



# Nauru Bulletin

Issue 15 - 2024/280

## 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

### *President Adeang calls for climate action, seabed mining and UN reforms*

His Excellency President David Adeang delivered his national statement at the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, 24 September, calling for action on climate, oceans, seabed mining, banking and financial challenges, and UN security reform.

His opening statement underscored that this gathering of leaders is at a time of unprecedented global challenge and opportunity – that global challenges posed on fragile economies like Nauru tests national sovereignty and dignity.

His statement focused on the protection and sustainable use of ocean resources; the potential risk to Nauru's sovereignty given the challenges of resilience and adaptation, financial and banking services; the restored diplomatic relations with China; peace and development and calls to end the embargo on Cuba, and address security issues such as climate change.

President Adeang called on developed nations to recognise their historical responsibility for emissions and honour their obligations under the Paris Agreement and to support efforts to transition to renewable energy, enhance climate resilience, and protect biodiversity.

He called out nations seeking to block efforts in sourcing renewable energy resources, to not dismiss the potential of deep sea minerals outright or ignore the science and the progress made.

Nauru has a vested interest in the responsible stewardship of the ocean's marine resources, including developing and adopting the Agreement on Marine Biodiversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) and exploring the wealth of the deep seabed's mineral resources in line with the objectives under the 2050 Blue Pacific Strategy.

President Adeang said the greatest risk we face is not the potential environmental impacts of mineral recovery but the risk of inaction, and failing to seize the opportunity to transform to renewable energy and decarbonise the planet.



*President David Adeang delivers his statement at UNGA79*

In the face of modern challenges, resilience and adaptation, countries like Nauru demand more than just technical expertise.

"They require substantial financial resources which is an ongoing struggle. When it comes to climate finance, we are too often relegated to the back of the queue."

President Adeang says equitable access to basic financial services is not merely a convenience, "it's a lifeline".

"Yet, we face the growing threat of de-risking and the loss of correspondence banking relationships. This challenge transcends financial concerns; it strikes at the heart of our sovereignty and dignity."

Given the rising tensions between global powers, President Adeang says Nauru's relationship with China is testament that the largest and smallest countries can find common ground towards mutual benefit.

He commended China on its recent agreement with Japan on the ocean discharge of Fukushima nuclear-contaminated water, saying it's a significant step towards addressing a pressing issue of global concern.

In calling for collective action and the promise of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, President Adeang says, "Nauru may be small, but our resolve is immense".

"We will continue to fight for our homeland and our future generations. Let us act together, with urgency, with ambition, and with the conviction that a better world is possible." //

## Summit of the future sets pact in motion

His Excellency President David Adeang addressed the Summit of the Future, aligning his statement with those delivered on behalf of the G77 and China, AOSIS, and PSIDS, during the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, 23 September.



*President David Adeang addressed the Summit of the Future*

“The Summit of the Future is our call to action. It’s a call to rebuild trust, to reimagine our systems, and to secure a liveable future.

The Pact for the Future is a roadmap with clear priorities: climate action, access to financing, and a reformed global governance that serves all nations,” President Adeang said.

The Summit’s Pact for the Future, addresses: Sustainable development and financing for development; International peace and security; Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation; Youth and future generations; and Transforming global governance.

President Adeang said Nauru welcomes the Pact’s ambition but posed the question that as nations consider the Pact, “does it truly address the needs of the most vulnerable?”

“Does it offer more than lofty words, and instead provide a roadmap with concrete commitments and financing for those who need it most?” President Adeang said adding that leaders must not be content with words alone; that implementation of the Pact is paramount.

“The Pact’s mention of renewable energy holds potential. Nauru is committed to powering our future with clean energy.”

President Adeang urged leaders to work to ensure that the Pact for the Future delivers on its promise. //

## Foreign minister urges equal representation at Commonwealth level

Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Lionel Aingimea attended the 24th Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting, held on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, 23 September.



*Foreign Minister Aingimea participated in the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers meeting, New York*

Chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Rwanda, Olivier Nduhungirehe, the meeting focused on several pressing issues pertinent to international relations, including climate change, sustainable development, and regional security.

These topics are crucial for fostering cooperation among nations and ensuring a collective response to global challenges.

Minister Aingimea highlighted the need for a lean structure with direct-setting capacity, noting that all Commonwealth members are equal.

He also mentioned that not all members have representation on the Board in London, emphasising the importance of electing a secretary-general to act on behalf of the Heads of Government.

Minister Aingimea reaffirms Nauru's support for the Board's report and its commitment to enhancing the secretariat for the collective benefit of the Commonwealth nations. //



## NORI high-level side event at UN general assembly

A high-level side event during the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly was hosted by Nauru and Nauru Ocean Resources Inc., (NORI) to address the environmental unknowns of collecting polymetallic nodules from the sea floor, 23 September.

President David Adeang introduced Nauru and its leadership within the seafloor minerals industry; while NORI CEO and Chairman Gerrard Baron made an introduction to polymetallic nodules, and NORI head of environment Michael Clarke explained how NORI's environmental baseline programme is addressing environmental unknowns.

Nauru is a leader within the emerging deep-sea minerals industry and is the sponsoring state for NORI.

NORI provided an overview of the latest environmental data, emerging science and addressed environmental questions and concerns about collecting polymetallic nodules.



*President Adeang introduced NORI at the UNGA79 side event*

The presentation also covered the role of developing states in this emerging industry; what nodules are, and why are they key to the clean energy transition and a critical resource for the future; and an overview of NORI's environmental baseline programme and how it addresses key environmental concerns. //

## Health minister says SIDS cannot succeed alone

Minister for Health Charmaine Scotty delivered her statement at the high-level meeting on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) during the 79th United Nations General Assembly, 26 September.



*Minister Scotty delivered her statement on antimicrobial resistance at UNGA79*

She stressed that given Nauru's deep commitment to global health and wellbeing, "we recognise the urgency and complexity of this challenge," that is a "shared concern that demands a unified, collaborative response".

Nauru has undertaken several proactive steps to address AMR, including the formulation and endorsement of the National Multi-sectoral Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance for Nauru 2021-25, reflecting Nauru's commitment.

The minister says Nauru acknowledges the importance of public-private partnerships in the development of antimicrobials, vaccines, diagnostics, and alternatives to antimicrobials.

The need for data sharing that's essential for a comprehensive One Health response for building a healthier world requires collective action that, as a small island developing state, "we cannot succeed alone". //



## Intergenerational Trust Fund meeting: Nauru's contribution reaches 70 per cent

His Excellency President David Adeang chaired the latest Nauru Intergenerational Trust Fund (NTF) committee meeting in Sydney, 3 September, where an update of the evaluation of the Fund compared to international best practices and benchmarks were presented by an independent consultant.

Investment Fund manager, Mercer International, and executive administrator, BDO, also presented their appraisals of the Fund. To date, Nauru has contributed 70 per cent of the \$361m Fund.

The purpose of the Fund is to provide a source of revenue to the Republic of Nauru post-2033, or at a time sooner as determined by the committee, for investments in education, health, environment and infrastructure. //



*President David Adeang chairs NTF committee meeting in Sydney*

## Pacific Leaders meet with World Bank Group

President David Adeang and fellow Pacific leaders met for a high level meeting with World Bank Group (WBG) President Ajay Banga in September and endorsed steps in support of a robust twenty first replenishment of the resources of the International Development Association (IDA21).

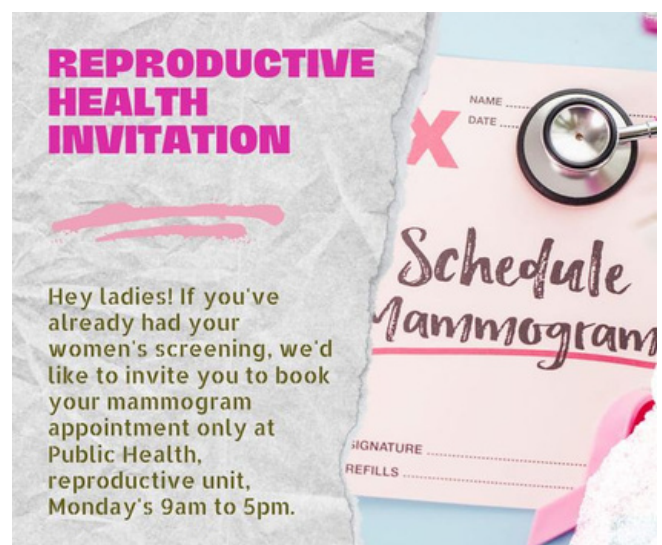
Discussions centred on opportunities and options that would ensure that the development priorities outlined in the Pacific Island Forum's 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent would make effective use of WBG financing, especially from its IDA concessional arm.

A robust replenishment of IDA21 is vital to addressing the region's unique development priorities, challenges and growing needs, and will help build both the economies and climate resilience of the PICs.

The meeting was hosted by the Forum Chair and Prime Minister of Tonga, Hon. Hu'akavemeiliku, and Pacific Islands Forum Secretary General Baron Waqa at the PIF Secretariat in Suva, Fiji. //



*Pacific Island leaders attend World Bank Group meeting, Suva*



## Nauru signs the Samoa Agreement

Nauru is one of six of the 79 members of the Organisation of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States (OACPS) and the remaining Pacific country to sign the Samoa Agreement on 31 July 2024.

Joanie Hartman, Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Nauru to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva, Switzerland, signed the Agreement at the OACPS Secretariat in Brussels, Belgium.

The Samoa Agreement establishes a new framework for European Union (EU) relations with African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) countries, replacing the Cotonou Agreement.

The Cotonou Agreement, instituted in 2000 to succeed the 1975 Lomé Convention, was originally set for a 20-year term but was extended beyond its scheduled end in February 2020 to facilitate the transition to the Samoa Agreement.

The European Union Council approved the provisional application of the Samoa Agreement on 20 July, 2023, marking the start of its role as the new legal framework for EU-ACP relations for the next 20 years.

The Agreement was officially signed on 15 November, 2023, in Samoa by the EU, its member states, and the OACPS members. Its provisional application began on the first day of the second month following the signing.



*(L-R) Georgette Orphanides from the EU Treaties and Agreements Office, Nauru Chargé d'affaires Joanie Hartman, and Morgan K. Githinji – Expert from the External Relations, Governance and Protocol; at the signing of the Samoa Agreement.*

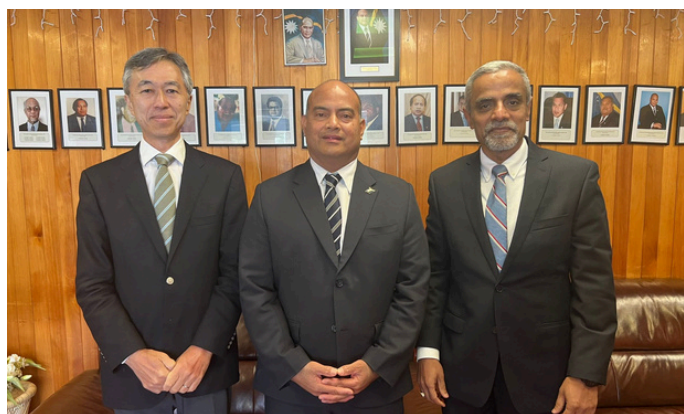
The Agreement features a common foundation applicable to all EU Member States and OACPS Members, along with three regional protocols tailored to Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific, addressing each region's specific needs.

The Agreement outlines common principles and focuses on six priority areas: democracy and human rights; sustainable economic growth and development; climate change; human and social development; peace and security; and migration and mobility. //

---

## Asian Development Bank review Nauru port project

An Asian Development Bank ports review mission team was in-country earlier in September to consult with government stakeholders, development partners and project consultants on the Nauru Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Connectivity project (Nauru Aiwo port).



*ADB Deputy Director General Pacific department, Hideaki Iwasaki (L) and Director General and Group Chief Ramesh Subramaniam (R) met with HE President David Adeang during their Nauru Port review mission.*

The team included high level ADB management, Director General and Group Chief Ramesh Subramaniam, and Deputy Director General Pacific department, Hideaki Iwasaki.

The team also met with His Excellency President David Adeang and discussed ADB's full commitment to deliver the Nauru Ports development project within the scope of the project. The discussion centred on the importance of transportation and connectivity for Nauru and neighbouring islands as a mandatory service.

The Nauru Ports project provides a piece of sustainable-resilient connectivity, while further technical evaluation on Nauru's sustainable connectivity will be ongoing.

During their visit, the team witnessed the handover of the new southern port container yard to the Nauru Maritime and Port Authority. //

## Forum economic ministers meeting

Deputy Minister Maverick Eoe attends Forum Economic Ministers Meeting (FEMM) in Suva Fiji, 1-2 August aimed at fostering discussions on critical economic issues and promote economic and regional cooperation.



**Deputy Minister Eoe joined ministers from across the Pacific in Suva for the Forum Economic Ministers meeting**

The Pacific Roadmap for Economic Development (PRED), a key point of discussion in the meeting, is essential for unlocking the region's economic potential and securing a prosperous future for the Pacific region.

The meeting further elaborated on the impacts of labour mobility, the implementation of the 2050 Strategy, addressing the region's reduction in correspondent banking relationships; and boosting fisheries through value chains and investments amongst others. //



## President Adeang meets with Jamaica's PM during ISA

During the meetings of the International Seabed Authority (ISA) Council and Assembly, President David Adeang discussed more personalised matters in a bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of Jamaica Andrew Holness, 31 July.

The two leaders discussed Hurricane Beryl which hit Jamaica with heavy winds and rain, damaging buildings and felling trees, as well as climate change impacts and developing the relationship between their two countries for mutual interest and national development.

President Adeang also had a bilateral meeting with ISA Secretary General Michael Lodge, and Sonny Williams, the Cook Islands Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister on issues of common and national interests. //



**President David Adeang meets with the Prime Minister for Jamaica Andrew Holness for bilateral meeting during the ISA Council meeting and Assembly, July 2024**



## Amandus accredited High Commissioner to India

Nauru's High Commissioner-designate to India Kane Amandus presented his credentials to India's President Her Excellency Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan – the Office and Residence of the President of India, 6 September.



**High Commissioner Kane Amandus submits his Letter of Credence to India's President Murmu**

In a bilateral meeting with President Murmu, High Commissioner Amandus conveyed Nauru's willingness and commitment to partner with India in tackling common challenges, including climate change, health issues, and capacity development among others.

President Murmu reaffirmed India's dedication as a development partner to Nauru and emphasised the ongoing efforts to enhance the partnership and collaboration between the two nations.

Mr Amandus served as the First Secretary at the Nauru Permanent Mission to the United Nations from 2019 to 2022 and was previously the Director of Security and Environment at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The High Commission in New Dehli was established in 2022 with Marlene Moses serving as the first resident high commissioner. //

*Follow on Facebook*  
**NAURU-HC-NEWDEHLI**

## Daniel presents credentials to UN Secretary General

Lara Daniel formally presented her letter of credence to United Nations Secretary General António Guterres, officially accrediting her as the Permanent Representative Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Nauru to the UN, at the UN Secretariat in New York, 9 September.



**Ambassador Daniel presents her credentials to UN Secretary General Guterres**

Ms Daniel's diplomatic career began in 2010 as the Vice-Consul at the Nauru Consulate General in Brisbane, Australia.

Subsequently, she took on the role of Second Secretary to the Permanent Mission of Nauru to the UN and also served as the executive secretary during Nauru's chairmanship of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) from 2011 until 2015.

Ambassador Daniel is the fourth permanent representative to be accredited to the Nauru Mission in New York since its establishment in 2000. //



## Malaysia's High Commissioner present credentials

His Excellency President David Adeang received the High Commissioner of Malaysia Nor' Azam bin Mohammed Idrus for the presentation of credentials in the Office of the President, August 12.



**President David Adeang accepts the credentials of the High Commissioner of Malaysia, Nor' Azam bin Mohammed Idrus**

His Excellency President David Adeang received the High Commissioner of Malaysia Nor' Azam bin Mohammed Idrus for the presentation of credentials in the Office of the President, August 12.

High Commissioner Nor' Azam inspected the Guard of Honour by the Nauru Police Force before meeting with President Adeang.

President Adeang congratulated the High Commissioner on his new role with eagerness to build stronger ties with Malaysia.

"The Republic of Nauru profoundly values its relationship with Malaysia. Together, we can combat global challenges such as climate change and promote stability and economic resilience in the region," President Adeang said.

High Commissioner Nor' Azam began his diplomatic career in 2002, and has since served in various roles at Malaysia's diplomatic missions in Austria, Fiji, India and Japan. In Fiji, 2009, he was posted as the Chargé d'Affaires at the High Commission of Malaysia in Suva. He later served as Deputy High Commissioner in India in 2020.

Prior to this appointment, Mr Nor'Azam served as the Deputy Chief of Protocol (Ceremonial) in the Department of Protocol and Consular of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia, since 2023.

Nauru and Malaysia established diplomatic relations on 11 November, 1988. //

## European Union Ambassador present credentials

His Excellency President David Adeang received the letter of credence of Ms Barbara Plinkert accrediting her as the Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of Nauru, 12 August.



**Ambassador Barbara Plinkert inspects the Nauru Police Guard of Honour in front of the government offices**

Ambassador Plinkert was accompanied by the Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade Christina Detenamo for the inspection of the Nauru Police Force Guard of Honour and the presentation of credentials at the Office of the President.

President Adeang acknowledged the enduring relationship between Nauru and the European Union through the Pacific Islands Forum.

"Nauru is committed to further strengthening our ties with the European Union. We are eager to explore new avenues of collaboration that will benefit both the European Union and Nauru, particularly in areas such as renewable energy, education and economic diversification," President Adeang said.

Ambassador Plinkert started her term as Ambassador of the European Union to the Pacific in September 2023. She was previously the Head of Division for Southeast Asia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) at the European External Action Service from 2021 to 2023.

Ambassador Plinkert holds a Master of Arts degree in Sinology, Southeast Asian studies and Linguistics from Free University of Berlin. //

*Click on link*   
**REPUBLIC-OF-NAURU**

## **Fiji's Ambassador present credentials**

His Excellency President David Adeang received the non-resident High Commissioner of the Republic of Fiji, William Toganivalu, for the presentation of his Letter of Credence, 13 August.



**President David Adeang and Ambassador Toganivalu in the Office of the President following the presentation of credentials**

High Commissioner Toganivalu was accorded a Guard of Honour by the Nauru Police Force before being escorted to the Office of the President.

President Adeang affirms Nauru's commitment in working together with Fiji to strengthen ties and continue our joint efforts to address the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for our region.

"Nauru and Fiji share a long history of cooperation, friendship and mutual respect. Our relationship is rooted in our shared values, cultural ties and commitment to the development and prosperity of our Pacific region."

President Adeang recalled his meeting with Fiji's Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka in June, when he reiterated Nauru's support for the 'Ocean of Peace' initiative introduced by Prime Minister Rabuka, to transform the Pacific region into a region of peace and stability.

Mr Toganivalu is a regional security and risk management advisor responsible for the Pacific region. He served as a senior non-commissioned officer in the British Army.

He holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics and Management from the University of the South Pacific; and is currently awaiting graduation for a Post-Graduate Certificate in Security and Risk Management from the University of Leicester (UK). //

## **India's High Commissioner present credentials**

His Excellency President David Adeang received the High commissioner-designate of India to Nauru, Mr Gopal Baglay, for the presentation of credentials, 17 September.



**High Commissioner Baglay stands before the government offices as the national anthems of Nauru and India are performed**

President Adeang congratulated High Commissioner Baglay on his appointment and expressed Nauru's appreciation for India's steadfast commitment to the Pacific region and shared global efforts to address pressing challenges.

The President highlighted Nauru and India's joint participation in the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and their shared vision of advancing renewable energy solutions, promoting sustainable development, capacity building, and international solidarity.

Mr Baglay holds a Master's degree in chemistry from the University of Lucknow. He concurrently serves as India's High Commissioner to Australia; and to Sri Lanka from 2020 to 2023.

He previously served in the Office of India's Prime Minister as the official spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and in a number of diplomatic assignments abroad. //

## New Nauru public health department, ready to serve the community

A significant milestone was achieved in Nauru's healthcare sector with the new Nauru Public Health (NPH) Department formulated on 1 July.

Public Health was once a division of the Health and Medical Services Department, but has since become its own department under the guidance of the newly appointed Secretary Dr Balathandan.

Minister for Health Charmaine Scotty says the establishment of the NPH department is a testament of the government's commitment to "improving the health and wellbeing of citizens through dedicated and comprehensive healthcare services".

The NPH is structured into seven distinct units that address various aspects of public health including non-communicable disease, women's health, disability and nursing units, with the support of nearly 180 staff.

Secretary Dr Balathandan stated that the primary goal of the department is to offer the highest possible standard of care to the Nauruan population.

With this goal in mind, the NPH embarked on several initiatives aimed at improving public health outcomes in the communities including school and workplace visits.

The initiatives offer health screening for cardiovascular disease and women's health, house-to-house tuberculosis (TB) screening, which ensure that cases are identified and treated promptly to prevent the spread of this infectious disease.

Furthermore, the NPH is actively involved in community

outreach and awareness programs in the hopes of building a more informed and health-conscious population. These initiatives help educate the public on various health issues and promote healthy lifestyles.

"Emphasising on 'prevention is better than cure', I encourage Nauruans to actively engage with the department's services for regular checkup and immunisations to identify early signs of health issues and get protection from vaccine-preventable diseases," Minister Scotty said.

Minister Scotty commends the concentrated efforts of the health teams who continue to spread health awareness within the communities, schools and workplace.

NCDs is prevalent in Nauru with high rates of type 2 diabetes and kidney related illness. The new direction of the department under its own department head will refocus and channel services to ensure the public health needs of the community are well supported.

Later in August, the department held a workshop to plan and establish the organisational structure and workforce of the new department with presentations from health directors and an open forum for discussion.

Minister Scotty participated in the discussions with NPH staff and senior staff from RON hospital. The workshop aimed to define the department's goals and objectives for the next nine months and to create strategic plans to achieve them.

It also provides a platform for employees to understand the roles and responsibilities within each division. //



**Minister Charmaine Scotty with Nauru Public Health and RON Hospital staff during the implementation workshop, August**

## RonPhos strengthens collaboration with Namhae and Samsung.

Minister for RonPhos Shadlog Bernicke held meetings with key representatives from Samsung C&T and Namhae Chemical Corporation in Seoul, South Korea, 6 August.



(L-R): Samsung C&T Global Phosphate Rock Biz Lead Sean Ahn, VP and Head of Fertilizer Team Kyle Hong, Minister Shadlog Bernicke, VP and Head of Global Business, Namhae Chemical Young Joon Park, and Brandon Park, Samsung C&T Australia.

Minister Bernicke met with VP and Head of Global Business at Namhae Chemical Corporation Young-joon Park, to discuss and strengthen the ongoing partnership between Ronphos, Namhae, and Samsung.

Namhae Chemical Corporation, a major South Korean enterprise known for its production of fertilisers and chemicals, is one of the largest buyers of phosphate rock in the global market.

Minister Bernicke guaranteed the reliability of supply of Nauru phosphate whilst emphasising the importance of Nauru receiving pricing reflective of the high quality of its phosphate.

The Minister further discussed maintaining high standards in phosphate quality and ensuring that the sales and distribution processes are streamlined through direct coordination between Namhae and Samsung. //

---

## Public service day: Implementing culture at work for excellent service



Government employees celebrate the 14th anniversary of public service day

The 14th anniversary of Public Service Day (PSD) concluded its weeklong activities with an awards ceremony and dinner reception, 16 September.

This year's PSD program featured a vibrant synchronised marching competition, quiz competition, various sports activities including an all-rounder cultural relay and tug-o-war, and church service on Sunday, 15 September.

All the departments convened at the cenotaph for the closing ceremony and presentation of awards with Camelia Renzo from the Department of Justice and Border Control taking home the coveted employee of the year award.

His Excellency President David Adeang delivered his remarks acknowledging all 2178 employees across 26 departments and highlighting the value of public service to the nation.

“Public service is a noble calling that requires integrity, impartiality and a very deep commitment to the people.

“Let us continue to work together with dedication and unity to build a prosperous future for Nauru, to serve the people of Nauru with pride, professionalism and continued commitment. Thank you for your service,” President Adeang said. //

## Foreign direct investment policy

Nauru is on its way to creating its foreign direct investment (FDI) policy with the assistance of the European Union-funded Strengthening Pacific Intra-Regional and International Trade (SPIRIT) project through the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), and consultancy work by Ernst & Young Australia.

Headed by Foreign Investment Advisor Laben Taldon, a validation workshop was held in August in what was the final stage of the consultancy work for the Nauru Foreign Investment Scheme.

EU Ambassador Barbara Plinkett, who was on island to present her credentials to President Adeang, delivered the keynote address at the validation workshop saying the EU has a strong commitment to building international trade capacities in Nauru and the rest of the Pacific.

Nauru's unique challenges of being the third smallest country, geographical isolation, and small population of some 12,000, are difficult to address according to the EY review on Nauru's FDI regime.

The review also says Nauru's National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) has identified the diversification and attraction of FDI, and the growth of the nation's private sector as urgent priorities for the nation's future success.

While a rise in FDI will lead to an improvement in Nauru's economic development, there is the parallel need to increase the skills and expertise of the local workforce as a result of the introduction of new technology from incoming industries.

Nauru lacks legislation to implement an appropriate FDI regime but the passing and implementation of the proposed Foreign Investment Bill 2023 is critical for Nauru.

This would need the support of secondary legislation, appropriate reforms and a series of acts for business, banking and insurance, customs, immigration and lands

Use of regional and international trade agreements would also need to be endorsed by Nauru such as the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus (PACER Plus) agreement which Nauru has ratified by not fully adopted.

Partnering and collaborating FDI with local businesses has potential and opportunity for local businesses according to the Nauru Chamber of Commerce, but upskilling and knowledge exchange is important if local businesses are to benefit from FDI.

As the head of the department responsible for the Division of Foreign Investment and Industry Development, Secretary for Finance Novena Itsimaera identified that the Nauru Port Development and the East Micronesia (fibre optic) Cable projects as having key impacts which will transform how Nauru does import-export business, as well as the development of the technological space.

These projects will also open more opportunities for Nauru and contribute to its goals that will lead towards a sustainable future.

For all recommendations, Ernst & Young adopted a set of principles to ensure Nauru's economic development, and mindful of existing local customs and ways of working. Their methodology include to increase attractiveness for foreign investment; increase Nauru's economic stability; increase competitiveness; protections for local investors; enhance workforce capacity; and promote sustainable development. //



**EU Ambassador Barbara Plinkett affirms the EU's commitment in building international trade capacities in Nauru and the rest of the Pacific.**

## Starlink community gateway service: first in the Pacific

State-owned entity Cenpac Corporation is now the proud owner of the Starlink Community Gateway service in Nauru – the first to be rolled out in the Pacific, following the agreement signing between Cenpac and Starlink on 19 August.



**Cenpac Chair Zikki Eoe and Director for Commercial Sales SpaceX Andrew Matlock following the signing ceremony**

“Once the roll out is complete it will be a new era for mobile communication for our country,” Minister for Telecommunications Shadlog Bernicke said.

Cenpac Chairlady Zikki Eoe said the service will further boost the already existing Starlink presence on island with reduced monthly payments.

Customers will also have the option to continue using their existing Starlink kits or switch to the Community Gateway service, as well as allow customers to sign up with a local Nauru address.

Land at Command Ridge for the installation of the equipment will be finalised by October and launching expected to take place in November. //

## Next phase of higher ground initiative

The Nauru government’s initiative to address the effects of climate change, overcrowding and protecting key infrastructure, is the Higher Ground Initiative (HGI) Project.



**Seven detailed reports of the HGI presented at the HGI symposium, September**

Since the commencement of the HGI project in 2019 under the Department of Climate Change and National Resilience (DCCNR), it has undertaken stakeholder consultations including whole island consultations with district communities and focus groups including women's groups, the youth and the people living with disabilities.

The HGI master plan outlines the establishment of Nauru's inaugural smart village, focusing on the resolution of socio-economic and environmental challenges by strategically planning the relocation of residents and essential infrastructure to elevated areas.

Director for the HGI project Anadella Edward who is heading the consultative work and planning phase, says the project is now moving into the engineering phase, while the advanced

concept plans will depend on government finance allocation.

Ms Edwards says the consultation speaks about the whole island masterplan as a concept, and communities are advised about what the initiative entails, why Nauru has it, and why it's needed.

The consultations also share detailed plans such as the site plan for land portion 230 (LP230) where the pilot project will be based to kickstart the implementation of the whole-island master plan.

The team has had dedicated meetings with stakeholders to the validate the work to date.

In September, then acting DCCNR Secretary Darrina Kun told key stakeholders at the HGI Symposium that the HGI was launched in order to achieve Nauru's long term dream of restoring and reclaiming topside for habitation.

“Due to your diligent work along with the contributions of many others in the country, we now have plans for the island that are responsive to our urgent needs and challenges,” Acting Secretary Kun said as she introduced seven detailed reports of the HGI.

Following the presentations on the HGI reports and deliverables by Metrocology consultant Demetri Baches and Director Edward, the participants engaged in constructive deliberations contributing to shaping HGI's policies and outcomes.

Outcomes of the consultations have been sent to consultants for consolidation.

The roadshow involving approaching donors is planned for this new financial year after having collected sufficient data and an advanced concept plan. //

## RonPhos new site office and crusher plant

His Excellency President David Adeang presided over the inauguration ceremony for the RonPhos crusher site office and mobile crusher plant, 11 September.



**President David Adeang with foreign ambassadors and RonPhos staff at the inauguration ceremony of the new RonPhos office and mobile crusher plant**

RonPhos Chief Executive Officer Chelser Buraman stated that the introduction of the mobile crushing unit “enables an efficient process and break down of larger phosphate rocks, enhancing our ability to meet the demands of international customers. This technological advancement is key to increasing export capacity, driving economic growth and contributing to the prosperity of our nation”.

President Adeang congratulated the Minister for RonPhos Shadlog Bernicke and his department for the successful implementation of this initiative.

“It is with great pleasure to declare the opening of this new RonPhos crushing plant, a milestone in our mining industry,” President Adeang said.

The event was attended by Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Lionel Aingimea, Minister for Infrastructure Development Jesse Jeremiah, Speaker of Parliament Marcus Stephen, along with the ambassadors of Australia, Israel, and China, who were present to witness the ceremony and the unveiling of the commemorative plaque.

Later that week, the phosphate vessel MV Danship Bulker was loaded with 27,300 metric tons of phosphate and dispatched to China.

Mr Buraman noted that the loading process at the cantilever typically takes three days, contingent on favourable weather conditions and smooth operations. //

## Scotty addresses World Heritage Committee

Minister for National Heritage, Culture, Tourism, and Naoero Museum Charmaine Scotty, virtually addressed the 46th session of the World Heritage Committee in New Delhi, India, 31 July.



**Minister Scotty announced that Nauru has ratified the 1972 UNESCO World Heritage Convention**

The Minister announced Nauru's ratification of the 1972 UNESCO Convention for the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, highlighting the country's commitment to preserving its unique cultural and natural heritage.


Minister Scotty emphasised the importance of safeguarding Nauru's cultural treasures, given the island's vulnerability to climate change and historical environmental degradation.

She called for international support to enhance Nauru's capacity to implement the Convention effectively, underscoring the urgency of global climate action to protect irreplaceable cultural and natural assets for future generations. //

# MENTAL HEALTH

The Mental Health Act 1963 aims to define and support individuals with mental impairments while ensuring public safety and respecting personal rights.

These measures aim to balance public safety with individual rights, promoting understanding and support within our community. Stay informed and share this update widely.




MENTAL HEALTH ACT 1963  
SECTION 4 OF THE ACT REQUIRES:

Individuals may be classified as mentally impaired if they are unable to manage themselves or pose a risk to their own or others' safety.

Personal beliefs or activities like political opinions or alcohol consumption should not automatically classify someone as mentally impaired.

Designated mental health facilities, including public hospitals and health centres, are empowered to provide necessary care and oversight.



## Winzar makes Olympic debut

Nauru's sprinting sensation 23-year-old Winzar Kakiouea made his Olympic debut in Paris in the 100m sprint, 3 August.



**Kakiouea becomes second Nauruan athlete to compete in a track event at the Olympic Games**

He ran 11.15 seconds in the heats, below is personal best time of 10.82s which he ran at the Micronesian Games in June.

As the sole athlete representing Nauru at these Olympics, Winzar carried the blue, gold and white flag along the River Seine for the Opening Ceremony. He is the second Nauruan athlete to compete in a track event at the Olympic Games.

Paris is Nauru's eighth Olympic Games since 1996.

**NAURU in the OLYMPICS** Nauru was accepted into the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on 4 September 1994.

It was the only new country admitted in that year by the IOC. The first Nauruan to compete at an Olympic Games was Marcus Stephen, at the 1992 Barcelona Games, but for Samoa, as Nauru had not yet been admitted into the IOC.

The 1996 Atlanta Games became Nauru's first Olympics with three weightlifters - Marcus Stephen, Quincy Detenamo and Gerard Garabwan.

Yukio Peter secured Nauru's best result at the Olympics, having finished in eighth place, in the men's 69kg weightlifting event at the 2004 Games. This was his only Olympic participation. //

## Israel's Ambassador Rosenblit visit

His Excellency President David Adeang received a courtesy call from the Ambassador of Israel to Nauru and to the Pacific Island States Roi Rosenblit at the Office of the President, 10 September.



**(L-R) Honorary Consul Sean Oppenheimer, Ambassador of Israel Roi Rosenblit and President David Adeang**

Mr Rosenblit, accompanied by the Honorary Consul of Israel to Nauru Sean Oppenheimer, visited various departments to discuss food security and sustainable development goals. He also paid courtesy calls on Cabinet Ministers, the Speaker of Parliament, and the Orro Congregational Church community.

During his weeklong visit, the Ambassador revisited the Home Biogas Unit in Boe, a project donated by the Israel Government in 2022 as part of the initiative to reduce carbon gas emissions, improve waste management and food security.

Nauru and Israel established diplomatic relations in 1994 and have since strengthened their partnership based on mutual respect and interests. Both countries share cooperative measures in health, agriculture, water and food security. //



## Thoma sworn in as deputy minister

Mr Delvin Thoma has sworn the oath of office to faithfully carry out his duties as the new Deputy Minister for Eigigu Holdings Corporation (EHC) and Nauru Seabed Minerals Authority (NSMA), 10 September.

The swearing in ceremony was presided over by Acting Chief Justice Kiniviliame Keteca and witnessed by His Excellency President David Adeang, members of his Cabinet, Speaker of Parliament Marcus Stephen and Chief Secretary Leona Waidabu. //



**Acting Chief Justice Keteca (R) preside over swearing in ceremony**

## Twenty eight police new recruits graduate

The Nauru Police Force (NPF) welcomed 28 new recruits in a graduation ceremony held at the Centennial Hall on 13 September.



**President David Adeang with the graduates of the Nauru Police Force**

His Excellency President David Adeang and Minister for NPF Lionel Aingimea attended the auspicious occasion along with Minister for WASDA Charmaine Scotty, Speaker of Parliament Marcus Stephen, and the ambassadors of Australia and China (PRC).

The graduates successfully completed a rigorous five-month training program at the NPF training centre, which emphasised both theoretical knowledge and practical skills on relevant laws and policies, equipping them with the necessary understanding to implement the best policing practices.

New recruits Saul Deraudag and Joseph Detabene were honoured with the commissioner's award and the most improved award, respectively, while Vicka Dageago was recognised for achieving the highest-ranking student (dux) award and demonstrating exceptional leadership.

Minister Aingimea delivered encouraging remarks to the new recruits and commended them for the hard work and effort put into the intense training.

Congratulations graduates of the NPF recruitment batch of 2024.

Agongo James Moses, Anthony Ephraim, Bow-Lester Duburiya, Brimad Deideinang, Buddy Waidubu, Dagan Blake, Fatima Mobit, Jake Doweiya, Jansen Temaki, Jezmine Denuga, Johannan Duburiya, Joseph Detabene, Joshua Garoa, Kendrick Taleka, Keziah Agir, Kum-On Dake, Mordecai Tsitsi, Nayton Dongobir, Pancho Hiram, Phil Taleka, Pio Atsime, Pretude Bill, Rhudy Tokaibure, Rojae Laeo, Saul Deraudag, Valentino Cain, Vicka Dageago, Zakeris Gobure. //



Educate yourself and others about the risks and signs of breast cancer



## USP open day: “Engamen Bwiō, Ngane ada Etorongōb”

The University of the South Pacific (USP) Nauru campus held an open day on 13 September with the Nauru Secondary School students and the general public.



**(L-R) Secretary for Education Darrina Kun, Minister for Transport Reagan Aliklik, Minister for Education Asterio Appi and Acting USP Campus Director Felicity Canon**

Acting USP Campus Director Felicity Canon officiated the program introducing the theme for this year -‘Engamen Bwiō, Ngane ada Etorongōb’ which translates to ‘Our People, Our Stories’.

Minister for Education and Training Asterio Appi addressed the students, encouraging them to pursue higher education after completing high school.

“An educated populace drives progress, stimulates economic growth, and promotes social advancement. By pursuing higher education, you are not only investing in your own future but also in the future of our community and nation.”

Minister Appi accompanied by Minister Reagan Aliklik and Secretary for Education Darrina Kun toured the campus and the students visited each stall set up by various government departments and state-owned enterprises. //

## New hall for Able-Disabled Centre

President David Adeang officially opened the new wheelchair accessible hall at the Able-Disabled Centre (ADC) which extends out from classrooms straight on to the hall deck, and providing the much-needed shade, 17 September.



**President Adeang inaugurated the newly constructed wheelchair-accessible hall at the Able-Disabled Centre**

President Adeang commended the leadership of Education Minister Asterio Appi for the successful completion of the hall, and is pleased to learn of the student’s delight with the new facility.

Minister Appi said the project gives the government a sense of pride to be able to share and celebrate the small victories as a nation adding there is more to come with the aim of ensuring a conducive learning environment.

Education CASE Manager for Special and Inclusive Education Elvira Hubert, who is also the acting Principal of ADC says it has taken about three years for construction to be completed owing to several factors including COVID-19.

The final phase of the hall is to outfit it as a water catchment complete with gutters and a water tank. //



## 110th member of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

Nauru is now the 110th member of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) following the approval of the Board of Governors during its annual meeting in Uzbekistan, 26 September.

The decision by the AIIB board to approve Nauru's application marks a significant milestone in Nauru's efforts to access global financing for critical infrastructure needs.

Deputy Minister and Special Envoy Maverick Eoe said Nauru's membership is not merely a formal affiliation but is a beacon of hope and opportunities towards achieving national aspirations of economic development and financial stability.

AIIB President and chair of the AIIB board, Jin Liqun added, the addition of Nauru as a regional member strengthens the AIIB community and supports its collective mission to finance infrastructure for tomorrow.



**Deputy Minister Maverick Eoe (R) with AIIB President and chairman of the board Jin Liqun**

The AIIB is a multilateral development bank whose mission is financing infrastructure for tomorrow in Asia and beyond – infrastructure with sustainability at its core. The bank began operations in Beijing in 2016. //

## Additional classrooms combat overcrowding at Nauru College

His Excellency President David Adeang officially opened the new learning block at Nauru College consisting of four newly built classrooms, 30 September.

Minister for Education and Training Asterio Appi delivered the opening remarks highlighting that the new learning block will contribute to the solution of overcrowding in the classrooms.

“Supporting students has a myriad of strategies that can be employed, each with varying timeframes and impacts; teacher training, assessment, resources, developing policies, strengthening partnerships, and so forth.

“Nauru College is blessed with 723 robust students in their early adolescence... It also has one of the highest teacher-student ratio and its students in Year 8 sit the prized year 8 Scholarship annually. It is a busy school and with these demands, Nauru College is on our priority lists.”

The Ministry will continue to implement the necessary mechanisms to cultivate and nurture the next generation of future leaders, thinkers, and innovators in collaboration with all stakeholders.

The Minister extended his acknowledgment and gratitude for the ongoing support of education in Nauru. He thanked the principal and staff of Nauru College for their commitment and dedication to the children of Nauru. //



**President Adeang officially opens the new learning block**

**Education Act 2011**

- ✓ **Mandatory Attendance:** Parents must ensure their children attend school every day.
- ✓ **Penalties:** \$50 fine for the first offence, \$250 for subsequent offences in the same year.
- ✓ **Acceptable Absences:** Includes religious/cultural observances and other valid reasons approved by the principal.
- ✓ **Non-Attendance Conditions:** Students must stay home if suspended, expelled, or carrying a contagious disease.
- ✓ **Employment Ban:** It is illegal to employ school-age children during school hours, with a \$1,000 fine for violations.

The Education Act 2011 provides the law to ensure consistent school attendance for all school-age children. Parents are legally required to ensure their children attend school daily, with specific exceptions.

These measures highlight the government's commitment to prioritising education and the well-being of children in Nauru. Parents and employers must adhere to these rules to support uninterrupted education for all students.

## Thirty students awarded secondary scholarships

The Secretary for Education is pleased to announce that Cabinet has approved the results of the 2024 Year 8 Secondary Scholarship examinations.

The successful candidates who have been awarded a secondary scholarship are:

1. Rainbow Shine Baguga
2. Generous Temaki
3. Corby Caleb
4. Destiny Uera
5. Wahine Dageago
6. Roki Jerome Limen
7. Rahchell Temaki
8. Cecelia Alona
9. Katherine Ribauw
10. Master-Jon Tsitsi
11. Basil Benjamin
12. Shammah Billiam
13. Zazu Cecil
14. Elizabeth Benjamin
15. Camilla Caleb
16. Karli Solomon
17. Katherina-Leitia Moses
18. Yumi Buraman
19. Jukes Gobure
20. Betty Scotty
21. Regina Hartman
22. Lucia Deiranauw
23. Eidiao Appi
24. Olech Dowabobo
25. Omega Detenamo
26. Adrian Waqa Kaierua
27. Raphael Detenamo
28. Adilina Doguape
29. My-Girl Agir
30. Ivan-step Dogireiy

### Department of Education



### 2024 Year 8 Secondary Scholarship Awardees

“To foster a healthier and more productive workplace, employers and policymakers must work together to create safe, supportive environments that prioritize mental health and enhance the well-being of every team member.”

Dr Saia Ma'u Piukala  
WHO Regional Director  
for the Western Pacific



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

*It is produced by the Government Information Office (GIO).*

*The GIO was established in May 2008 and is a section of the Office of the President.*



*Office Contact:  
Government Information Office  
Government Offices  
Yaren District, Republic of Nauru  
Email: [gio.nauru@gmail.com](mailto:gio.nauru@gmail.com)  
Telephone: +674 557-3009  
Web: [www.nauru.gov.nr](http://www.nauru.gov.nr)*