

**Votes & Proceedings
Of the
Eighteenth Parliament**

No. 22

**Sixth Sitting of the Twelfth Meeting
Saturday, 27th June 2009**

10.00 a.m.

1. The House met at 11.00 a.m. pursuant to the resolution of the House made on Friday, 26th June 2009.

2. Hon. Riddell Akua, M.P., Speaker of Parliament, took the Chair and read Prayers.

3. Ministerial Statements & Tabling of Papers

Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke (Minister for Finance) made a statement and tabled Inter subhead Transfers 2008-09, which reads as under:-

'Mr. Speaker and honourable colleagues, today I table in Parliament the statement recording inter subhead transfers (ISHTs) approved by Cabinet since the last session of Parliament.

NFMRA - Head 31

Nauru Fisheries proposed an increase of \$300 in subhead 352 for Stores items to cover costs of cleaning items.

Proposed increase in subhead 354 for Repairs and Maintenance - Buildings is to meet the cost of minor office development. This would allow adequate working space for each division including Customer Service section, accounting and Auditing section, etc.

The proposed decrease in subhead 353 for R. & M. Plant is to replenish both subheads 352 and 354.

Transport - Head 94

An increase of \$1,700 in subhead 352 for Stores Items is to purchase various cleaning items including disinfectants, detergents and cleaning equipments.

A decrease in subhead 309 for Membership Fees & Subscriptions is to replenish the above subhead. The monthly fee for Air Services Australia has been less than anticipated so there is adequate funds available in this subhead.

Parliament – Head 06

Since there is insufficient funds in subhead 255 for Travel, a decrease of \$12,000 in subhead 326 for Special Projects was made. This transfer caters for official travel for the Member of Parliament who accompanied His Excellency the President to the Japan PALM Summit.

The remaining funds in subhead 326 will be adequate for the remainder of 2008-09.

Police & Prison – Head 41

Police and Prison proposed increased in subheads 202, 429, 352, 353 and 371 being for local salaries, prison supplies, stores items, R & M Plant and Prison ration respectively.

Increased local salaries are to cover the salaries of newly appointed local employees who have replaced the expatriate executive assistant. Increase in prison supplies is for cleaning items. Funds for stores items is to purchase security locks and motor cycles tubes, etc. Funds for R&M Plant is to cover minor repairs for all police vehicles. The major increase is the Prison Rations subhead 371, which was depleted due to the rapid increase in inmate numbers. Inmates have conducted fishing activities to minimise the cost of catering, but there is still a need for supplementation to ensure sufficient food for the inmates.

Head 41 proposed decreases in subhead 203, 311, 528, 251 and 351 being for salaries expatriates, R& M Equipment, staff training, staff travel and uniforms & Protective clothing is to replenish the above increases in various subheads. There will be sufficient funds available for this financial year.

Transport Maritime – Head 93

Maritime proposed an increase of \$11,770 for subhead 212 Overtime local to fund shipping operation bonuses. Port workers are expected to do excessive hours during the arrival of cargo vessels, tanker and phosphate ships.

A decrease in subhead 359 Electricity is to replenish subhead 212.

Brisbane Office – Head 72

Brisbane Office requested for a transfer of fund from subhead 359 electricity to replenish subhead 353 for R & M Plant and subhead 315 for insurance.

Brisbane Office had to hire a vehicle for 3 weeks while a repair of the Consulate Assistant's vehicle was undertaken. Subhead 315 for Insurance requires funds to cover the Health Insurance invoices for the Consulate General.

Justice & Border Control – Head 43

Justice & Border Control proposed an increase to subhead 301 for printing and stationery to cover cost for additional printing and stationeries items.

A decrease in subhead 314 for legal fees is to replenish subhead 301.

Chief Sec – Head 03

There are insufficient funds to pay for a Renewal of Membership fee which is due from January 2009. Transferring funds from subhead 361 for public works is to replenish subhead 309 for membership fees and subscriptions.

Finance – Head 11

An urgent request to increase subhead 251 for travel staff is to allow Mrs. Connie Castro and family to return to the Philippines.

Remaining balance in subhead 326 for special projects will be sufficient to cover cost for the Government's investment in Digicel.

ICT – Head 95

ICT proposed an increased amount of \$17,000 in subhead 502 for plant and equipment to cover the cost of internet server devices and additional spare parts for ICT devices that increased in price. The cost of these ICT devices was higher than anticipated.

An increase in subhead 309 for Memberships Fees and Subscriptions is for payment of arrears in its membership fees with the Asian Pacific Telecommunication.

An increase in subhead 255 for travel business is to cover cost of travel to Brisbane in order to setup and configure the network for the Consulate in Brisbane.

A decrease in subhead 305 for telephone and fax is to replenish subheads 502, 309 and 255

Presidency & State House – Head 01

An increase in subhead 270 for entertainment is to cover entertainment costs for His Excellency the President for visit of foreign diplomats.

A decrease in subhead 202 for local salary is to replenish the increase in entertainment subhead.

Ministerial – Head 02

A proposed increase in subhead 202 for local salary is required to cover the remaining salary payments for May and June 2009. Spending under this subhead is higher than originally budgeted.

A decrease in subhead 325 for consultancy fees is to replenish the increase in salary local.

Education – head 51

The need for an increase in subhead 404 for scholarships school and trade is to cover holiday costs for 19 students at Baptist Christian Academy in Fiji including one parent chaperone.

Balance in subhead 203 for salaries expatriates is sufficient for the remainder of 2008-09.

Maritime – head 93

This subhead 203 for salary expatriate needs replenishing. The extra fortnight for this financial year has depleted, due to confusion created by the wording of the employment contract.

A decrease in subhead 202 for local salaries is to replenish subhead 203 and will be sufficient for the remaining financial year.

Judiciary – Head 44

An increase in subhead 541 for family court is required to facilitate the sitting of the Family Court.

A decrease in subhead 353 for R & M Plant is to replenish subhead 541 and will be sufficient for the remaining financial year.

Finance – Head 11

Finance is required to increase subhead 326 for Special Projects for additional and unanticipated costs associated with the roll-out of Digicel.

Subhead 355/001 for petrol proved to be substantially more than required, and a significant amount of appropriation was not spent.

Maritime – Head 93

A reimbursement of airfare ticket needs to be made towards RONPHOS. This is being for Captain Tabaru when he was deported from Honiara for not having a valid entry visa, which necessitated an increase in subhead 251 for travel staff.

A decrease in subhead 202 for salary local will be sufficient for this financial year.

Ministerial – Head 02

This subhead 202 for local salary was under-budgetted. This requires replenishing in order to cover for the remaining fortnights.

A decrease in subhead 352 for consultancy fees will be sufficient for this financial year.

Foreign Affairs & Trade – Head 71

This transfer requires covering DFAT staff salary – subhead 202.

Provision under subhead 236 will be sufficient for this financial year.

Increases:

Head	Agency	Subhead No.	Item	Increase (\$)
31	NFMRA	352	Stores Items	300
31	NFMRA	354	R&M - Building	2,300
94	Transport	352	Stores Items	1,700
06	Parliament	255	Travel Business	12,000
41	Police & Prisons	202	Salaries Local	2,000
41	Police & Prisons	429	Prison Supplies	3,000
41	Police & Prisons	352	Stores Items	1,000
41	Police & Prisons	353	R&M Plant	1,000
41	Police & Prisons	371	Prison Rations	13,000
93	Transport-Maritime	212	Overtime Local	11,770
72	Brisbane Office	353	R&M Plant	2,000
72	Brisbane Office	315	Insurance	1,000
43	Justice & Border Control	301	Printing & Stationery	2,500
03	Chief Secretary	309	M/Fees & subscriptions	4,600
95	ICT	502	Plant & Equipment	17,000
95	ICT	309	M/Fees & subscriptions	18,100
95	ICT	255	Travel Business	5,000
01	Presidency	270	Entertainment	5,000
02	Ministerial	202	Salary Local	6,000
51	Education	404	Scholarship, School & Trade	35,000
93	Transport-Maritime	203	Salaries Expatriates	3,000
44	Judiciary	541	Family court	560
11	Finance	326	Special Projects	277,851
11	Finance	251	Travel Staff	9,000
93	Transport-Maritime	251	Travel Staff	4,472
02	Ministerial	202	Salaries Local	6,000
71	Foreign Affairs & Trade	202	Salaries Local	1,963

Decrease

Head	Agency	Subhead No.	Item	Decrease (\$)
31	NMFRA	353	R&M Plant	2,600
94	Transport	309	M/Fees & Subscriptions	1,700
06	Parliament	326	Special Projects	12,000
41	Police & Prisons	203	Salaries - Expatriates	3,000
41	Police & Prisons	311	R&M Equipment	2,000
41	Police & Prisons	528	Staff Training	1,000
41	Police & Prisons	251	Travel Staff	1,000
41	Police & Prisons	351	Uniforms & Prot. Clothing	13,000
93	Transport-Maritime	359	Electricity	11,770
72	Brisbane office	359	Electricity	3,000
43	Justice & Border Control	314	Legal Expenses -External	2,500
03	Chief Secretary	361	Public works	4,600
95	ICT	305	Telephone/Fax	40,100
01	Presidency	202	Salaries Local	5,000

02	Ministerial	325	Consultancy fees	6,000
51	Education	203	Salaries Expatriates	35,000
93	Transport-Maritime	202	Salaries Local	3,000
44	Judiciary	353	R&M Plant	560
11	Finance	355/001	Petrol	277,851
11	Finance	326	Special Projects	9,000
93	Transport-Maritime	202	Salaries Local	4,471
02	Ministerial	325	Consultancy Fees	6,000
71	Foreign Affairs & Trade	326	Special Projects	1,963

4. Motion

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen, as leader of government business, moved that motions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 be deferred to the next sitting.

Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke (Minister for Finance) seconded.

Question put and passed.

5. Orders of the Day No. 1 - Appropriation Bill 2009-2010

Resumption of debate on the question that the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate on the revenue policy ensued.

The Chair, with the consensus of the House, suspended the sitting and to resume when the bell rings.

Resumed.

6. Leave of Absence

(a) His Excellency President Marcus Stephen sought leave of absence for Hon. Sprent Dabwido (Minister for Transport) who has to attend to a family commitment.

Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke (Minister for Finance) seconded.

Leave was granted.

(b) Mr. Dowiyogo (Ubenide) sought leave of absence for Mr. Waqa (Boe) who is away overseas.

Mr. Bernicke (Buada) seconded.

Leave was granted.

Debate on the Expenditure policy ensued.

Debate on the Bill as a Whole ensued.

Question put and passed.

The Bill was read a second time.

7. Letter of Recommendation

The Chair informed the House that he now received Recommendation from His Excellency the President which read as follows:

'Article 59(3) of the Constitution of Nauru

I, Marcus Stephen, President of the Republic of Nauru as Chairman of the Cabinet and in pursuance of a resolution of the Cabinet hereby notify Parliament that the purpose of the withdrawals from the Treasury Fund as proposed by the Appropriation Bill 2009-2010 is recommended to the Parliament by the Cabinet.

Dated this 26th day of June, 2009.

(Signed) Marcus Stephen, President & Chairman of the Cabinet.'

8. Leave sought for

Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke (Minister for Finance) sought leave of the House to enable the Bill to proceed forthwith to the third Reading.

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen seconded.

Leave was granted.

9. Motion - Third Reading

Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke (Minister for Finance) moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen seconded.

Question put and passed.

The Bill was read a third time.

11. Motion Fixing the date for the next sitting

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen moved that Parliament at its rising do adjourn until a time and date to be fixed by the Chair.

Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke (Minister for Finance) seconded.

Question put and passed.

12. Adjournment

His Excellency the President moved that the House do now adjourn.

Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke (Minister for Finance) seconded.

Question put and passed.

And then the House at five minutes past one o'clock p.m. adjourned until a time and date to be fixed by the Chair.

Members Present

All Members were present at some time during the sitting, except –

- * Mr. Dabwido
- * Mr. Waqa
- ** Mr. Adeang

John Garabwan
Deputy Clerk of Parliament

* Leave of Absence

** Suspension