Republic of Naoero 6-11-2026

Naoero Bulletin

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Angam remembered on 94th anniversary

The Angam day annual dawn service on 26 October commemorated 94 years of the hardship and struggles of the people of Naoero but also a celebration of their survival and endurance for a better tomorrow.



His Excellency President David Adeang pays respects on the 94th anniversary of Angam Day

Angam stirs emotions of joy, gratitude and painful memories. It is a celebration of home-coming, jubilation and survival over extreme hardship.

The marking of this historic day, came about owing to disease and war. Twice in Naoero's history the population dropped to what was considered a real threat to the survival of the race. But twice it was rebuilt.

The 1920s influenza pandemic crushed the population but the birth of baby girl Eidagaruwo on 26 October 1932, sealed the first count of 1500 considered would sustain the population.

Master of Ceremonies Kaelyn Dekarube welcomed dignitaries and invited guests to the service on the morning of 26 October 2026 for prayer, hymns, and reflection at the World War II memorial in Aiwo.

His Excellency President David Adeang laid the first wreath, followed by his national address reflecting on the history, the significance of Angam, identity, and the commitment to build an economically sustainable and resilient nation with better education, healthcare and opportunities for the people.

The President pointed to the future of Naoero and its greatest asset being its children.

"They deserve good health, quality education, strong families and opportunities to succeed. As parents, teachers, leaders and members of our community, we all have a responsibility to guide them, to protect them and prepare them for tomorrow.

"Because the future of our nation is in their hands and as we look to that future, we must also remember our identity."

Oldest dei-Naoero at 92 years old Violet Mackay, was in attendance along with fellow survivors, Mary Kaierua, Ivy-Rose Ephraim, and Cagney Scotty. They are among the handful of remaining survivors of WWII, known as the 'Young at Hearts'.

Mr Scotty was one of a few who returned home from exile in Chuuk in 1946 and he shared a few words of encouragement and gratitude on behalf of his fellow survivors.

The ceremony concluded with President Adeang presenting gifts to the survivors and a breakfast buffet.

Following the Pacific War of WWII the Naoero population once again dropped and the target of 1500 was required yet again to reach a safe number to save the race from extinction. On 31 March 1949, another baby girl, Bethel Enproe Adam, was born, securing once again the population count.//

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REPUBLIC OF NAOERO

Pacific Australia Skills launches in Naoero



Minister Appi trials the new welding simulators

Naoero welcomes Australia's new regional skills program, Pacific Australia Skills at the country launch, 4 November, paving the way for stronger training systems that address national priorities, policy, and strengthen community and local business.

The launch, held at the Civic Centre conference hall, also witnessed the handover of welding simulators by Australian High Commissioner Lisa White to Secretary of the Department of Vocational Training and Professional Development (DVTPD) Sharina Deiye.

Minister for VTPD Asterio Appi, emphasised the significant role PAS will play in Naoero's skills development, and the practical step forward which the welding simulators will offer, giving trainers and students access to modern technology to develop valuable skills in a safe learning environment.

He added that the government's vision is simple, "we want to build a skilled, capable, and self-reliant Naoero".

"As a small island nation, our greatest strength is our people. And if we want to build a stronger and more sustainable future, we must invest in their skills and abilities."

The minister stressed that the government's goal is to make vocational training more accessible, more practical, and more responsive to the needs of the country."

"Through this partnership, we look forward to strengthening our trainers, improving the quality of training and building the skills we need here at home."

Consultations earlier this year revealed the need for training to connect with real opportunities for work and income.

High Commissioner White said the launch is another opportunity to put the Naoero-Australia partnership into action, by investing in the skills, capabilities and aspirations of dei-Naoero.

"And skills must prepare for future challenges and opportunities. Renewable energy, climate adaptation and new technologies offer opportunities to build skills, strengthen essential services and create a more resilient economy."

A high-level skills workshop, with a focus on inclusion and climate change, continued after the launch. Additional workshops were scheduled the following day, 5 November, with government, business and commerce, education and special interest groups.

Ahead of the launch, PAS delivered training for four welding instructors, and inclusion workshops to 12 TVET trainers, eight TVET centre administration staff, and 17 families from the Naoero Autism Union.

In 2026, PAS supported Pacific delegates to attend skills competitions in different Pacific nations. Naoero sent three students doing electrical training accompanied by a trainer and DTVPD representative to the Vanuatu skills competition in October.

PAS works in partnership with governments, training providers, businesses and communities across the Pacific and ensures skills development is relevant and locally owned, driven, practical and sustainable over the long term. //

Top achieving students recognised for semester one work



Most Outstanding students rewarded under the first Chinese Ambassador's Award

The Department of Education and Training recognised the highest achieving students across primary and secondary schools for semester one, at an awards ceremony held at the Sports Complex, Tuesday 27 October.

The top two students from each class, grades one to ten, received the Outstanding Student award, while the highest achiever from each grade received the Most Outstanding Student award.

The awardees received a certificate and cash reward sponsored by the Embassy of China's very first Chinese Ambassador Award, as well as a donation of 29 computers destined for all schools.

In her welcome remarks, Director of Schools, Calista Kepae said the awards and computers are a valuable contribution that encourage excellence and strengthen schools' capacity to support teaching and learning.

Minister for Education, Asterio Appi congratulated the students and expressed the government's gratitude.

"To our parents and our teachers, and school leaders, I also extend my appreciation.

Student success is never achieved alone. It is supported by guidance, encouragement and sacrifices of those who've worked tirelessly to help children reach their potential."

Ambassador Lyu Jin expressed his congratulations and appreciation underscoring that both China and Naoero regard education as the cornerstone of national development, and essential for individual growth.

The ambassador said the Chinese government is ready to work closely with the education department and other sectors to support the development of young people and achieve more in education.

Naoero College Deputy Head Girl Ryah Menke expressed gratitude to the department and the Chinese embassy's recognition of students' achievements, and specifically thanking Ambassador Jin for believing in the student' efforts and for investing in their future. //



Judiciary tech upgrade ensures effective, accountable governance



Australia-funded computers supports NAIG-focused effective governance processes

The Naoero Judiciary received computers and laptops equipped to handle demanding workloads and complex judicial requirements, in a handover ceremony held at the Supreme Court, 30 October.

The consignment includes 20 all-in-one desktop computers and 10 high-specification units, donated by the Federal Court of Australia, facilitated through the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Naoero Accountable and Inclusive Governance (NAIG) project, that is jointly funded by the governments of Australia and New Zealand.

Transforming the Naoero Judiciary to a modernised, efficient and technology-enabled system will see expedited work-flow and timely case management.

Vice President and Minister for the Judiciary, Lionel Aingimea conveyed the government's appreciation underscoring the critical role technology plays in the functions of court and modernising its services.

He acknowledged that significant delays impact the community but the introduction of appropriate technology is an important step towards improving efficiency, accountability and service delivery.

Australia's High Commissioner Lisa White, said Australia's support to strengthen Naoero's justice sector and legal institutions, also reflects its commitment to strong institutions that support national sovereignty and good governance.

The High Commissioner highlights that the rule of law is not simply a legal principle, but an economic and social asset that underpins growth, attracts investment, encourage innovation and helps create opportunities for future generations.

She reaffirms that Australia remains committed to working alongside Naoero as a trusted partner.

"We do so not because strong institutions matter only in times of challenge, but because they are the foundation upon which nations build lasting prosperity and stability."

The NAIG project which commenced in May 2021, aims to support key democratic institutions, ensuring effective, inclusive, and accountable political governance, such as the National Parliament and the National Elections Commission. //

Naoero, Kazakhstan formalise diplomatic ties



The ambassadors signed the communique at the UN mission of Kazakhstan, New York

Naoero and the Republic of Kazakhstan have formally established diplomatic relations following the signing of a Joint Communiqué, 30 October 2026.

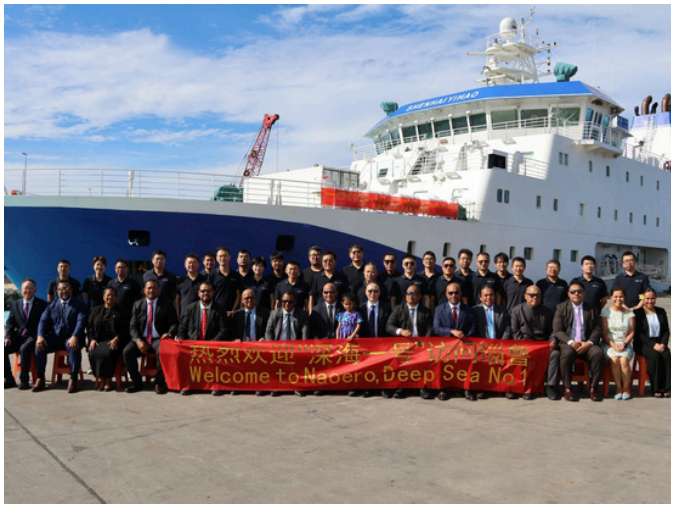
The communiqué was signed by Naoero's Ambassador to the United Nations, Lara Daniel, and Kazakhstan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Kairat Umarov, at the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan in New York.

The two sides discussed opportunities to strengthen cooperation, including through the United Nations, and to exchange experience in areas such as digital transformation, education, climate change and sustainable development.

Naoero looks forward to building a relationship with Kazakhstan based on friendship, mutual respect and practical cooperation for the benefit of both peoples. //

Ambassador showcases Chinese research vessel

His Excellency President Adeang was welcomed aboard the Chinese research vessel Shen Hai Yi Hao as it docked off the Aiwo boat harbour on 26 October.



Officials tour the Chinese research vessel, Shen Hai Yi Hao

The Shen Hai Yi Hao, also known as Deep Sea No. 1, carries and deploys the Jiaolong, a manned submersible for deep-sea exploration, allowing the crew's experts to visually inspect and physically sample extreme environments like hydrothermal vents, cold seeps, and seamounts.

The crew uses the Jiaolong's robotic arms to collect unknown deep-sea organisms, bacteria, and corals that survive on the deep-ocean floor. It also surveys polymetallic nodules and crusts rich in rare metals in the Pacific Ocean.

Ambassador Lyu Jin explained that Naoero has around 321,000km^2 of Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) that is vital to the livelihood and future of Naoero, "yet, for a long time, much remains to be learned about what lies beneath the blue ocean and what it may offer".

Accompanying the President were the Speaker of Parliament, Marcus Stephen, Cabinet and deputy ministers. //

U.S celebrates anniversary with Naoero government

The government welcomed Chargé d'Affaires of the United States embassy in Suva, Christina Cavallo, on her visit to Naoero for the occasion of the 250th Independence Day anniversary of the U.S.



VP Aingimea and US CDA Cavallo at the lunch celebrating the U.S 250th independence day

President David Adeang met with CDA Cavallo on 28 October and discussed the strong Naoero-U.S relations. The visit continues to strengthen relations and cooperation between the two allied nations moving forward.

Naoero and the US established diplomatic relations in 1976, eight years after Naoero achieved independence, and have since cooperated on a variety of issues, including regional security and sustainable economic development.

The following day, 29 October, Vice President Lionel Aingimea represented President Adeang at the lunch reception hosted by Ms Cavallo, to commemorate the independence anniversary.

VP Aingimea commended the United States for demonstrating the enduring importance of freedom, democracy and self-determination since gaining independence on 4 July 1776.

"As we celebrate America's 250 years of independence, we are reminded that independence is not only about sovereignty, but also about creating opportunities, protecting our people and securing a better future for generations to come."

CDA Cavallo commended Naoero's own road to independence and this year's 94th anniversary of Angam.

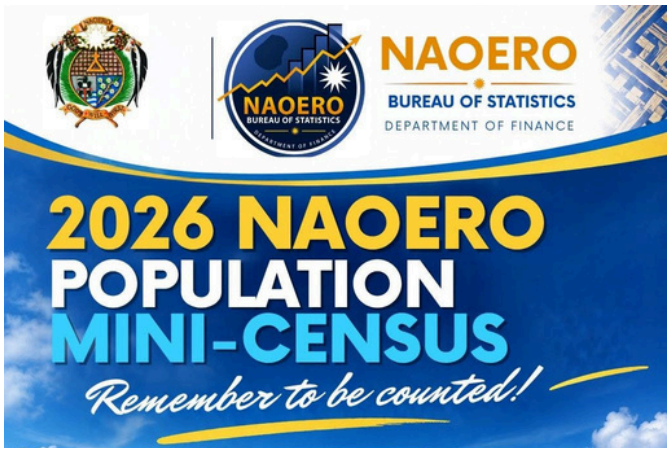
"The (U.S) celebrations honour liberty, self-government, and unity. And they renew our commitment to lead, innovate and inspire for the next 250 years."

She adds, "The United States and Naoero may seem very different but still, a shared ocean connects us, along with shared hopes for the safety, security and prosperity of our people, and a common faith in God."

The lunch was also attended by Speaker Marcus Stephen, Cabinet ministers and senior government officials. //

Remember to be counted in the mini census

The Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is holding the 2026 Naoero population mini census, updating the full survey conducted five years ago.



Field work which includes data collection for the mini census commenced on Saturday 31 October, and expected to take up to two weeks.

The NBS recruited 50 fieldwork enumerators and 10 supervisors to undertake the task. The team underwent four days training at the Civic Centre conference hall, concluding on 30 October.

The team will be visiting households to collect information including age, gender, ethnicity, tribe, disability, education and employment status, and housing condition.

The community's participation and cooperation are valuable to assist with this data collection and to update house and head counts of the dei-Naoero population since the full census in 2021.

The census reference period, 30 October, takes place in the week of Angam Day, as a reminder of the importance of the slogan, Remember To Be Counted, and its meaning to the survival of the Naoero population.

General financial support was provided by the Naoero Government, while the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) financed field staff training, and technical assistance by the Pacific Community (SPC) especially for training the field staff on conducting the questionnaire on the tablet system.

The NBS extends its appreciation to the government and organisations for their unwavering support. //

Nauru Bureau of Statistics |

Tsunami drills

National Emergency Services (NES) conducted tsunami evacuation drills with students and teachers from Yaren Primary School and Naoero Secondary School, 27 October.



Yaren primary students walking across the runway during tsunami drill

Tsunamis can strike with little warning. Practising how to evacuate quickly and safely helps protect our students, schools and communities.

REMEMBER – IF THERE IS A TSUNAMI WARNING:

Move immediately away from the coast to higher ground or a designated safe area.

Follow instructions from emergency services.

Wait for the official ALL CLEAR before returning. Tsunami waves can continue for hours!

NEVER go to the beach to watch a tsunami! Stay away from the ocean, even if the water appears calm.

DISASTER AWARENESS POSTER COMPETITION!

Calling all students across Naoero! Don't forget to enter our Disaster Awareness Poster Competition.

Entries close Monday, 2 November!

See the attached competition poster for details.

Be Prepared • Protect Your Community • Stay Safe.

Parliament 23 October 2026 - Acts

Passed by the Naoero Parliament, Friday 23 October 2026

Supplementary Appropriation Act (No.1) 2026-2027

Presented by His Excellency President David Adeang on 23 October 2026.

The passing of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2026-2027, brings total expected revenue to $369.9 million, with $369.7 million earmarked for expenditure, leaving a surplus balance of $300,000.



The funding for this supplementary budget is anchored by $10.7 million in additional revenue from unused project funds allocated to the Naoero Climate Resilient Port project that are no longer required for its remaining construction phases.

Australia made a direct $1.8 million payment to the Intergenerational Trust Fund (NTF) under the Naoero-Australia Treaty, freeing up government funds and creating a $12.6m funding pool to address urgent national priorities.

Targeted expenditure allocations address key sectors such as overseas medical referrals, fiscal cash buffer, liquidity support for public enterprises, Ronphos EXIM Bank repayments, health and wellbeing, sports, executive and ministerial administration, foreign missions, and other government operations and services including conducting the national mini-census. //

Passport (Amendment) Act 2026

The Passports (Amendment) Bill 2026 sought to amend the Passports Act 2011, and proposed to insert one provision into the Act.



For the purpose of issuing a certificate of identity under Section 14, the new Section 14A empowers authorised officers to obtain biodata and biometrics of persons who may refuse to submit such information for the purposes of being issued with a certificate of identity.

This provision is for those who have claimed asylum or applied for refugee status under the Refugees Convention Act 2012 and their claims failed. They would need to be repatriated to their countries and in order to do so, they must be issued with certificates of identity.

The proposed amendment is necessary because the department has encountered circumstances where individuals requiring repatriation have refused to voluntarily provide the biodata information needed to facilitate the process. This has resulted in delays and impediments to repatriation efforts.

The bill also requires that the biodata and biometrics collected is kept confidential and secure. //

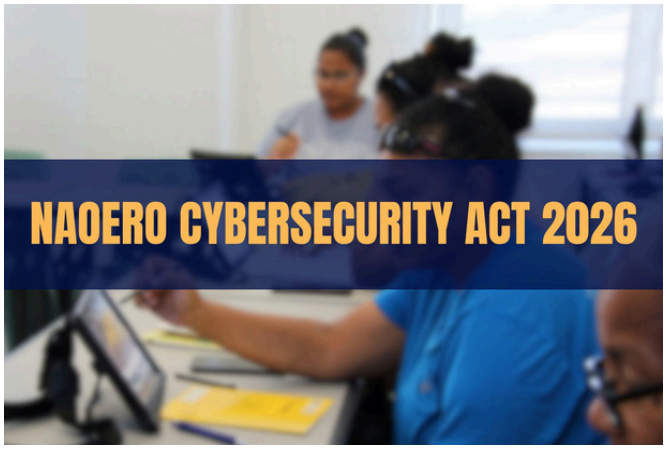


Parliament 17 September 2026 - Acts

Passed by the Naoero Parliament, Thursday 17 September 2026

Naoero Cybersecurity Act 2026

The Naoero Cybersecurity Bill 2026 was introduced by the Minister for ICT, the Honorable Shadlog Bernicke, at the 17 September Parliament sitting.



The key features of the Act:

a) establishes the Naoero Cybersecurity Authority, the Cybersecurity Advisory Council, and the Naoero Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT);
b) establishes national cybersecurity plans;
c) requires protection of Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) - systems such as electricity, telecommunication, banking, aviation, health or government databases are essential for national functioning - require stronger protection;
d) requires security of government digital systems;
e) puts in place a cyber incident response framework;
f) protects personal data from unauthorised access, loss or misuse by any public body or CII operator;
g) requires the Authority to provide awareness on cybersecurity threats and response;
h) enables international cooperation;
i) ensures compliance and enforcement; and
j) requires monitoring of emerging technologies.

The Authority may conduct audits and inspections, require information, issue compliance notices and impose administrative penalties (up to $10,000). Offences include providing false information or obstructing the Authority, with fines up to $20,000 for individuals and $100,000 for corporations.

This Act shall not limit, affect or replace the operation of the Cybercrime Act 2015 or any other written law relating to criminal investigations, offences or prosecution of cybercrime.

A person or entity that becomes aware of a cybersecurity incident shall take reasonable steps to preserve relevant digital evidence relating to such incident.

'Department' means the Department responsible for this Act; and 'Minister' means the Minister responsible for this Act, and that is the Minister for Information, Communication and Technology - Minister Shadlog Bernicke. //

Parliament sitting 23 October 2026 - ministerial statements

Ronphos

President David Adeang presented an update to Parliament, 23 October, on the government's short-term operating loan to Ronphos Corporation.



The company is borrowing under strict conditions

On 20 August 2026, Parliament authorised a $2.4 million loan arrangement to Ronphos from the fiscal cash buffer, and following due diligence by Treasury, the loan agreement was executed and controlled disbursements commenced.

The funds are strictly limited to payroll, fuel, drying genset, and operating spares, and any diversion constitutes immediate default.

The zero-interest loan is repayable in four instalments of $600,000, and tied to four consecutive phosphate cargo sales starting in October 2026. //

Ronphos

Minister for Sports Jesse Jeremiah updated Parliament on 23 October of the recent signing of the Agreement on Development Cooperation between Naoero and the People's Republic of China.



Third tranche of in-kind support for sports stadium signed

The agreement signed 17 October, provides the third tranche in-kind grant of approximately US$28.5 million for the construction of the new Naoero sports stadium.

Minister Jeremiah stipulates that the agreement is a "grant, not a loan".

He explained that the project aligns with the Naoero Sustainable Development Strategy, particularly in infrastructural development, youth empowerment, health and wellbeing, and a sustainable economic growth. The stadium will also serve as the primary venue for the Micronesian Games in 2028.

Furthermore, it represents a strategic investment in Naoero's future and its capacity to host major regional events and promotes "national unity and reinforces Naoero's international standing through constructive partnership that delivers real outcomes for our people," Minister Jeremiah said.

In closing, he said the stadium will not only produce more champions, but it will also stand as a symbol of the enduring friendship between Naoero and the People's Republic of China. //

Meteorology

Minister for National Emergency Services, Jesse Jeremiah presented the outcomes of the 4th Pacific Ministerial meeting on meteorology, held in Tonga in September, focused on the El Nino event and its implications for Naoero.



Naoero experiencing wetter than normal conditions during El Nino

Naoero welcomed the Sui-i-Alamoana Ki Likutapu Declaration and reaffirmed its support for the Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy 2027-2036 and the Weather Ready Pacific Programme.

Minister Jeremiah said these initiatives are important for strengthening forecasting but alone are not enough. He stressed that warnings must reach communities and lead to timely action that protects lives, livelihoods and essential services.

While some Pacific countries are experiencing increased risk of drought during the El Nino event sweeping the region, Naoero generally experiences wetter-than-normal conditions.

The increased rainfall and stronger westerly winds have disrupted shipping and wharf operations, and affected power supply.

The minister reiterated that the World Meteorological Organisation predicts what it refers to as a Super El Nino if conditions worsen.

He adds that the latest weather forecasts indicate the likelihood that El Nino conditions and associated impacts potentially continuing well into next year, reinforcing the need for continued vigilance and preparedness.

Community Disaster Management Committees are being established to help identify local risks, strengthen preparedness and coordinate action during emergencies.

The NES are strengthening disaster awareness among young people which are particularly highlighted on International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, 13 October, and World Tsunami day, 5 November, with a poster competition to further engage the young community. //

The Naoero Bulletin is a fortnightly publication of the Government of the Republic of Naoero.
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