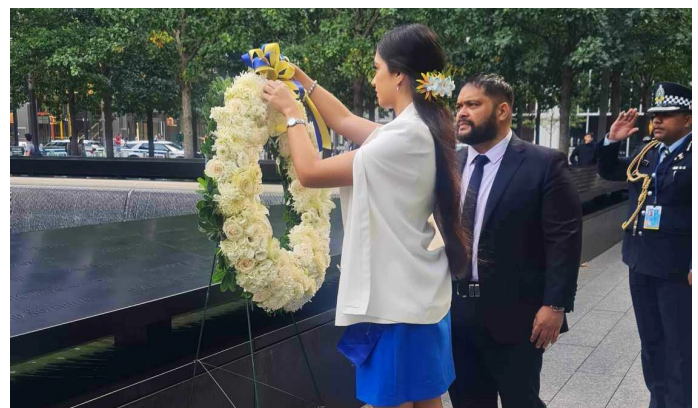
Sir DeRoburt was president for nearly 20 years and remained member of parliament for the Constituency of Boe after his presidency ended in 1989. He was born on 25 September 1922 and passed away on 15 July 1992.

National Youth Day is also celebrated on this date, 25 September, with weeklong activities organised for the youth to participate in celebration of the event •

## Nauru pays respects at 9/11 memorial

His Excellency President Russ Kun and Miss Nauru Alexandra Pitcher lay a wreath at the 9/11 Memorial at the site of the World Trade Centre, in New York city, 23 September.

The 9/11 Memorial is a tribute of remembrance of the 2,977 people who lost their lives in the terror attacks on 11 September 2001. The dedicated space also honours the sacrifices of rescue teams, survivors and those that suffered from the exposure of the toxins from the World Trade Centre terror attack •



*President Russ Kun and Miss Nauru Alexandra Pitcher lay a wreath at the 9/11 Memorial in New York*

## DEMA launches organic learning farm

The Department of Environmental Management and Agriculture (DEMA) and the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) officially launched the Max Dowedia Organic Learning Farm centre under the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POFLN) project, 25 September.

The launch was held at the DEMA conference room and led by Deputy Director Judina Duburiya who welcomed the agricultural stakeholders, interested farmers and government officials.

The learning farm, owned by and named after local farmer Max Dowedia will serve as a living laboratory where farmers can witness the potential of organic methods, says Acting Secretary for DEMA Bryan Starr.

“We will encourage experimentation, test, new methodologies, and evaluate their viability on our unique Nauru context. By doing so, we will continually enhance our farming knowledge and ensure that our organic methods are tailored to our local conditions, respecting the need of our diverse ecosystems.”

Mr Starr declared the Nauru Organic Learning Farms Network open and encourages the farmers to “join hands and work together to build a future where our farming practices nourish our land, our people, and our economy. Together we can cultivate a sustainable and prosperous Nauru”.



*DEMA Atg Secretary Bryan Star (centre) and Max Dowedia (far right) at the launch of the organic learning farms*

As part of the Kiwa Initiative, the project aims to establish a network of organic learning farms that will become centres for the best organic and agroecological production methods to fasten the sharing of knowledge, successes and planting materials.

The initiative is funded by the European Union, French Development Agency (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). The regional implementing partners include Pacific Community (SPC), Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) •

## Kaikairu Micronesia

The Department of Chief Secretary hosted the first in-person Kaikairu Micronesia, a sub-regional meeting of Micronesian public service commissioners, 11-13 September.

New Zealand's Public Service Fale (The Fale) along with the Federated States of Micronesia and Kiribati were in Nauru for the meeting.

The Fale worked closely with the Department of Chief Secretary through the human resource division over the years to deliver key capacity building initiatives for public employees in government.



*Atg Chief Secretary Ipia Gadabu (3rd from left) with pacific colleagues at the first in-person sub-regional meeting of Micronesian public service commissioners in Nauru*

The Public Service Fale is a Pacific-led centre of public service excellence based in the New Zealand Public Service Commission Te Kawa Mataaho. The Fale works with Public Service leaders across the Pacific Region, including Nauru's Acting Chief Secretary Ipia Gadabu and his staff.

Mr Gadabu says the purpose of this gathering is to share important information on common priorities and discuss issues or challenges faced in within the public service.

“We have our distinguished guests here who came all the way from New Zealand to join us, and to shed some light on the challenges we may share amongst each other for the Micronesian region and come up with common solutions for the way forward.”

Over three days, delegates deliberated on Micronesia's priorities for the Pacific regional Public Service Fono to be hosted by the New Zealand Public Service Commission in November.

Deputy Commissioner for the Fale, Tania Ott says the meeting brings about important discussions and goals for the Micronesian public service.

“The deep value in this meeting is that Micronesia's Public Service leaders can come together face-to-face for the first time since Covid-19 to understand each other's challenges and share ideas around solutions.

“These discussions will be important to understand how we might leverage the strengths and expertise that exists across the region to support the goals of Pacific Public Service Commissions,” Ms Ott said.

Subregional meetings of Public Service Commissioners were also held for Melanesia and Polynesia in August 2023, in Fiji and Tonga respectively.

The Fale was established in 2020 at the request of 16 Pacific Public Service Commissioners from the Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu •



## Successful mission for second Taiwan medical

The second Taiwan mobile medical mission from Taichung Veteran's General Hospital provided medical services to patients in Nauru, 18-29 September.



*Taiwan Ambassador Dean Lin (centre) and Deputy Counsellor Francis Soong with members of the mobile medical team*

The medical team comprised specialist doctors and two nurses for psychiatry and cardiology, headed by Dr Daniel Lin.

During the period of their stay, the team provided consultations and medical services to out-patients at the RoN hospital, patients at the correctional facility and conducted community and home visits.

The concerted efforts of the team working closely with the RoN hospital staff resulted in over 60 patients receiving medical services, including several successful operations.

Director for medical services Dr Susana Nakalevu says the medical visiting teams has been an ongoing program. The Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) and the RoN hospital organise these visits and the specialist services are provided according to the hospital's request which depends on the case load of patients that can be managed within two weeks.

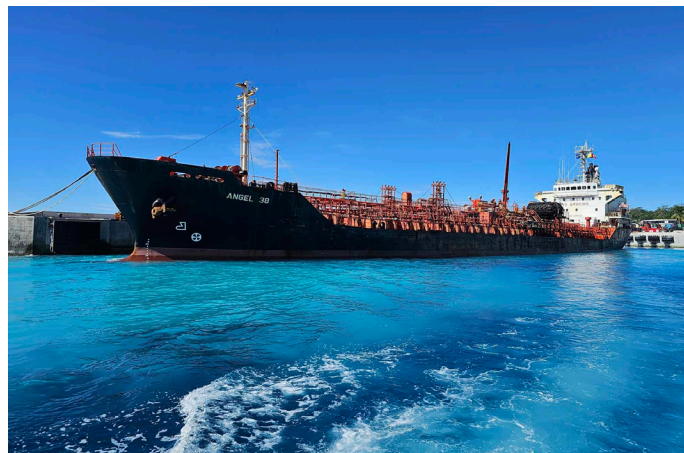
"These visiting teams are very important for the people of Nauru as they complement the specialist services that are not offered currently but could be managed during such visits.

"Taiwan medical mission has been committed to provide these visits which have been targeted to four visits per year."

This is the third mission since the COVID-19 pandemic. The next visitation is scheduled for November •

## New wharf receives first fuel tanker

The first fuel tanker ship, Angel 38, chartered by Vital successfully berthed in the new Nauru wharf on Monday, 11 September at 2pm.



*Angel 38 berths at the new Nauru port unloading the first fuel load*

The fuel cargo was shipped directly from Taiwan by fuel supplier Union PetroChemical Co. Ltd., in Hong Kong and carried 20,000 bbl ultra low sulfur diesel, 5,900 bbl unleaded petroleum and 6500bbl Jet A-1 aviation fuels.

The new pipelines on the wharf provide a more efficient fuel discharge process taking only 48 hours to complete.

Local fuel operator Vital Operation and Logistics Manager Savenaca Tamani says this may be the first time in history that the nation's fuel supply is being discharged at the wharf through dedicated pipelines.

"Our operations team is well versed in our tanker discharge procedure, which ensures the safe transfer of fuel from the ship, and the safe receipt of fuel into the tanks onshore," Mr Tamani said.

Safety measures include separate pipelines for black oil line (BOL) discharging diesel and petrol, and white oil line (WOL) discharging Jet A-1 only were put in place to ensure the safety of operations and the quality of products.

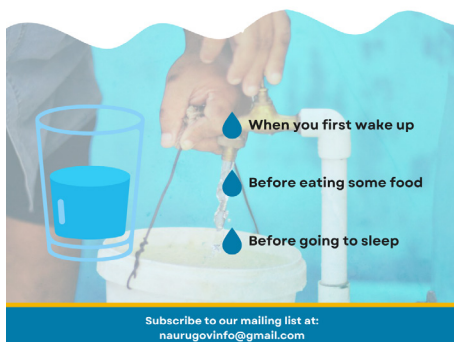
Nauru Maritime and Port Authority (NMPA) and Nauru Shipping Line (NSL) Chief Executive Officer Frederick Pitcher says this is a milestone achievement of the port redevelopment project, and is two years in the making.

"The new pipes run underground and join the existing fuel pipelines near the phosphate shore bin and are transported up to the fuel storage tanks. This reduces costs and allows for one-two day discharge operation instead of the two-four days it took in the past," Mr Pitcher said.

Mr Tamani congratulated the Government of Nauru for this achievement and "commend the government for having the foresight and the future of Nauru in mind to spearhead a major development like the new port".

Fuel cargo shipments into Nauru are scheduled every two months with the next one in mid-November •

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## US-PIF leaders summit on reaffirming relations

His Excellency President Russ Kun joined the leaders of the Pacific Island Forum (PIF) and the United States for the second US-Pacific Island Form Summit, held at the White House in Washington, DC, from 25-26 September.

The leaders reaffirmed their support for the Declaration on US-Pacific Partnership issued in Washington on 9 September, which outline their shared vision for a resilient Pacific region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion, and prosperity, where individuals can reach their potential, the environment can thrive, and democracy can flourish.

They commit to working together in genuine partnership, rooted in mutual respect, consistent with the principles of the UN charter, and in the spirit of transparency and accountability.

The agenda included discussions on political leadership and regionalism; partnership and cooperation; climate change and disasters; ocean and fisheries; trade and investment; peace and security; and people-centred development •



*Leaders commit to work together in genuine partnership consistent with the principles of the UN Charter, transparency and accountability*

The full statement <https://www.whitehouse.gov/.../u-s-pacific-islands-forum.../>

Fact sheet <https://www.whitehouse.gov/.../fact-sheet-enhancing-the.../>

## Taiwan celebrates 112th national day in Nauru

The Taiwan Embassy in Nauru held a national day celebration at the Menen Hotel, with special guests the Acting President Wawani Dowiyogo, Cabinet Ministers, heads of departments, and private and public sector representatives in attendance, 5 October.

Acting President Dowiyogo congratulated Taiwan for the the 112th year of the founding of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

“Over the past 112 years, Taiwan has transformed from an agrarian society into a global manufacturing powerhouse. It stands as a dynamic nation with robust democratic institutions.

“Our friendship with the people of Taiwan spans four decades, bound by our shared values of democracy and freedom. The Nauru-Taiwan relations exemplify the effectiveness of democratic cooperation between the Republic of Nauru and the Republic of China (Taiwan).”

Acting President Dowiyogo expressed Nauru’s gratitude to Taiwan for its unwavering support to Nauru over the years and “in our steadfast alliance with Taiwan, Nauru stands resolute in advocating for Taiwan’s rightful place in the international community”.

“As we, the people and government of Nauru, chart a course towards economic sustainability, diversity, and growth, we recognize that this journey is not one we can embark on alone.

“The generous assistance provided by the government of Taiwan in our efforts to develop our small island nation is greatly appreciated. This partnership is instrumental in our collective pursuit of progress and prosperity,” Acting President Dowiyogo said.

Deputy Counsellor and Charge de Affairs Francis Soong said Taiwan has evolved from an economic backwater to a developed country with full-fledged democracy, vibrant economy, sound human rights protection and a rule-based society.

“For years Nauru has always given Taiwan its strongest support in the international arena especially in Taiwan’s campaign to be included into world organisations; the most important one is the United Nations,” Mr Soong said, adding that in return, Taiwan is always a trustworthy development partner to back Nauru’s implementation of its Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr Soong announced that Taiwan has allocated funds of AU\$1.5m to help Nauru address rising sea level. This also continues its clean



*Acting President Wawani Dowiyogo and the Taiwan Embassy's Deputy Counsellor and Charge de Affairs Francis Soong jointly cut the celebration cakes*

energy program with installation of solar panels aimed at being completed this year.

In medical cooperation, Taiwan helped Nauru to contain the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak by providing timely medical resources and is also committed to helping Nauru’s efforts to rebuild the Public Health Centre.

This year until October, Taiwan has sent two mobile medical teams to provide services to local patients, and a third one expected in November.

In education, Taiwan continues to provide scholarships for Nauruans to study in Taiwan. This August, seven students departed for Taiwan on a government scholarship.

It will also work with the Department of Education on exploring options for professional vocational training later this year.

Mr Soong adds that in maritime cooperation, will be the first visit of the Taiwan coast guard vessel this month. The maritime cooperation is intended to provide security and protect Nauru’s exclusive economic zone (EEZ) with the NPF.

In aviation Taiwan has been instrumental in assisting Nauru stay connected with the latest purchase of a Boeing 737 last year and a second aircraft with the envision this year •



## President Kun meets US President Biden and Israel PM Netanyahu during UNGA

His Excellency President Russ Kun met with the President of the United States of America Joseph Biden and First Lady Dr Jill Biden as head of Nauru's delegation at a reception hosted by President Biden ahead of his address in the 78th United Nations General Assembly •



[Photo credit: White House]

His Excellency President Russ Kun met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The two leaders reaffirmed their countries' diplomatic relations and discussed other issues of common interest •



[Photo: Provided]

## Nauru-Saudi enhance relationship

His Excellency President Russ Kun's visit to Saudi Arabia for the World Tourism Day celebration on 27 September served as an opportunity to foster stronger relations between the two nations and promote increased cooperation and dialogue.



*President Kun and Saudi's Minister for Tourism Ahmed bin al-Khateeb outline efforts to establishing diplomatic ties*

During the visit, President Kun engaged in bilateral meetings with Saudi Minister for Foreign Affairs Prince Faisal bin Farhan and Minister for Tourism, His Excellency Ahmed bin al-Khateeb.

The meetings outlined the government's effort to establishing new diplomatic ties with non-traditional partners and further strengthen the friendship between Nauru and Saudi Arabia.

By nurturing this bond and fostering open communication, both countries can enhance their cooperation and work together on shared interests and global challenges •

### ***Year 8 Scholarship announcement – Bus Schedule***

The Department of Education and Training would like to inform that around-the-island bus service is available to pick up and drop off students at the exam venue (NSS Gym). There will be a sign onboard "YR 8 SCHOLARSHIP".

Bus schedules from Tuesday 10th October to Friday 13th October is as follows:

- 7:30am – student pick up
- 8:30am – drop off at NSS
- 11:30am – student pick up at NSS after exams
- 12:00pm – student drop off

Parents are reminded that orientation starts at 8:45am and exam ends at 11:30am.





## USP open day

The University of the South Pacific (USP) Nauru campus held its open day with the theme Our People, Our Stories, 8 September.

The university welcomed students from Nauru Secondary School and the general public to tour the campus where informative booths, exhibits and history on the walls are showcased. The guests took the opportunity to interact with the staff and students.

Minister for Education and USP alumni Richard Hyde Menke was the chief guest at the event. He briefly reflected on USP's history and its contribution to the regions development saying "USP has played a crucial role in building capacities of the Pacific Islands people through its vision Shaping our Pacific Futures.

"In the past five years, our Nauru campus saw five students graduate in 2018 and 111 in 2023 with a range of qualifications from diplomas to master's level. The rate of graduating students increased by 95 per cent."

Minister Menke commended the hard work and dedication of the students and congratulated USP Nauru Campus for its effort to the local community.

He says other factors that contribute to these improved outcomes are good practices, strengthened systems and continued good engagement with development partners.

He also acknowledged donor partners for their continuous support for Nauru's aspirations and priorities.

The NSS students who attended the event were encouraged to make the most of the USP campus on island to further their studies and take part in shaping Nauru's future •



## Former registrar and DPP Toganivalu remembered

The Republic of Nauru remembers David Toganivalu who served as the country's court Registrar and Director for Public Prosecutions (DPP) from 2014 to 2017.

Ratu David Toganivalu passed away at his residence in Bau, Tailevu, Fiji Islands on Monday afternoon at the age of 49.

A lawyer by profession, he was appointed as the Register for the Nauru Court in September 2014 then on 19 October 2015 was appointed as the DPP until 2017.

Mr Toganivalu then returned to Fiji and continued his law practice, and was recently appointed as Fiji's acting DPP and acting Commissioner of the Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC).

He also served as Fiji's deputy DPP in the early 2000s, and started his private law firm in 2012.

Mr Toganivalu is survived by his wife Losalini, five children, his mother and three sisters •



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Republic of Nauru

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