

**Votes & Proceedings
Of the
Sixteenth Parliament**

No. 37

First Sitting of the Thirty First Meeting
Monday 23rd April 2007

10.00 a.m.

1. The House met on Monday 23rd April 2007, at 10.00 a.m. in accordance with the resolution made by the House on Thursday 5th April 2007.
2. The Hon. Valdon K. Dowiyogo, Speaker of Parliament took the Chair and read prayers.

3. **Statement from the Chair**

'Honourable Members, I wish to make a statement before this august House in regard to my recent visit to the Republic of China.

At the outset, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the resident Ambassador, His Excellency King Y. Yu, for finalizing the arrangements for this visit to Taiwan. I was also accompanied by Hon. Marcus Stephen and I also extend thanks to the Ambassador on his behalf.

My visit to Taiwan went very well and I called on His Excellency the President and the Speaker of the Yuan. I was well received by both dignitaries and our stay was as it could be. The Speaker of the Yuan wishes to constitute a Parliamentary Friendship Group between our two Parliaments and I am working to finalize a document in this regard which once ready would be brought to the notice of the House.

Before closing I would like to state that I would always endeavour to promote co-operation, friendship and diplomacy through our parliamentary arm of the government.

Thank you.'

3. **Question on Notice**

Question No. 1 of 2007 was replied to.

4. **Question Without Notice** were asked.

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

Resumed.

5. **Ministerial Statement & Tabling of Papers**

(i) The Hon. Baron Waqa (Minister for Education) made the following statement on "On-island Professional Development & Qualifications Up-grade":-

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, you might recall that in my statement to the House at the last sitting regarding Professional Development, I announced that the Ministry of Education is prioritising its training and qualifications upgrading programme for all its teachers. Already, preliminary work has commenced to source and partner universities in the region who are willing to work with us in this area.

Speaker, I am pleased to say that we are wasting no time and have sent out the Director of Education, Mr. Michael Longhurst on Friday together with Mr. Peter Baki, Vice Chancellor of the Universities in PNG to commence negotiations with a number of universities in PNG.

We are aware that the universities will want to maintain the structure of their programmes as much as possible but hope that they would be able to be more flexible with our needs and requirements.

It is hoped that we will be able to upgrade the majority of our teachers to degree level qualifications over the next couple of years, through on-island training. This will require visitations of professors and lecturers to conduct training for the teachers. Cross credits of prior learning and recent on-island training will be necessary components for the custom designed in-service training programme.

I will again up-date the House on the progress of this project soon.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.'

(ii) The Hon. Frederick Pitcher (Minister for CIR) made the following statement:-

'Mr. Speaker, I wish to provide the House with a brief update on RONPHOS activities.

Mooring Certification

As Members will be aware, RONPHOS commenced production with the refurbished plant in August last year. Production figures were quite good, averaging close to 900 tons per day, and by September had produced enough phosphate for our first large shipment for more than 6 years. Unfortunately, sabotage to the T6 conveyor belt delayed the first shipment for 6 weeks. In October the vessel Darya Yog arrived to collect the load but was damaged by extreme and unexpected weather. The incident caused extensive damage to the mooring system, including the loss of mooring ropes and 2 buoys, as well as damage to the quick-release pelican hooks on most of the outer buoys. This was a major setback for RONPHOS as we depend on the Port for all our exports.

It has taken over 4 months for Ports to repair all the damage to the mooring, as well as to order all the required parts from overseas, with a complete set of 6 new ropes bought from Korea, new pelican hooks custom-machined in New Zealand, 2 new fully calibrated load cells purchased from the United States, and winches and other parts brought-in from Australia. By March this year, everything that needed to be fixed had been fixed and the mooring was ready for inspection and independent certification. I am pleased to inform the House that 3 weeks ago a Lloyd's-registered marine engineering firm called Longitude Engineering conducted the inspection and load tested the mooring to confirm the system's integrity. Full Certification was issued on 29th March, and our Port was declared fit-for-purpose and therefore open for business. This is a significant achievement for Nauru as our mooring has not been independently certified since 1971. We now have in place a mooring system international standard that is recognized by the Lloyd's register and will thus provide insurance indemnity for incoming vessels.

Phosphate Shipments

Mr. Speaker, immediately after certification was issued, phosphate buyers have been lining up to send vessels. Three buyers have been accepted, with the first vessel arriving Nauru last week on the 18th of April. This vessel, the 'TPC Auckland' collected 27,000 tons of phosphate for IPL and departed on 21 April. The Samsung vessel 'MV Ky Penates' is expected to arrive on Nauru before May 5 to pickup 6,000 tons, with another vessel chartered by Getax, the 'MV Al Jaber' expected a few days later on the 9th to collect the balance of the Darya Yog load – which is around 18,000 metric tons.

Production

Prior to the arrival of the TPC Auckland last week, RONPHOS had approximately 48,000 tons of phosphate stockpiled in the main bin and the shore bin. Unfortunately, production has been very erratic since December last year due to the lack of power supplied by the Power Station. In recent weeks RONPHOS has been able to do to one shift per day – from Midnight to morning, and this has helped

produce roughly 400 tons per day on average. It is our hope that power generation capacity will improve significantly to allow RONPHOS enough power to run two production shifts, therefore increasing output back to the 1,000 ton a day target. When this happens, RONPHOS will be in a position to service 1 large shipment every month.

Salaries

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed unfortunate that due to the critical lack of revenues over the past 6 months RONPHOS' bottom-line has been severely impacted. I have been able to secure external funds to keep production running and to pay salaries regularly, but RONPHOS is still one-week behind on its salaries to its employees. This will be rectified shortly after revenues come in from the present shipments.

Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to all the staff and employees of RONPHOS for continuing to work under difficult circumstances. It is my expectation that things will be improving markedly now that exports have recommenced, and I ask for everyone's continued support as we move forward.

Thank you.'

(iii) The Hon. Baron Waqa (Minister for Education) made the following statement:-

"Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, I would like to apprise this august House on the progress of discussions on the Memorandum of Agreement between government and Kayser College through the Catholic Church.

The Ministry of Education has been working with Kayser College and its parents as well as the greater Catholic community to finalise a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) over the last couple of weeks.

Foremost, I would like to acknowledge the Catholic Church as an active partner in education and training over many years. It has been successful in educating our children over those years. However, recently, with the financial problems of the country, the school and its programme took direct effect of this, and are now finding it difficult to provide even the normal but necessary components of a school, particularly, that of maintaining a high level of professional staff.

Mr. Speaker, we were aware of the high sensitivity that surrounds Kayser College as a semi-private school but the MOA is a win win situation for Kayser College and Catholic children.

I would like to thank Hon. Riddell Akua, MP for his tireless effort in negotiating the terms and conditions with both government and Kayser College community and has finalised his report with amendments and recommendations, which the department will now work with to have it submitted to Cabinet for its final consideration.

The issue that has become pressing and needs to be dealt with in haste would have to be the admission of all professional staff onto the Department of Education Public Service establishment, which will see teachers on the new salary scale with 100% take home pay. This is a huge difference to that of the old version of MOA which provides only 80% of the normal salary.

Mr. Speaker, I expect over the next couple of days to have the new MOA submitted to Cabinet for its final consideration and placed into effect. I shall continue to apprise this august House on the outcome and development thereon.

Speaker, I thank you.'

(iv) His Excellency the President Ludwig Scotty, made the following statement on 'Nauru Police Force Project Implementation Plan 2007-2009' to the House:-

Background

The Nauru Police Force Capacity Development Project (NPFCDP) commenced in 2004 following a bilateral arrangement between the Government of Australia (GOA) and the Government of Nauru (GoN). The terms and objectives of the NPFCDP are enunciated in a Memorandum of Understanding known as MOU IV covering the period 2005 to 2009.

MOU IV has linkages to the Australia-Nauru Country Strategy 2005-2009 and the Republic of Nauru National Sustainable Development Strategies 2006.

The AFP are a participating agency in MOU IV however the NPFCDP is funded and managed independently by the AFP IDG whilst maintaining clear linkages to the objectives and desired outcomes detailed in MOU IV.

Key elements are:

- *Providing an in-line Australian Commissioner of Police with a mandate to implement the agreed reforms to the NPF. To support the Commissioner of Police and broad capacity development initiatives. Australia will continue to provide additional full time advisory and additional short term support;*
- *The Police Cooperation Program (PCP), while complementary and strongly linked to the Strategy, will be managed and funded as a discrete program;*
- *The Police Program, which is funded and managed by the Australian Federal Police, will continue to improve equipment, vehicles, communications and working environment of the Nauru Police Force; provide training on prosecutions, records management, workforce planning and professional development; and develop administrative policies in recruitment, training, advancement, development and annual assessments of Nauru Police Officers.*

Development of the Plan

This plan represents the first plan developed for the Nauru Police Force (NPF) from the time when the AFP became a partner agency in the bilateral arrangement. It has been developed to document and ultimately chart the advancement of the NPFCD agreed objectives.

The plan does not attempt to “crystal ball” the future beyond three years instead adopting a realistic approach that could be best described as Phase One of the NPFCDP.

Project initiatives as detailed take into account serious deficiencies and short comings if not addressed as priority issues would impede the capacity development process and delay the sustainability of the NPF further into the future.

Recognition is given to achievements to date. These include: the establishment of a full time training unit, completion of a revised structure and implementation of a manual records management system.

In formulating the project proposals statistical and administrative data has been utilized acknowledging that the accuracy of those records may be less than desirable. Of particular relevance and assistance have been the results of the NPF Community Perceptions Survey conducted in 2006. This survey has established a benchmark of policing services from which to build and develop the NPF. There has been no other review of the operating capacity of the NPF in recent times on which to base qualitative or quantitative assessment.

Relationships with Other Plans

Linkages are drawn to:

AFP/IDG policy directions statement;

Australia-Nauru Joint Country Strategy 2005-2009;

Republic of Nauru National Sustainable Development Strategies 2006;

MOU TV covering the period 2005 to 2009;

Environment

The operating environment of the NPF is similar to that of other developing small nation states. Limited physical and financial resources have placed severe strain on the GoN's operating capacity. The downstream impact has meant that essential services have struggled to maintain any semblance of

operating efficiency. Left unchecked and not remedied further decline in the law enforcement sector would result in an escalation of crime and further degradation of services leading to increased dissatisfaction of policing services by the GoN and community.

Planning

Development and acceptance of the Strategic Plan and Annual Plan is scheduled for July/August 2007. Assistance is being provided through the Pacific Regional Policing Initiative (PRPJ) team and will model other similar plans in existence for small nation states in the pacific region. The process will be consultative involving partners and stakeholders to ensure direction and objectives reflect the broader environment.

Essential to future planning is the need to have an accurate Human Resource Data Base. The NPF have relied on information in the public service HR database. PRPT have responded to the NPF request for assistance and have commenced data collection and design. The database is estimated for completion in July/August 2007.

Some preparatory work by COP on the strategic plan has commenced and is included as a guide to the issues under consideration. The analysis undertaken to date will be subject to full management and stakeholder consultation.

DRAFT: Issues for Strategic planning discussion

Mission

The Mission of the Nauru Police Force is:-

“To ensure the delivery of quality law enforcement services that promotes a safer Nauru for all.”

Note: The Mission statement has been previously adopted by the NPF.

Vision - suggested only

To be a leading professional organization respected for service, trusted by the community and accountable for actions taken.

Values - suggested only; to be further discussed by senior executive.

An important part of the plan is the development of key organizational values that will guide the implementation of the plan. These are:

- Upholding the Constitution of Nauru;
- Enforcing the law with integrity;
- Responding to customer requirements;
- Managing policing services in partnership with the community;
- Strive for best practice in policing;
- Operate with transparency and accountability; and
- Maintain respect, trust and fairness for all.

Key Objectives 2007-2010 - suggested for consideration

Improve community confidence in NPF;

Improve capacity and capability of NPF;

Undertake a rigorous training program for all;

Maintain strong and viable partner and stakeholder relationships;

Promotion based on merit;

Develop and Equal Employment Opportunity program;

Reduce Crime;

Create an Intelligence Branch;

Adopt pro-active strategies;
Improve the capability of the NPF through infrastructure and improved resources;
Provide effective policing to all communities of Nauru;
Market the NPF within the GoN, media and community;
Engage with community elders for input in managing repetitive offenders;
Improve systems and procedures within the NPF to provide greater accountability;
Improve discipline and professionalism;
Support regional and international policing initiatives;
Establish sub-police posts as required.

Office of the Commissioner Key tasks and Priorities

- *Recommend to GoN a new title and structure reflective of the delegated business;*
- *Ensure that the budget for the NPF is reflective of the NPF tasks and responsibilities as set by GoN;*
- *Establish a planning committee to drive new initiatives and ensure business is aligned to GoN priorities for law enforcement;*
- *Establish a committee to review the governance mechanisms of the NPF to ensure applicability and relevance to meet emerging needs and priorities;*
- *Submit a New Policy Proposal to Cabinet recommending separate but linked Business Units of Police, Prisons and Protection;*
- *Conduct a Business Activity Analysis (BAA) of all work areas to examine administrative and operational effectiveness and implement recommendations accordingly;*
- *Establish a Welfare Officer regime that will members in times of difficulty;*
- *Create a Women's Advisory Network to ensure the rights of women police are protected and opportunities enhanced;*
- *Create a harmonious and supportive working environment that honours commitment, professionalism and service.*

POLICING

The responsibilities of the policing component will be clearly articulated in the Strategic Plan to reflect a pro-active policing style based around well-established community policing initiatives.

Emphasis will be on ensuring community interaction through neighbourhood watch style programs supported by police being stationed and working within districts.

Obtaining trust and confidence within the communities is to be a priority as well as improving communication links to the police.

Project Plans

- *To support the strategy there will be a requirement to improve the capacity and capability of the members through increased access to training and resources.*
- *Project plans have been submitted to engage AFP/IDG, PRPI and other donor support.*
- *Projects approved or under consideration are:*

1. Engagement of Professional Police Trainer - Advisor/Manager - Approved

NPF members have received minimal training in recent years. Training conducted has been in the form of refresher programs but a more sustained program of learning is required to improve knowledge and skills capacity.

The current capacity of the NPF to deliver effective learning is limited and without expert assistance the learning programs will provide no tangible benefit to the organization.

This project proposal identifies the need for professional assistance to structure and build the

learning unit in a manner that will provide lasting benefit to the members, institute governance and learning protocols and manage learning through effective use of the HR database. The training of personnel will be a key component in the development of the NPF ensuring staff development is managed effectively and member's competency significantly improved.

To achieve this aim a qualified and experienced pacific training manager/adviser has been identified to manage the training program for the NPF.

Benefits:

- Improved community confidence in police;
- Improved competency levels;
- Greater awareness of role and responsibilities;
- Improved policing practice;
- Improved responsibility and accountability;
- Will lead to promotion system based on merit; and
- Recruits will enter the work place where approved practice and procedures are followed.

2. Improve radio communications systems;- Approved

Project has commenced with assistance being provided by AFP radio technicians. GoN had requested advice as to a better communications arrangement for emergency and aligned agencies and NGOs. Project is progressing and final advice is to be provided once agency data is provided.

AFP/NPF has undertaken the project that is scheduled to come on line mid 2007.

Outcome:

- Enhanced radio communication capability to support police and other emergency services.

3. Construct a new police headquarters;- Approved

NPFCDP objective as stated in MOU IV is to build a new police headquarters. The building is to be completed within the life of this project implementation plan and is to accommodate a Disaster Management Centre and Armoury.

Outcome:

Better working environment and management of scarce resource to improve community access to police.

4. Sub-Police Post/s to be part of the new policing strategy; - Submitted

Community Perception Survey identified that the community lacked confidence in the police and required a greater access to police services and communication with the police. One area that has a high crime rate has been identified to pilot a program that places police amongst the community to instigate community policing initiatives and forge closer links with community elders and other concerned groups. If successful, similar projects will be considered.

Outcome:

Improved policing efficiency.

5. Increase Vehicle fleet; - Approved

The GoN have not been able to maintain or provide vehicles for the NPF. This initiative will be instrumental in the success of the NPFCDP. Arrangements are being progressed to ship vehicles from PNG to Nauru. Consultation with GoN has been undertaken and diesel fuel will be made available from the government allocation.

Incoming vehicles are earmarked to replace four GoN vehicles that have been withdrawn due to

mechanical failure and to maintain capacity when three current donor vehicles are retired within next to 6 to 12 months. Kilometers readings average 125,000 on existing donor vehicles.

Outcome:

Improve response capability.

6. Professional Engineer to Scope NPFCDP Works Program;- Approved

Services of an engineer are required to examine the following:

Proposed HQ Site 1 - *Site has a number of potential assets consisting of a significant size concrete slab and industrial strength steel girders. Potential exists that some items can be absorbed into the new HQ structure. Consultation is planned to occur with an in-country building consultant as to development and planning to date and other stakeholders as required.*

Current HQ - *engineers report to establish feasibility of current buildings, life span and recommended development. Scope to include the construction of a sea wall to protect existing structure as the prison will continue to be located on existing site.*

Police Armoury - *Assessment of the existing structure and requirements to upgrade security of the structure to ensure the continued safe-keeping of the housed weapons and equipment.*

Radio Tower - *assess the current transmitting tower and base for longevity and future viability for the new radio communications network.*

Boat Shed - *Assess structural veracity of the building, plus adjoining sea wall.*

Outcome:

Development work to proceed with assurance that all projects under consideration will proceed having regard for professional engineering advice.

7. Project Manager/Staff Officer;- Approved

The Commissioner's office has one locally engaged staff member providing assistance with correspondence and file management. Project management responsibilities are significant and require the attention of a dedicated member to plan, manage and report on progress to ensure projects undertaken are in accordance with GoA financial and reporting requirements.

A full time position has been approved to manage and implement the projects on behalf of the Commissioner and IDG executive.

Outcome:

Professional dedicated project management.

8. Operational Safety Training and Procurement of Equipment; - Approved

The NPF have no accoutrements and have not had any sustainable OST training for a number of years. The operating environment has low to moderate risk however officers are often subject to stone throwing and other behavioural traits that put police at risk.

This project proposal is submitted to ensure that the NPF members can operate safely and have sufficient resources to deal with higher order violent situations as randomly occur. Batons, handcuffs and other safety equipment are on order and will be supplemented by external training through AFPP.

This initiative has wide support amongst the members.

Outcome:

A better equipped and professional police response to deal with public disorder incidents.

9. Improve mobility - Police motor cycles; - Submitted

Island terrain is varied and vehicle access to areas, particularly around the mines, is difficult. Explosives are stored in these locations and motor bikes provide a cost effective means of transport that will enhance patrol capability.

Patrolling of government buildings where NPF protection guards are located can be supplemented with motor cycle patrols by supervisors.

Outcome:

Increased attendance of staff and reduced incidents of theft and damage.

10. Develop a Human Resource Management System; - In progress

Negotiations with the PRPI team has been commenced to provide advice and assistance to develop a viable and effective human resource data management system. Currently the NPF do not have this information and rely on public service records. A proper HR database that can map and manage staff deployments, leave, skills and learning is essential to the development of the NPF.

Outcome:

An accurate database enabling effective management of resources.

11. Implement and Maintain a Records Management System; - Completed

This project has been implemented with assistance from the AFP. The manual records data management system is functioning effectively and will be further reviewed and if necessary refined to ensure effectiveness and relevance.

Outcome:

Better records management.

12. Maintain Uniform Stock; - Submitted

The first AFP assisted purchase of the NPF uniform stock requires supplementation. Majority of uniform supply is no longer available. Recruit training of new members is also scheduled for April/May with 25 new members. In principle support from the Police Minister has been given to recruit a further 25 members in the next FY.

Outcome:

Improved morale and public perception of the NPF.

13. Purchase of a Diesel operated Day Maker; - Approved

The NPF are the front line agency in the event of an emergency. The provision of supporting equipment is required to maintain operational effectiveness and provide an environment that meets Occupational Health and Safety standards for members.

The Nauru Disaster Management Coordination Centre is to be incorporated into the new police headquarters building. The purchase of this equipment at this time is timely and will provide the necessary power and lighting capability to manage an incident away from power sources and lightning.

Outcome:

A better equipped response capability to emergency situations.

14. Recruiting; - Commenced

Recruiting of new personnel is required to ensure the NPF can provide improved policing

services with better educated officers capable of delivering higher standards of services.

Identified costs associated with the recruit and other training involves the purchase of training equipment and IT to manage the programs. Advice has been received that surplus stock will be diverted from PNG due to arrive with the vehicle allocation.

Outcome:

Twenty-five new officers this FY. In principle agreement for a further 25 new officers in 07/08.

Time Lines

Time lines are not included due to external factors. Most projects are projected to be completed during 2007 with the exception of the headquarters building.

It will be a requirement of the Project Manager to submit the COP and IDG Desk a monthly project status report detailing progress and expenditure.

Costing

Project costing are being coordinated through IDG finances as purchases are approved. The Project Manager, once appointed, will provide monthly expenditure reports.

Summary Position

Planned improvements for both capacity and capability will provide the necessary impetus required to turn the NPF into a functioning police organization. Whilst other initiatives are identified it is planned to consolidate the position as stated and concentrate on capacity development through a vigorous training program that includes new recruits.”

(v) The Hon. Frederick Pitcher (Minister for CIR) made the following statement on ‘Update of CIR Activities’ as follows:-

‘Mr. Speaker, I wish to provide the House with a brief update on CIR activities. For the information of Members, much of my briefing can be found in the CIR Newsletter called ‘Ebenbwietā’, which is published quarterly and provides the public with information on all CIR projects, activities and reports.

Business & Commerce

A former World Bank economist, Mr. John Sargent, an expert in small business development and microfinance, was in Nauru last month to assess the feasibility of establishing ‘A Micro Finance Facility Targeting Potential Entrepreneurs’ and a small business incubator in order to provide a physical location in which a new business can commence coupled with support services such as shared facilities like secretarial, accounting and business advice. On 27 March, a workshop was held at the Civic Centre conference room for all interested people, invited participants and other organisations to put forward their ideas and views on the small business workshop program. It is envisaged that the department will be starting up a project from funds provided by external donors to establish the Micro-financing Fund this year.

Agriculture

In the agriculture sector, the ROC Technical Mission has been active in providing farming development assistance by distributing a number of root crops and poultry to the people of Nauru through the CIR agriculture department staff. Training workshops have also been held.

In collaboration with the SPC, DSAP, RGC and FAO, four consultants arrived in Nauru in February to conduct agricultural workshops, practical field training and project accounting. The

experts included Mr. Anau R. Manarangi, horticulturist & consultant, Mrs. Mereseini, DSAP co-ordinator, Mr. Eliko Lesione, senior research technical officer and Mr. Krishna Sundresan, project accountant officer for DSAP. The training was quite successful, with many new skills, especially in the project management area being imparted to our CIR staff and the general public.

Many other activities have also taken place in the agriculture sector, with the participation of local farmers in various workshops, field trips and practical field training in banana tissue culture, composting and livelihood farming. In mid March two primary schools and the youth national program participated in the nursery site and banana tissue practical method.

A kitchen garden competition was included in the Independence celebrations, with the agriculture division organising the judging criteria and prizes.

Environment

A training workshop on 'Introduction to Natural Disaster Management' was held at the Civic Conference earlier this year, with thirty key stakeholders participating. The workshop was used to familiarise individuals and various local agencies with the hazards in the country, and to identify their roles in the disaster management process. At the end of the training, participants were awarded with certificates of participation.

SOPAC – Water Harvesting Survey

A SOPAC team specialising in water harvesting visited Nauru on February 2007 led by team leader, Mr. Stephen Booth. The objective of the visit was to conduct surveys on the potential capacities of domestic households and other buildings in districts to collect and store water. The team surveyed many houses to gauge the current conditions of household collection and storage systems. The results of the study will help the department identify problem areas and assist in designing a mitigation plan to address these problems.

Tourism

The Tourism Department was busy in February organising the arrival and reception of the German cruise ship 'MV Amadea', which transited Nauru for 8 hours on February 27. The department organised a program of island tours, and a market stall for the 300 plus passengers wishing to buy local souvenirs. From all accounts the visit went very well, and it is our hope that Nauru is frequented by more cruise ships in the future.

Administrative Update

In March 2007, four staff from the project division attended workshops abroad. Mr. Paul Kun attended an agriculture workshop in Palau for 10 days. Mr. Gregory Stephen travelled to Taiwan for a workshop on Agriculture Policy And Management Workshop. Mr. Nodel Neneiya attended a workshop in Fiji on Sustainable Development In Water Waste And Renewable Energy. Mr. Bryan Star attended a Pacific Climate Disaster Management workshop in Brisbane. All four staff submitted full reports to me upon their arrival, and I expect that the training they have received abroad will be passed onto locals in due course.

Mr. Speaker, this is only an abbreviated summary of the activities undertaken by CIR in the past 3 months and I recommend that Members obtain a copy of the 'Ebenwieta' newsletter every quarter to stay informed of the department's activities.

Thank you.'

6. Motion – Leave Sought for

Mr. Batsiua (Boe), as Chairman of the Constitutional Review Committee sought leave of the House to move a motion.

Leave was granted.

7. Motion

Mr. Batsiua (Boe), as Chairman of the Constitutional Review Committee, moved the following motion:-

“Whereas the Honourable Dogabe Jeremiah has failed to attend meetings of the Constitutional Review Committee for 24 meetings over a period of about two and half years;

Whereas the former Chairman of the Constitutional Review Committee, the Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke, M.P., has written to Hon. Jeremiah previously soliciting his resignation from the Committee due to his non-attendance;

Whereas the Hon. Jeremiah, in his response, assured the former Chairman that he will be attending henceforth however to this day he has failed to do so;

Whereas despite not attending one meeting of the Constitutional Review Committee over a period of about two and half years and 24 meetings, Hon. Jeremiah has not once sought leave or offered an apology for not attending;

That the House resolve to remove the Honourable Dogabe Jeremiah from the Constitutional Review Committee and appoint another Member to replace him with immediate effect.”

The Hon. Roland Kun (Minister for Justice) seconded.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

8. Division of the House Called for

Mr. Stephen (Ewa/Anetan) and Mr. Harris (Aiwo) called for a division.

Bells rung for one minute.

The House divided.

AYES		NOES	
Mr. Scotty	Mr. Adeang	Mr. Thoma	Mr. Harris
Dr. Keke	Mr. Waqa	Mr. Stephen	Mr. Jeremiah
Mr. Pitcher	Mr. Kun	Mr. Ribauw	
Mr. Tabuna	Mr. Dabwido		
Mr. Buramen	Mr. Akua		
Mr. Batsiua			
TOTAL – 11		TOTAL - 5	

Question put and passed.

9. Motion – Leave Sought for

Mr. Tabuna (Yaren), as Chairman of the Select Committee on NPRT Financing Irregularities, sought leave to move a motion.

Leave was granted.

10. Motion

Mr. Tabuna (Yaren), as Chairman of the Select Committee on NPRT Financing Irregularities, moved the following motion –

‘Honourable Speaker, as already stated the time granted for the Select Committee on NPRT Financing Irregularities expired on 25th March 2007;

That I wish to inform the House that the transcripts of the evidence rendered by the witnesses before this Select Committee is nearly complete but needs to be revised and finalised;

With much constraint I also wish to inform the House through this Chair that the theft of equipments has slowed down the work of the Select Committee and the Committee is not able to draft and finalise its report without the replacement of the recording equipments;

I have also been given to understand that certain recording equipments were ordered for the Parliament which have already arrived but they are not of the desired specifications and have to be replaced;

Keeping in view all these constraints I would request this august House to grant a further extension of four months to this Select Committee from 25th March 2007 onwards so that the Committee can report back to Parliament with its recommendations.'

Mr. Batsiua (Boe) seconded.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

11. **Motion – Leave Sought for**

Mr. Batsiua (Boe), as Chairman of the Select Committee on Constitutional Review Committee, sought leave of the House to move a motion.

Leave was not granted.

12. **Motion – Suspension of Standing Orders**

Mr. Batsiua (Boe), as Chairman of the Select Committee on Constitutional Review Committee, moved that all relevant Standing Orders be suspended to enable him to move a motion forthwith.

The Hon. David Adeang (Minister for Finance) seconded.

Question put and passed.

13. **Motion**

Mr. Batsiua (Boe), as Chairman of the Select Committee on Constitutional Review Committee, moved that due to the vacancy in the Constitutional Review Committee, the House elect one of its Members to fill the position.

The Hon. David Adeang (Minister for Finance) seconded.

Nominations

Mr. Stephen (Ewa/Anetan) nominated Mr. Harris (Aiwo) to be a member of the Constitutional Review Committee.

The Hon. David Adeang (Minister for Finance) seconded.

Mr. Harris accepted the nomination.

The Hon. David Adeang (Minister for Finance) nominated Mr. Dabwido (Meneng) to be a member of the Constitutional Review Committee.

Mr. Batsiua (Boe) seconded.

Mr. Dabwido accepted the nomination.

Mr. Harris (Aiwo) nominated President Ludwig Scotty to be a member of the Constitutional Review Committee.

Mr. Stephen (Ewa/Anetan) seconded.

His Excellency President Ludwig Scotty declined the nomination.

There being more than one nomination, voting took place by secret ballot.

Results: Mr. Harris - 6

Mr. Dabwido (Meneng) was duly elected member of the Constitutional Review Committee.

13. Motion – Leave Sought for

Mr. Batsiua (Boe), as Chairman of the Select Committee on Procurement of Caterpillar Generator Sets, sought leave to move a motion.
Leave was granted.

14. Motion

Mr. Batsiua (Boe), as Chairman of the Select Committee on Procurement of Caterpillar Generator Sets, moved that the time for the Select Committee to present its report to the House be extended for a further three months.
The Hon. Roland Kun (Minister for Justice) seconded.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

15. Motion – Leave Sought for

Mr. Harris (Aiwo), as Chairman of the Select Committee on Nauru Police Force sought leave to move a motion.
Leave was granted.

16. Motion

Mr. Harris (Aiwo), as Chairman of the Select Committee on Nauru Police Force moved that an extension of a further 3 months be granted to the Committee for presenting its report to the House.
Mr. Akua (Anabar/Ijuw/Anibare) seconded.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

17. Motion Fixing the Date and Time for the Next Sitting

His Excellency President Ludwig Scotty moved that Parliament at its rising do adjourn until a time and date to be fixed by the Chair.
The Hon. David Adeang (Minister for Finance) seconded.
Question put and passed.

18. Adjournment

His Excellency the President moved that Parliament do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
The Hon. David Adeang (Minister for Finance) moved that the question be now put.
The Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke (Minister for Health) seconded.
Question put and passed.

19. Division of the House Called for

Mr. Ribauw (Ubenide) and Mr. Stephen (Ewa/Anetan) called for division.

Bells rung for one minute.
The House divided.

AYES

Mr. Scotty	Mr. Adeang
Dr. Keke	Mr. Waqa
Mr. Pitcher	Mr. Kun
Mr. Dabwido	Mr. Batsiua

TOTAL – 8

Question put and passed.

NOES

Mr. Thoma	Mr. Harris
Mr. Akua	Mr. Stephen
Mr. Jeremiah	Mr. Ribauw

TOTAL - 6

And then the House at twenty minutes past eight 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.

John Garabwan
Deputy Clerk of Parliament