



Nauru Bulletin

Issue 17 - 2024/282

1.5 to stay alive, climate finance to thrive!

COP29 Baku Azerbaijan



Minister for Climate Change and National Resilience delivers statement at the COP29, Baku Azerbaijan

Nauru's minister for climate change told leaders at the 29th Conference of Parties (COP29) they arrive at the annual meeting to the familiar wave of dire projections regarding the state of the climate, and says Nauru deserves more.

Minister for Climate Change and National Resilience Asterio Appi says the climate crisis is relentless and will not wait.

"How many more COP meetings must I attend to grasp the depth of the challenges facing my island nation? The truth is, we cannot afford to delay. Action cannot wait for the next COP; it must begin now."

He adds greenhouse gas emissions, temperatures, and sea levels continue their unabated climb yet the only thing that does not seem to be on an upward trajectory is climate finance, which continues to lag far behind developing country needs.

"We know all know too well the popular phrase 1.5 to stay alive!! Mr President we intend to do more than just stay alive, we also intend to prosper and thrive. So I say 1.5 to stay alive, climate finance to thrive!."

The minister says Pacific Island countries are not sitting

idle and commends the climate leadership coming from Small Island Developing States despite the widening finance gap.

Nauru is pursuing ambitious plans that will build its resilience to climate change impacts and drive down emissions.

Next year, Nauru will submit the next update of its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and expects to raise its existing renewable energy target of 50 per cent for electricity generation well ahead of schedule.

Nauru's multi-generational urban development plan, the Higher Ground Initiative (HGI), will be the centrepiece of Nauru's updated NDC.

As with many small islands, Nauru's housing and essential infrastructure are concentrated in low-lying coastal areas, and due to sea level rise projections, much of it must be relocated.

"We also intend to pursue aggressive policies to increase energy efficiency across the economy and shift our transport system decisively toward electric vehicles," Minister Appi said pointing to the benefits of deep seabed minerals.

[cont pg 2...](#)

1.5 to stay alive, climate finance to thrive!

...from pg 1

“I would also like to emphasise that the responsible development of deep seabed minerals could provide the required metals for the just transition towards much cleaner and renewable energy technologies.”

Minister Appi says COP29 must catalyse scaled-up climate finance commensurate with the needs of developing countries, and make adaptation finance grant-based or highly concessionary not to increase the unsustainable debt burden faced by so many countries.

“The new global goal on finance should reflect this reality and be rooted in developing country need rather than political expediency.” //



(Front row) Secretary for CCNR Reagan Moses, Minister Asterio Appi, (back row) Director for HGI Anadella Edward and Project Assistant (UNDP/GEF Project) Kawaii Deije.

Higher ground initiative emphasised at COP29

Minister for Climate Change and National Resilience (CCNR) Asterio Appi, delivered a powerful opening address at the Higher Ground Initiative (HGI) side event during the latest round of global climate change negotiations (COP29), in Baku Azerbaijan, 18 November.



(L-R) Moderator and Director for Energy Phaedora Harris, Minister for Climate Change and National Resilience (CCNR) Asterio Appi, Secretary for CCNR Reagan Moses, SPREP Climate Finance Readiness Adviser Fred Patison and Director for HGI Anadella Edward

Hon. Appi emphasised the urgent need for action against the existential threat of climate change faced by Pacific Island nations and criticised the ongoing rise in global emissions and the alarming reality that global temperatures have exceeded the 1.5-degree Celsius threshold.

He warned that without significant change, the world will fail to meet the Paris Agreement goals.

Minister Appi encapsulated the call for holistic and sustained efforts, partnerships and enduring financial support, with a poignant extension to the familiar slogan, ‘One point five to stay alive. Climate finance so we can thrive’.

He said the phrase, climate change is an existential threat to Pacific Island countries, has become a familiar refrain in climate discussions, but asked what it actually means to the countries affected.

“What is our responsibility as Pacific Island governments to respond to this threat?” he asked.

“To answer this precise question, the Government of Nauru launched the Higher Ground Initiative. Its mandate was ultimately quite simple: design a Nauru that can thrive on a hotter planet for generations to come.”

After two years of consultations, studies, environmental assessments and workshops, the HGI project produced a new whole-island master land use plan which includes Nauru’s first smart village – designed to work for Nauru and address the most pressing concerns of Nauruans.

The minister challenged the notion that “One point five to stay alive” should be the end goal, asserting that safety and security should be non-negotiable, and our children deserve opportunities akin to those enjoyed in more developed regions.

He addressed internal challenges, including the legacy of phosphate mining and outdated land tenure systems, which require reform to enable progress, and also underscored the importance of cultivating a skilled domestic workforce capable of implementing and maintaining resilience projects.

Through HGI, Nauru exemplifies a nation rising to meet the climate crisis head-on, embodying a vision of resilience that seeks not only survival but a thriving, sustainable future.

Supporting the Minister are HGI panelists DCCNR secretary Reagan Moses, Director for HGI Anadella Edward and SPREP’s Climate Finance Readiness Adviser Fred Patison. //

Nauru SuperLife conduct consultation

Nauru Superannuation provider, SuperLifeNZ, concluded its consultation meetings with employers and employees, 14-15 November.

Two separate sessions were conducted by Eriksens Global Managing Director Jonathan Eriksen and SuperLife Head of Corporate at Smartshares Ltd, Ivy Valderrama at the Civic Centre Conference Hall.

The consultations featured presentations on the Nauru Super plan and updates offering employers and administrators the opportunity for questions and answers to better understand the benefits of investing in superannuation.

The Nauru Government established the scheme under the Nauru Superannuation Act 2018, and launched Nauru Super in July 2019 with the purpose of providing retirement benefits to eligible Nauruan employees.

SuperLife investment funds are managed by Smartshares Limited, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the New Zealand Stock Exchange (NZX) Limited.

Employees contribute five per cent of their salary towards their superannuation, which their employer matches, totalling 10 per cent contributions each pay cycle. Additionally, each account will incur a monthly fee of \$1.

Enrolment in the Nauru Superannuation scheme is mandatory for both employers and employees within government sector and state-owned enterprise.

In contrast, participation is optional for the private sector, as stipulated in the Nauru Superannuation Amendment Act 2020.

Since its launch in 2019, 5725 citizens have joined Nauru Super with contributions totalling AU\$25 million.

Nauru Super allocates its investments to a single fund managed by Schroder Investment Management Australia, and the Department of Finance manages the relationship with SuperLifeNZ, while the Nauru Revenue Office is responsible for overseeing compliance with the Act.



Nauruan employees express interests and concerns at the consultation meeting

Withdrawals are permitted under specific conditions. Members may access their investment upon reaching the age of 55 and upon terminating their employment. There are also provisions for instances of death or total and permanent disablement.

Additionally, members have the option of making voluntary contributions above the mandatory five per cent. Members who have been part of the scheme for at least two years are allowed to withdraw some or all of their voluntary savings. Withdrawals are restricted to one every two years, and a minimum amount of AU\$500.

For further enquiries on the Nauru Super, contact Trinina Mary trinina@gmail.com at the Nauru Department of Finance. //

ROAD SAFETY MEASURES

**Buckle up**

Wear your seat belt at all times. Wear a helmet when driving a motorcycle.

**Observe the speed limit**

Speed limit: 50kph
Driving past schools, churches and hospital: 20kph.

**Pedestrian crossing**

Drivers should slow down at traffic stops and give way to pedestrians at a zebra crossing.

**Never drink and drive**

Have a designated driver if you plan to drink. Don't operate a vehicle when you're intoxicated.

Carry your driver's licence and ensure your vehicle is registered and roadworthy.

Click on link
superlife.co.nz/nauru

First ever MICS launched for Nauru

The launch of Nauru's first ever Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2023 will provide essential data, that was otherwise limited or unavailable implement and strengthen processes and programs aimed to achieve development goals.

The Nauru Bureau of Statistics (BoS) Officer-in-charge Ramrakha Detenamo and the acting Chief Secretary Barassi Botelanga launched the survey findings report and a snapshot of its key findings, at the Menen Hotel, 13 November.

"The insight shared today [13Nov] will spotlight the critical areas that needs our attention for policy and program development within government and the society at large," Mr Detenamo said.

The MICS is the cornerstone of the commitment to ensuring the welfare and progress on Nauru's women and children are at the forefront.

"This is especially important given that national data has been limited or unavailable, which has hindered effective decision-making and planning."

"With this new evidence at hand, policymakers will be better equipped to mobilise resources and provide support to address the challenges faced by our most vulnerable populations. Additionally, this data will help us report our progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and the Nauru Sustainable Development Strategy 2030," Mr Detenamo said.

Of the 2021 households on Nauru, 670 (30 per cent) were randomly sampled.

The MICS includes data on child mortality, health, nutrition, education, child protection, as well as water, sanitation, and hygiene.

There are many indicators that are being produced for the first-time, including drinking water quality, learning skills of children and child functioning.

The survey found that 43 per cent of the Nauru population are children below 18 years of age; and 53 per cent of households are headed by men and the remaining 47 per cent by women.



MICS data paves way for policies and support

An overwhelming 99 per cent of children under five have had their births registered, the highest coverage rate in the Pacific compared with six other MICS reports published so far in the region, including Kiribati, Tonga, Tuvalu, Samoa, Fiji and Vanuatu.

Nauru is also very close to achieving the childhood mortality SDG 2030 target of reducing child mortality to 25 deaths per 1000 live births, with the survey indicating 26.

Eighty-one per cent of children aged between one and 14 have experienced violent discipline, either as physical punishment or psychological aggression.

UNICEF Pacific Representative Jonathan Veitch says "UNICEF stands ready to continue working closely with government and all of you in strengthening some of these systems to address improvements for children and their families".

Secretary for Finance Novena Itsimaera says policies and programs must be informed by high quality data that will plan and assess Nauru's progress towards its developmental road map, the NSDS 2030.

"It is crucial that all Nauruans are empowered to reach their fullest potential. Children in our country live under various conditions and are exposed to numerous factors that can greatly influence their life opportunities," Ms Itsimaera said.

The survey is led by the Nauru BoS, and funded by the Government of New Zealand, with additional financial and technical support provided by UNICEF and the Government of Nauru. Technical support was also provided by the United Nations Population Fund and The Pacific Community (SPC). //

Click on link
[Nauru.mics.surveys](https://nauru.mics.surveys)

Nauru co-hosts GoP on climate security

Nauru co-hosted the side event on 'Peace and Security in a Changing Climate: From Analysis to Action', during the climate change meeting, the Conference of Parties in Baku Azerbaijan, 15 November, highlighting that the effects of climate change on security may be indirect but in the global context demonstrates it can intensify existing risks.



Secretary for Climate Change and National Resilience Reagan Moses delivers statement at the

Secretary for Climate Change and National Resilience (CCNR) Reagan Moses delivered the opening remarks on behalf of Nauru as the co-chair, with Germany, on the Group of Friends on Climate Change Security Mechanism.

He said for over a decade, Pacific nations have called for urgency to address climate and security.

“The intersection of climate and security in the Pacific Islands is characterised by its unique circumstances, encompassing both traditional and non-traditional dimensions such as rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and environmental degradation.”

Mr Moses says these factors increasingly threaten the resilience, stability, governance structures, and way of life of the Nauruan people.

“Addressing climate and security necessitates collective action and the inclusive leadership of Pacific nations. Partnerships, such as those promoted by the Climate Security Mechanism, are vital for achieving our shared objective,” he said.

As co-chair of the Group of Friends on Climate and Security, Mr Moses reaffirmed Nauru's commitment to actively engage in future discussions and actions related to climate security and to collaborate closely with the Climate Security Mechanism to account for diverse perspectives and needs in on-the-ground interventions. //

Recap launched with regional focus on RE

Minister for Climate Change and National Resilience Asterio Appi participated as a panelist at the launching of the Renewable Energy Council Asia-Pacific (RECAP), 18 November.

The event was held at the Australian Pavilion on the margins of the annual global climate change negotiations, the Conference of Parties (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan.

RECAP with a regional focus will bring together renewable energy industry innovation, investment, and business-to-business collaboration across Asia and the Pacific. Partners through North and North-east Asia, South-east Asia, South Asia and the South Pacific will be represented.

Minister Appi spoke about Nauru's renewable energy aspirations and achievements including plan for 50 per cent renewable energy that is expected to be online next year, with renewed targets of 75 per cent by 2030. Financing is therefore crucial for Nauru to meet these ambitious targets. //



Minister Appi participates in discussions at the Renewable Energy Council Asia-Pacific (RECAP)



Armistice day observed

His Excellency the Acting President Lionel Aingimea laid the first wreath at the cenotaph in front of the government offices in Yaren to commemorate Armistice Day, 11 November.



Wreaths were laid at the cenotaph and a two minute silence was observed to honour the fallen service men and women

The wreath laying continued with the cabinet ministers, senior officials, foreign dignitaries, and Mr Cagney Scotty representing the Nauruan survivors of World War II.

This day marks the 106th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice on 11 November 1918 at 11am between the Allied powers of Great Britain, France, and Germany, which ended four years of the First World War.

The ceremony began with an opening prayer, followed by the Nauru Police Force Memorial Guard lowering the flags of Nauru, Australia, and New Zealand to half-mast signifying respect, mourning, and distress.

Acting Secretary for Foreign Affairs Rebecca Amwano recited the Ode of Remembrance, after which a two-minute silence was observed at 11am to honour the service men and women who lost their lives in World War I, conflicts, and peacekeeping missions.

The poppy has become the world's most recognised flower of Armistice Day, and a symbol of both remembrance and hope for a peaceful future.

*In Flanders Fields, the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below*

The poem, In Flanders Fields, was written in 1915 by Canadian physician Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae. He was inspired to write it on 3 May, 1915, after his friend Lieutenant Alexis Helmer died in service to his country.

Originally called Armistice Day to commemorate the German surrender in 1918, the day was renamed Remembrance Day in 1945.

Lest We Forget. //

US\$37m ADB grant signed for sustainable urban development

Deputy Minister Maverick Eoe and Pacific Regional Director of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Shane Rosenthal signed a US\$37.5 million grant for the Nauru Sustainable and Resilient Urban Development Project in Sydney, 11 November.



Deputy Minister Maverick Eoe and ADB Pacific Regional Director Shane Rosenthal following the signing ceremony

Mr Eoe thanked the ADB on behalf of the Nauru government, stating the ceremony marks an “important step in the future of our nation, with the commencement of the Nauru Sustainable Urban Development Project... I wish to thank the ADB for its steadfast commitment to our nation through this and many other projects”.

The grant will support urban services for about 2,180 households, including access to reticulated water for the first time.

The initiative will benefit 1,200 households with immediate access to safe water and upgrade outdated sanitation infrastructure. A composting and solid waste recycling centre will also be established to promote sustainable waste management.

The project is led by the Department of Climate Change and National Resilience and services will be the responsibility of the Nauru Utilities Corporation and the Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation. //



Nauru maintains support for ICJ

Nauru delivered remarks at the United Nations on the report of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), reaffirming that Nauru remains committed to supporting the fundamental role of the institution in upholding international law, 30 October.

UN Mission Charge d'Affaires Josie-Ann Dongobir said that as a small island developing state, Nauru understands firsthand the complexity and significance of the UN's work.

"As a small island developing state, we also understand the challenges of accessing international justice.

"That is why we applaud the Court's initiatives to enhance efficiency, particularly through streamlined deliberation processes, and the innovative implementation of hybrid hearing formats.

"These initiatives are a positive step towards making the court's services more available to all Member States, regardless of size or geographical location," Ms Dongobir said.

The report of the International Court of Justice indicates the court's expanding caseload. While this is testament to the growing confidence of the international community in the institution, it also brings heightened responsibilities and challenges to the courts.

In the face of unprecedented judicial activity, courts are required to deliver multiple judgements, advisory opinions and orders while conducting numerous public hearings.

"While this extensive workload underscores the Court's vital role in maintaining the international rule of law, it also places considerable demands on its judges, and we must strengthen our support for those who serve international justice at its highest level."

Ms Dongobir underscored the undeniable link between judicial wellbeing and the quality of international justice, pointing to UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres' report which emphasises the necessity of adequate resources to support the court's expanding role and mounting pressures.

In that context Ms Dongobir highlighted Nauru's efforts to support the justice system when it adopted the Nauru Declaration on Judicial Wellbeing on 25 July in Nauru, drafted by eminent chief justices and senior judges from around the world.

Following that conference, Nauru is submitting a proposed resolution on judicial well-being to establish an International Day for Judicial Well-being that seeks to raise awareness, acknowledge judicial stress, and promote systemic action to support judicial well-being across all levels. //

Nauru urges end to Cuba embargo

Nauru strongly urged for the immediate removal of Cuba from the United States' list of countries allegedly sponsoring terrorism, during the 28th Plenary session at the UN General Assembly, 30 October.



UN Mission Charge d'Affaires Josie-Ann Dongobir delivered her statement at the UN General Assembly

Nauru's UN Mission Charge d'affaires Josie Ann Dongobir said the economic, commercial, and financial embargo imposed by the U.S on Cuba extends beyond borders, "it speaks to our shared humanity and the principle of solidarity among nations".

"For over six decades, this embargo has not only stifled Cuba's economy but has also inflicted profound suffering on its people. The embargo serves as more than just a political measure; it has significant implications for the protection of basic human rights."

The restrictions have caused deeper implications for the people of Cuba with restricted access to essential goods, limiting opportunities for development, and hindering vital services, including healthcare and education.

"This is not just an economic issue; it is a humanitarian crisis that demands our urgent attention," Ms Dongobir said commending Cubans for showing remarkable ingenuity and strength notably for their robust healthcare system.

Ms Dongobir said the overwhelming consensus of the international community reflects the shared belief in the importance of equality among nations and the right to self-determination.

Nauru reaffirms its dedication to the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter, in particular those that advocate for sovereign equality and non-interference in the internal affairs of states.

Follow on Twitter X
NAURU MISSION UN

Japan signs patrol boat donation

Japan's Ambassador to Nauru Rokuichiro Michi paid a courtesy visit on His Excellency President David Adeang following the signing ceremony with Foreign Minister Lionel Aingimea for the donation of a patrol boat, 8 November.

Upon its arrival, the patrol boat will be operated by the Nauru Police Maritime Unit which will significantly enhance the capabilities of the Nauru Police Force in responding to emergencies within the coastal waters of Nauru.

This donation further highlights the dedication and enduring relationship between Japan and Nauru. //



Ambassador Rokuichiro Michi and Minister Lionel Aingimea following the signing ceremony

RonPhos minister explores phosphate market

In October Minister for RonPhos Shadlog Bernicke led a delegation to the People's Republic of China to attend meetings and conferences on phosphate, mining, ICT and media.



Minister Bernicke and RonPhos officials met with Samsung C&T team in Shanghai, China.

In a separate meeting Deputy Minister Thoma and RonPhos officials visited China's largest phosphate company, YunTianHua, and Yunnan Phosphate Haikou Co., Limited (YPH) in Kunming on 18-19 October.

These companies have the capacity to mine 15 million tons of phosphate ore annually and produce two million tons of phosphate products.

The visits offer RonPhos valuable insight into innovative mining techniques and a variety of phosphate product lines that could be used to improve production and efficiency in Nauru.

Additionally, Minister Bernicke and Steve Jung, Vice President of Samsung C&T and head of the chemical division, signed a contract to establish a framework for prepayment and marketing services related to phosphate purchases.

This agreement enables RonPhos to receive prepayments from Samsung for phosphate purchases, with an initial payment of 80 per cent of the contract value made upon signing the supply contract.

Additionally, the Minister met with the President of Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr. Kun Xu, and reached an agreement to establish a Memorandum of Understanding aimed at fostering cooperation between Nauru and BUPT.

This MoU will facilitate enrolment for Nauruan students and ICT professionals at BUPT for advanced studies, promoting collaboration in telecommunications, ICT, and cybersecurity. Faculty and students from BUPT will also have the opportunity to visit Nauru to conduct ICT training programs.

During their stay in China, Minister Bernicke and Ambassador Aingimea attended the China Mining 2024 conference in Tianjin on 15-16 October which centred on mining driven by green energy.

[cont pg 8...](#)

Minister Bernicke was accompanied by Deputy Minister Delvin Thoma, Ambassador David Aingimea and RonPhos officials.

RonPhos officials joined the minister in meeting representatives from Samsung C&T at their regional headquarters in Shanghai for discussions on increasing Nauru's presence in the Chinese phosphate rock market.

Samsung C&T shared valuable insights into the competitive landscape for Nauru phosphate rock in China, highlighting its superior quality. The meeting also considered potential strategies to enhance access to the phosphate market in China.

Following this, Minister Bernicke engaged in talks with representatives from Zhanxiang Asset Management Co. Ltd, who are interested in purchasing Nauru phosphate rock.

RonPhos minister explores phosphate market

...from pg 7

In his opening address, Minister Bernicke highlighted the significance of partnering with companies that utilise advanced mining technologies, particularly those committed to environmentally sustainable practices. He reiterated Nauru's commitment to strengthening both bilateral and multilateral collaborations within the mining industry.

Afterwards the Minister engaged in discussions with the Vice Minister of China's Ministry of Natural Resources, Xu Dachun, to identify potential areas for collaboration in regards to phosphate.

Mr Dachun conveyed China's willingness to support Nauru in enhancing the value of phosphate products through advisory and technical assistance, as well as to provide educational opportunities for Nauruan students at the International Geological Education Center in China.


The conversations also touched upon the possibility of Chinese mining firms investing in Nauru's phosphate sector through various joint ventures.

RonPhos is actively pursuing strategic growth in the Chinese market, as demonstrated by the recent shipment of 27,156 metric tonnes of phosphate ore to Nantong, China. The bulk carrier, Royal Spark, departed from Nauru with its cargo on 3 November.

This shipment underscores RonPhos' commitment to strengthening trade relations and expanding its market presence.

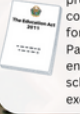
In another separate event, Deputy Minister Thoma attended the 6th World Media Summit in Urumqi, China, on behalf of Minister Bernicke, 14-16 October.

This summit brought together media representatives from over 100 countries to discuss the transformative effects of artificial intelligence (AI) on the media landscape, focusing on the associated opportunities and challenges. //




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.

Nauru, Benin formally establish diplomatic relations

The United Nations permanent representatives of Nauru and Benin signed an agreement formally establishing the diplomatic relations of their countries at UN Mission of Benin, in New York, 6 November.



Ambassador Lara Daniel and Benin Ambassador Marc Araba signed the communique

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Nauru Ambassador Lara Daniel and the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Benin Ambassador Marc Araba, signed the communique on behalf of their respective governments.

The decision to establish diplomatic relations is guided by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, particularly on the respect and promotion of international peace and security, equality among states, national sovereignty, independence, international instruments, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of states.

This is in accordance with the provisions of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April 1961, and the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 24 April 1963.

The two countries are desirous of strengthening friendly relations and developing mutual beneficial cooperation for the mutual benefit of their peoples.

Benin is a country of western Africa. It is bordered to the northwest by Burkina Faso, to the east by Nigeria, and to the west by Togo. //



NES attend disaster risk training in China

Seven members of the Nauru Emergency Services (NES) departed for Jiangmen, Guangdong Province, China this week, for a three-day workshop on disaster management with the Belt and Road International Cooperation Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management (BRIDRREM).



NES Secretary Barassi Botelanga along with NES members travel to China for disaster management workshop

On the invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of China, Nauru NES is part of a larger cohort of several other Pacific Island Countries (PIC) attending the workshop focused on collectively addressing the challenges posed by natural disasters and to strengthen emergency rescue capabilities. A PIC-oriented emergency rescue exercise will also be part of the program.

Secretary for NES Barassi Botelanga says the initiative presents a significant opportunity for both Nauru and the department and ultimately will “empower our NES personnel, improve our emergency services, and contribute to the overall safety and preparedness of our communities”.

The opportunity continues to engage and build relationships between NES and the Ministry of Emergency Management of the People's Republic of China. The program is in three parts, an earthquake simulation exercise, an exhibition of emergency equipment, and a senior official seminar. //



Upskilling with Tasmania fire

Eight Nauru firefighters are nearing the end of a two-week practical fire training, skills and leadership development program in Tasmania.



NES firefighters depart for leadership development program in Tasmania

The group departed Nauru on 13 November and will undergo the training with the Tasmania Fire Service (TFS) and the local fire service at Air Services Australia Hobart.

Nauru firefighters have previously attended six training programs with the Tasmania Fire Service from 2013 to 2024. The programs covered a variety of modules including bush and structural fire training, road crash rescue, breathing apparatus procedures, and urban search and rescue.

The partnership between the Nauru Rescue Fire Services (NRFS), the Pacific Island Fire and Emergency Services Association, and the Australasia Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC). It focuses on assisting and developing fire and emergency management with partner countries. //



China sends first eye specialist team

The first medical team specialising in ophthalmology (eye care) from Zhongshan Ophthalmic Centre (ZOC) Guangzhou, China, conducted eye care services at the Nauru Public Health (NPH) from 15-19 November.



Minister Charmaine and Ambassador Lyu Jin with the medical team from China

At the welcome ceremony on 13 November Minister for Health and Medical Services Charmaine Scotty delivered the opening remarks formally welcoming the team to Nauru.

“This inaugural visit of Chinese medical team here today symbolises not only a new chapter in the relationship between our two great nations but also shared commitment to improving the health and well-being of our citizens,” the Minister said.

The medical team headed by Dr Huang Wenyong comprise three specialist doctors and three nurses for eye care (ophthalmology). In collaboration with the Nauru eye clinic, the specialists completed 73 eye care services, 27 cataract surgeries and seven laser treatments before departing on Tuesday, 19 November.

NPH Secretary Dr. Balathandan says the mission achieved significant success, having reviewed more than 100 outpatients. He expressed gratitude to the medical team for their commitment and anticipates continued collaboration in the near future.

The Ambassador of China, Lyu Jin says this journey marks the “first step in our bilateral health cooperation,” adding that a team of Chinese traditional medicine experts will also arrive next month to offer free consultations on health and medical care. //

Museum receives WWII Japanese headstone

The National Heritage and Naoero Museum acquired its latest piece of war history in the form of a Japanese tomb headstone donated by Michael Roland, 7 November.



Michael Roland (second left) hands Japanese headstone to the Naoero Museum

The headstone was discovered by Darcy Deigaeruk in an old graveyard at Menen topside, where he successfully retrieved it prior to the commencement of phosphate mining in the area. After preserving it for many years, Mr Deigaeruk passed it on to his friend, Roland.

According to Mr Roland, 30 names of Japanese soldiers from WWII are engraved on the headstone, the youngest of whom was just 18 years old.

Roland expressed his interest in the history of Nauru and was pleased to have received the headstone, which he diligently maintained while it was in his possession. Although it attracted the interest of a few Japanese visitors, its historical significance remained largely unknown to the public.

He believes that by donating the headstone to the Naoero Museum, a broader audience will have the opportunity to appreciate and gain knowledge about the history of Nauru. //

 **FOLLOW US ON
FACEBOOK**

@republicofnauru

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
Telephone: +674 557-3009
Web: www.nauru.gov.nr