



Nauru Bulletin

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21 November 2018

JBC inaugural legal conference

Nauru at the crossroads: the next 50 years

The Department of Justice and Border Control (JBC) hosted Nauru's first-ever legal conference at the Civic Centre conference hall from 8 to 10 November. The conference theme was *Nauru at the crossroads: the next 50 years*.

Local and international guest speakers contributed to presentations of an eclectic mix of subject matter covering the role of lawyers and pleaders, seabed mining law and shipping registration, Nauruan customary law, online defamation, violent offences, disability law, restorative justice in Nauru, among others.

Delegates were welcomed by JBC Secretary Graham Leung on day one of the conference, officially opened by His Excellency President Baron Waqa who declared the conference theme "thought-provoking" and placed a challenge to participants.



His Excellency President Baron Waqa with Nauru's Chief Justice Filimone Jitoko (R) at the opening of the inaugural legal conference at the Civic Centre conference hall on 8 November

"I challenge the young Nauruans in the audience to consider what role they must play in the future development of our nation. It is obvious that we will need more professionals in a range of disciplines, including, but not limited to,

the law," President Waqa said.

Nauru's Chief Justice Filimone Jitoko set the scene for the conference by speaking on the role of lawyers and pleaders in relation to the 1990 United Nations Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers, of which there are 29. He provided recommendations to the ongoing improvement of the Nauruan judicial system, and acknowledged the 40 Nauruans in attendance currently undergoing training to be pleaders, contextualising them as, "forty new representatives for the community."

Next, Graham Leung and Nauru Ocean Resources Inc. (NORI)'s Manager, Social Performance Corey McLachlan presented an overview of Nauru's International Seabed Minerals Act 2015 and an update on seabed mining and its commencement in 2019.

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Nauru commemorates centenary of the Armistice

Nauru observed two minutes silence on 11 November to commemorate and honour the war dead a hundred years since the signing of the Armistice that ended the First World War in 1918.

Members of the Nauru government, senior officials, and the public gathered at the government office forecourt for the arrival of His Excellency President Baron Waqa and Madam Louisa Waqa for the commencement of the official program.

Under heavy rain the Nauru Police Force guard commander gave presentation orders to the police guard to present arms while their fellow officers lowered the flags of Nauru, Australia and New Zealand to half-mast, followed by the opening prayer by Reverend Roger Mwareow.

President Waqa then proceeded to lay the first wreath at the foot of the cenotaph, followed by Speaker of Parliament Cyril Buraman, Chief Justice Filimone Jitoko, members of the diplomatic corps, chief secretary, senior officials, representatives of churches and schools, state-owned entities,

Nauru Police stand guard at Remembrance Day, 11 Nov



the private sector and NGOs.

The wreath laying ceremony concluded just before 11am for the playing of the Last Post and reading of the Ode of Remembrance.

The two minute silence was observed at 11am to reflect on the war and in Nauru's special circumstances a time to remember those that perished and survived the perils of war and exile.

The Nauru police guard commander called for reverse arms followed by the playing of the Reveille and the national flags of Nauru, Australia and New Zealand hoisted to full mast.

Remembrance Day is commemorated every year in Nauru•

Produced by the Government Information Office

JBC inaugural legal conference

...from pg 1

“The International Seabed Authority has identified 2019-2020 as the target date, for then they will have the (seabed mining) exploitation regulations in place,” Mr McLachlan said.

This was followed by *Defamation in the digital age* – a presentation on the legal risks and implications of online posts by Australian international law firm senior associate Raeshell Staltare-Tang, who on day three of the conference shared her journey to becoming a legal practitioner as encouragement to Nauruan women to pursue their legal career aspirations.

After lunch on day one, deputy electoral commissioner Sylvanna Deireregea presented, on behalf of electoral commissioner Joseph Cain, Nauru’s recently formed electoral commission - the challenges, opportunities and the legal amendments to the Act that continue to improve and make the process more equitable and transparent.

Victorian law firm partner Donald Gordon then presented judicial review of administrative action and on day two the key enforcement issues around money laundering in the Pacific.

Day one closed with maritime legal specialist Steffen Pedersen’s assessment of the benefits and challenges Nauru faces as a ‘flag state’ and how to capitalise on open ship registration and remain complicit with the United Nations convention on the law of the sea (UNCLOS).

“Nauru’s (Shipping (registration of foreign vessels) Act 2018) Act is the most open of any I have seen.

“It’s your flag, it’s your nation, it’s your reputation. You have to ensure that whoever sits in Hong Kong administering your flag does it properly to ensure you comply with these regulations, these requirements under UNCLOS,” Mr Petersen said.

The first session of day two raised access-for-all to legal aid in Nauru presented by public legal defender Sevuloni Valenitabua.

Next, the Nauru custom and law panel brought together pleader and president of the Nauru Law Society Vinci Clodumar, pleader and Nauru Island Association of Non-Government Organisations (NIANGO) co-coordinator Julie Olsson, lawyer Alumita Lekenaua on family law and pleader Cecilia Giouba to discuss education and the law.

Key to the panel discussions was how and where customary law and modern legal systems on Nauru both synergise and clash, and that raising public awareness and educating the public are essential to the ongoing work of the legal profession, and the smooth and equitable access to legal services on Nauru.

Sexual and gender-based violence, witness protection and the corroboration rule in the Nauru context were explored in the next session by director of public prosecutions (DPP) John Rabuku, before lawyer and police prosecutions advisor Salote Tagivakatini presented on disability rights compliance in Nauru.

Final day three of the conference was a cross-regional all-female line up. Canberra-based legal advisor with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Emily Defina presented on international humanitarian law (IHL) and Nauru’s accession to the Geneva conventions, followed by Fiji-based United Nations Development Program (UNDP) anti-corruption specialist Michaela Stojkosoka on the relationship between anti-corruption and the achievement of Agenda 2030 sustainable development goals (SDGs), specifically those related to SDG16; peace, justice and strong institutions.

Nauru supreme court judge’s associate Lisa van Toor then presented on the place of restorative justice in Nauru, drawing commentary on how customary law informs this alternative to punitive punishment.

Gifts to guest speakers and student-pleader certificates of attendance were presented before Nauru’s three-day inaugural legal conference was declared closed.

President Waqa hosted a dinner at the Meneñ Hotel Aterebog Restaurant that evening 10 November to celebrate what JBC Secretary Leung described as a “very successful” inaugural legal conference, echoing His Excellency’s day one challenge.

“The challenge His Excellency left for the participants when he opened the conference three days ago was to inspire and encourage young and not so young Nauruans, males and females, to take their rightful place of leadership in the justice department.

“Ultimately, the destiny of this country must be controlled and managed by Nauruans,” Mr Leung said.

CORRECTION

Nauru Bulletin #12 (180) 2 Nov 2018

Please note correction on page 9, article entitled *NMB trips to Taiwan*.

The last line should read “Nauru and Taiwan first established diplomatic ties on 4 May 1980”.

It’s the law

Domestic violence

(1) A person commits domestic violence if he or she threatens to or commits the following against a person with whom he or she is, or has been, in a domestic relationship:

- (a) assault;
- (b) coercive control;
- (c) economic and financial abuse;
- (d) sexual violence;
- (e) stalking;
- (f) persistently behaving in an abusive, cruel, inhumane, degrading, provocative or offensive manner; and
- (g) damage to property.

Domestic violence and family protection Act 2017, Part 1, Section 6, p. 7

Dog de-sexing program success

The quarantine division under the Department of Justice has undertaken positive steps forward in holding consultative meetings with focal groups to progress with the dog de-sexing program for Nauru.

The One Health Dog management team led by Sheba Hubert of the quarantine division was consulted by the University of New England's animal scientist Dr Wendy Brown who was accompanied by animal science PhD student Brooke Kennedy and veterinarians Stephen Cutter and Fiona Wallace, were able to de-sex 35 female dogs and 26 male dogs, humanely euthanised 39, and terminated 75 pups at the foetal stage which otherwise would have been born by Christmas and contributed significantly to the dog population with another ten pups each.



One Health dog management team in the operating theatre at the Nauru public health centre

Dogs were either brought in or collected by quarantine officers and the dog catcher for surgery at the activity hall at the Nauru Public Health Centre.

It was an inclusive process with dog owners, including children dog owners, staying to watch the surgical procedure and shaving the area of skin to be worked on and/or tattooing the dog's ear to indicate it had been de-sexed.

Over the course of the week, 5-14 November, the management team held discussions with four focus groups including the dog control working group which consists of the media, health and police, and community leaders, the departments of commerce, industry and environment (CIE), sports and quarantine.

Participants agreed there is a dog problem on Nauru and were becoming dangerous but agreed dogs were also needed for protection and security of property and person.

It was also agreed that generally Nauru has two different populations of dogs that are currently managed differently – owned dogs (mainly pit bulls) and stray and free roaming dogs (mixed breed and village dogs).

In speaking with the community, it was obvious they were keen for the program to go ahead.

A female dog breeds every six months averaging nine to ten puppies. While it is unclear how many dogs are on Nauru, it is estimated to be approximately 2000, with a good proportion that are stray, unhealthy and uncared for.

Dr Brown was impressed to find that locals wanted to do more in terms of contributing to the management of the dog population, such as contraceptive options for non-vets.

Some training was done mainly for the quarantine officers who

would take the lead on the program, with non-surgical options in the absence of Dr Brown and the veterinary team.

Sterilisation however, is a temporary solution. The permanent and viable solution would be de-sexing and in some instances, culling, for unwanted and sick dogs.

Dr Brown said it was reported that Nauru has culled a thousand dogs since 2014 yet the dog population keeps rising.

“Culling is a necessary and useful tool in dog management and dog population management but on its own it's ineffective. The only way it would work is for you to cull every single dog on the island or all the male or female dogs.

“But it (culling) still has its place because there are still dogs that are aggressive; there are dogs that are totally unwanted because there's too many of them to care for.

“There is a place for culling and we are including them in this program. We're not replacing it with de-sexing, we're using the two tools together.

“De-sexing has a longer term, sustainable effect on the population. Without de-sexing you're not going to be able to achieve a stable population, you'll have rapid turnover (of puppies).

“So what we have is selective culling and selective de-sexing. So we de-sex the dogs that people want to keep, dogs who aren't aggressive, dogs that may be used as a guard dog or watchdog or purely as a companion but it's a wanted dog that's cared for and we don't want to be creating more puppies and contributing more to the population,” Dr Brown said.

Dr Brown explains that de-sexed dogs will be healthier if they do not have to put energy into reproducing. De-sexed male dogs lose interest in female dogs and vice versa, as well as reduces dog aggression in the community.

The focus groups identified the main problem areas to be dog bites and attacks, they create mess from spreading garbage, aggressive dogs' impact on peoples' lifestyles and restricting peoples' outdoor activities such as walking, jogging, and bike riding. Un-owned or uncared for dogs pose an impact on human health, livestock and property.

The underlying issues of controlling the dog problem is owners' emotional attachment to their dogs which can sometimes lead to owners' non-compliance with regulations. Other reasons include a lack of resources - human, training and education to address the issue as well as the difficulties the dog catcher encounters with people/owners.

The focus groups identified the underlying drivers of the dog problem range from the need for dogs to protect against theft and violence in the community; a reluctance to kill dogs; lack of enforcement of dog laws; garbage; dogs not de-sexed therefore contribute to the fast reproduction rate; unrestrained dogs and wanting pit bulls as a status symbol, and for sport and hunting.

The overall response to improving the management of the dog problem is the need for education and public awareness in relation to dog ownership and management issue, a greater enforcement of dog laws and registration, increased parental control to reduce thieving and have programs that provide positive role models to the young such as sports – to reduce the need to have dogs for protection.

The visiting One Health team members provided their services voluntarily and the project was funded mostly through external entities including the University of New England, the Australian High Commission direct aid program, and Construct International. The next mission is planned for early 2019•

Nauru court of appeal judge sworn in

The Nauru judiciary welcomed Nicholas Kirriwom as the newest judge to the Nauru Appeals Court in a swearing-in ceremony at the Cabinet room on 9 November.

Judge Kirriwom hails from Papua New Guinea (PNG) and brings with him a wealth of experience and knowledge. His appointment is timely for the work and establishment of the Appeals Court.

In introducing Mr Kirriwom, Chief Justice Filimone Jitoko highlighted Justice Kirriwom's extensive legal background and legal career which began in 1978 as a legal officer in his native PNG, adding that Judge Kirriwom was proposed to Nauru by PNG's Chief Justice and is the third most senior on a bench of 44 judges on the Supreme Court and national court of PNG.

"Of particular importance to me and to our judiciary is the justice's expertise as past chair of committee relating to case management, IT matters and case file matters. And I'm hoping that in time he'll share some of his knowledge and expertise on those areas for the benefit of our court," the CJ said.

Placing his right hand on the Bible Justice Kirriwom took the oath that he will "be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Republic of Nauru and I will obey, observe, uphold and maintain the Constitution and all other laws of the Republic of Nauru."

Judge Kirriwom and His Excellency President Baron Waqa then signed the document paper certifying the appointment.

In response Judge Kirriwom thanked President Waqa and conveyed the deep honour he feels at being appointed to the position of judge in Nauru's court.

"It's a great honour for me to have taken the oath of office and loyalty to serve the people of Nauru as a judge of the newly

Justice Nicholas Kirriwom sworn in as judge of the Nauru Appeals Court in the presence of President Waqa, Cabinet ministers and CJ Filimone Jitoko



established Court of Appeal and to serve in accordance with the country's Constitution and the rule of law," Mr Kirriwom said.

President Waqa acknowledged the unique relationship Nauru and Papua New Guinea share in the region dating back to the administration of both countries by Australia, and the ongoing close ties both countries have with Australia.

President Waqa also highlighted the engagement of Papua New Guineans to work in the phosphate mines in the very early days of mining, as well as ongoing training in education and nursing for Nauruans.

Judge Kirriwom was accompanied by a team to assist with the new Appeals Court. The team consists of PNG's registrar of the PNG court, director of court reporting service and technical officer who would ensure that the court reporting service operates efficiently•

ADB executive director visits Nauru

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is stepping up its presence in the Pacific region to assist governments with vital projects and infrastructure with the establishment of Pacific country offices.

ADB's newly elected executive director of the ADB board of directors Tony McDonald made his inaugural trip to Nauru four months into his term to engage with the Nauru government and ask the question on how he can best represent Nauru.

Mr McDonald represents 11 countries including Nauru on the ADB board.

During the week Mr McDonald and the ADB's Nauru port project manager Pivi Indrawansa were accompanied by ADB Development Coordination Officer in Nauru Camilla Solomon, to meet with acting President David Adeang to sign the agreement establishing the ADB in-country office in Nauru. The agreement was signed in the cabinet room on Monday 29 October.

Speaking in Nauruan to local media Mr Adeang said the signing signifies the Nauru government's agreement to facilitate the ADB's request to set up an in-country office in Nauru as they are currently doing in other member countries.

The move to establish an office in Nauru will assist ADB's project work in all areas.

"This agreement helps us to establish the expanded country office for ADB which will help ensure ADB is on the ground more often and can ensure the timely and effective implementation of ADB projects.

"There's a number that has happened and more are on the way and ADB really sees itself as an important part for Nauru to have a real developmental impact. Help the government of Nauru to improve the conditions of the people on the ground," Mr McDonald said.

Mr McDonald is an Australian national and has worked with the public service for over 27 years primarily with the treasury, working on a broad range of policy issues, including macroeconomic forecasting and assessment of current economic conditions, international development, superannuation, taxation and banking, financial markets, budget and fiscal policy.

Mr McDonald's international experience includes working with the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad, Iraq in 2003 and in the Papua New Guinea treasury as part of the Enhanced Cooperation program from 2004 to 2006.

The ADB recognises the special needs of its smaller members or developing member countries (DMCs), and with the rapid growth of ADB's portfolio in small Pacific DMCs since 2005, the ADB requires a stable and appropriately sized presence in its smallest

ADB executive director visits Nauru ...from pg 4

members, and calls for stronger support to the 11 smallest Pacific members, PIC-11, and therefore the establishment of Pacific country offices (PCOs) in each of the PIC-11. The establishment of the PCOs, which will serve as extensions of the two Pacific regional offices and ADB headquarters, is consistent with the Resident mission policy.

In 2018, the key finding from a review of the ADB's presence in small Pacific DMCs, was that ADB staff presence in field offices enhances the effectiveness and impact of ADB assistance, in the same way that ADB resident missions enable ADB to deliver higher quality services with greater efficiency.

In comparison with a field office consisting entirely of local consultants, the long-term posting of ADB staff in a DMC (i) permits ADB to have more regular contact and substantive communication with key government decision-makers and development partners, (ii) enables the local office to use ADB's information systems to access knowledge products and portfolio management data, (iii) allows staff in the local office to participate in ADB's training and capacity building programs, and (iv) enables ADB to join in-country meetings of development partners, thereby enhancing donor coordination.

Mr McDonald also met with various heads of department including the CEO of the Port Authority of Nauru, Bayden



Acting President and Minister for Finance Hon David Adeang signs and presents the documents establishing the ADB in-country office to ADB's Executive Director Tony McDonald

Johnson to discuss the forthcoming Nauru port project; as well as consultations with a number of heads of department such as for commerce, industry and environment on the solar power project and urban planning; ICT on the submarine cable project; Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation on urban planning; infrastructure development on Nauru's infrastructure and asset management framework; a site visit to Ronphos secondary mining pit, and a consultation and site visit of the Nauru electricity supply security and sustainable project and solar power project •

Australian shadow minister visits RPC

Australia's Shadow minister for immigration made a courtesy visit to Nauru and met with the government as well as touring the Regional Processing Centre (RPC) and hospital this month, 7-9 November.

On arrival the Shadow minister for immigration and border protection Shayne Neumann visited Australian-funded sites including the University of the South Pacific campus and the community sports complex.

Mr Neumann was accompanied by his chief of staff, national security advisor, and press secretary/advisor.

The official delegation also met with the acting Secretary for Multicultural Affairs Annette Cook and RPC settlement leaders for discussions on the department's role and the overall management and welfare of asylum seekers and refugees.

Ms Cook said Mr Neumann asked general questions on how refugees were managed after they received positive results of their status and how they are assisted in settling into the community.

Ms Cook and Mr Neumann also discussed the positives and any challenges the refugees might encounter in the community and whether anything needed improving.

The shadow minister was also interested in community activities the refugees might be involved in to which Ms Cook confirmed some were into sports and had joined local gyms to train and compete in, for example, powerlifting.

Ms Cook advised that the refugees desire to be able to use their travel documents. All refugees are able to apply for these travel documents and travel to other countries is possible upon visas being granted by the receiving country.

The productive meeting was paired with a tour of the three RPCs to which the shadow minister was pleased to have been given the



His Excellency President Baron Waqa meets with Australia's Shadow minister for immigration Shayne Neumann

opportunity to visit and learn about the operations and real work being done for the welfare of the asylum seekers and refugees in the community.

Mr Neumann also visited other Australian aid funded sites including the University of the South Pacific Nauru campus, the community sports complex and the Republic of Nauru hospital.

The RPC tour was followed by the courtesy call on His Excellency President Baron Waqa and Cabinet ministers, at which the President described the visit as a "real humbling experience for us."

Mr Neumann was equally thankful on behalf of his country Australia.

"We (Australia) really appreciate the friendship between our countries and the longstanding bipartisan commitment that Australia has had on both sides of politics, the friendship with Nauru," Mr Neumann said.

A private meeting ensued on issues relating to the strong mutual support between Nauru and Australia as well as the many facets of cooperation including matters of the RPC •

Digicel's chairman presents dividend top-up

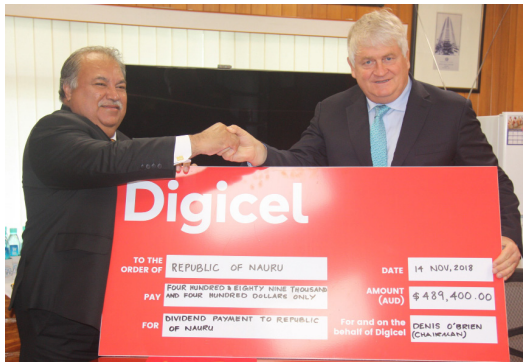
Digicel chairman Denis O'Brien met with President Waqa to provide an update on the business and present a special dividend cheque for \$489,400 to the Government of Nauru on 14 November.

This amount represents the additional 10 percent shareholding the Nauru Government now has in Digicel Nauru Corporation, bring the total shareholding to 30 percent.

Along with ministers Hon Aaron Cook and Hon Charmaine Scotty, Mr O'Brien, in Nauru for the second time this year, was accompanied by Digicel's regional CEO Rob Mayo-Smith, Digicel Nauru CEO Deepak Khanna and Nauru-based staff members as he addressed the President.

"We've invested heavily together – your government and Digicel – in providing new services for the people of Nauru and provide them with high-speed broadband which I know is one of your major objectives," Mr O'Brien said.

Mr O'Brien then took the opportunity to announce a new



Digicel Chairman Denis O'Brien presents President Waqa with the dividend cheque on 14 November

technological initiative to support health practitioners and hospital patients in Nauru. When first raised, Digicel initially offered to provide bandwidth, but on this occasion Mr O'Brien confirmed an upgrade of support.

"When I was last here we spoke about 'tele-meds'.

"We (Digicel) will do the full installation with all the technology and the screens.

"We did this in Fiji with the children's hospital. They were connecting to the UK and Australia for very serious cancer cases.

"We will train your government officials how to work that.

"We will implement that within the next three or four weeks. We'll bring in specialists to do that," Mr O'Brien said.

'Tele-meds' is short for 'telemedicine'. Doctors and patients anywhere in the world access medical specialists online for case consultation.

President Waqa then gifted Mr O'Brien with a framed 50th anniversary of independence engraving of Nauru's cantilever, thanking Digicel for their hard work and services, especially during the recent Pacific islands forum, when Digicel provided free wi-fi to delegates.

"You provided free service to our leaders and they couldn't believe that we had that very good relationship and partnership with Digicel in Nauru," the President said.

With formalities complete attendees enjoyed morning tea and further closed-door discussions before Mr O'Brien departed Nauru around midday.

President Waqa receives Cuban ambassador-designate Lago

His Excellency President Baron Waqa received the Ambassador-designate of Cuba to Nauru at the formal presentation of credentials at the Office of the President on Thursday, 15 November.

Ambassador-designate Carlos Manuel Rojas Lago began his visit with a courtesy call on the Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Trade Michael Aroi before being received by the Commissioner of Police Corey Caleb for the playing of the national anthems and inspection of the Police Guard of Honour.

Later, Ambassador Lago was escorted to the Office of the President for the presentation of credentials.

Throughout the remainder of the day, Ambassador Lago paid courtesy visits on the Speaker of Parliament Cyril Buramen MP, and Cabinet Ministers Hon David Adeang, Hon Charmaine Scotty and Hon Aaron Cook in their capacities as minister of finance and justice and border control; minister of health and minister of Ronphos respectively.

The Ambassador attended a dinner hosted by His Excellency the President in his honour at the Meneñ Hotel that evening.

Ambassador Lago had arrived in Nauru the previous afternoon and spent time with Secretary for Health Rayong Itsimaera at the Republic of Nauru hospital in Denig.

Like Nauru, Cuba is a small island developing state (SIDS). In September, a Cuban delegation attended the Pacific islands forum held in Nauru as a dialogue partner.



President Waqa receives Cuban ambassador Carlos Manuel Rojas Lago's credentials in the Office of the President on 15 November

Ambassador Lago has university qualifications in both journalism and international political relations from the University of Havana.

Since 1996 he has spent the majority of his career in foreign affairs, serving in a variety of posts in Uganda, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Namibia as well as Indonesia and Kiribati. He became Cuban Ambassador to Fiji in 2017.

Ambassador Lago departed Nauru on the early morning flight on Friday 16 November.

Post office now comes to you

A low-key ‘family-style’ function was organised by Nauru Post on 7 November inviting President Waqa and Madam Waqa to tour with post office staff the newly renovated and extended retail space, staff uniforms, new corporate identification (ID) card service and to hand over the first satchel of mail for hand delivery to local residents by Nauru’s postman Isaiah Halstead on one of two new ‘postie’ bikes.

Reverend Roger Mwareow blessed the new enterprise before Nauru Post chairman Samuel Grundler provided a business progress report, introducing the ID card making machine.

This machine was first used to produce the hundreds of official IDs for the Pacific islands forum in September and is now being offered to corporations and government departments on Nauru to upgrade and standardise staff identification across the country.

The Department of Health and Medical Services are the first to place their personnel ID card order.

Eben Omo enviro-watch: use fresh water wisely for health, water security

The *Eben Omo* roadshow campaign held its culminating event at Aiue Boulevard on Saturday 10 November.

The roadshow visited the five pilot program districts of Anetan, Ijuw, Anibare, Meneng and Buada over previous weeks, promoting the five *Eben Omo* key environmental messages concerning growing your own fruit and vegetables, fishing responsibly, recycling, correctly and responsibly disposing of oils and chemicals and conserving water.

Nauru’s *Eben Omo* campaign is an environmental awareness campaign that aims to change human behaviour.

In this edition, *Nauru Bulletin* provides education and information on water conservation in support of the Department of commerce, industry and the environment (CIE)’s *Eben Omo* campaign.

Issue: water conservation

Audience: everyone on Nauru

Problem statement:

- clean, fresh drinking water is limited
- desalinated water is limited
- stored rainwater is limited
- Nauru’s natural fresh water lens (underground) is contaminated

So what?

- people are getting sick when they drink, bathe and wash dishes in contaminated water
- desalinated water is limited and not affordable for some families
- bottled water is too expensive, as well as impractical and adds to pollution and rubbish at the dump

Solution:

- install more rainwater tanks and barrels to increase water collection and storage
- use less water each time you need it

This means:

- always turn off the tap
- fix leaking taps
- fix leaks and holes in gutters
- connect downpipes to water storage containers
- fix leaks in tanks

NAURU BULLETIN

Progress on establishing online international parcel tracking services is being made, which will, “Increase customer use of the post office,” according to Mr Grundler, as the primary means of sending parcels overseas.

Branch manager Lisa Tebouwa outlined Nauru Post’s strong customer service focussed sales and marketing strategy.

“We are right in the centre. We try to get all the services that we can provide. (For example), most people don’t have their own printers at home, so they come here to do their colour printing, scanning, laminating.

“Things that (government) departments can’t find on the island and that they really want, a specific item, we can order it for them.

“Departments now order their printer cartridges from Nauru Post which they told me were the most important thing they keep running out of,” Ms Tebouwa said.

Nauru Post continues to increase its services to better serve Nauru and uphold their aspiration as ‘the people’s post office’ •



Department of CIE conclude Eben Omo campaign with final roadshow at the Aiue Boulevard

- take shorter showers: 2 minutes only is recommended
- change your shower fitting to small and low/slow-flow
- turn off shower to soap-up and scrub; turn on shower to rinse
- boil vegetables in less water
- collect water from air-conditioners to water your kitchen garden

****ensure all water is covered with mosquito netting and/or lids to stop the spread of dengue fever and other water-borne diseases**

Benefits:

- clean and well-maintained household rainwater tanks provide a clean and safe source of drinking water
- water-borne illnesses will decrease, which also reduces the burden on health services
- enough fresh water storage makes households and communities more resilient to droughts and other natural disasters
- families will save money on the purchase of water

Campaign title *Eben Omo: eredu en egaden me itsimorun bwiom. Dogin Naoero, nga ogona* roughly translates in English to ‘Good Land: respecting traditions and the life of your home. For Nauru, I can.’

The campaign asks each individual on Nauru to make a personal commitment in the form of a pledge to adopt an environmentally-responsible behaviour in line with the five key messages•

Search online Republic of Nauru Twitter account to see His Excellency Baron Waqa making his Eben Omo pledge at Aiue Boulevard on Saturday 10 November.

Angam singers competition entrants cash in for their communities

Winners of this year's Angam Day choral singing competitions for tribal groups and schools were rewarded with cash prizes by President Waqa at the government offices on 13 November.

Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Education Hon Charmaine Scotty was present to oversee the prize-giving as both events emanated from her ministries.

The first group to be honoured were competitors in the recently-held tribal singing competition on 9 November at Centennial Hall, organised by home affairs.

Each of the five competitors received a consolation prize for their participation to share with their tribal singing group. Tribes *Eamwit*, *Eamwitmwit*, *Eamwitara*, *Emea* and *Iruwa* each won \$1000.

The President thanked the groups, in the vernacular, for their participation and acknowledged the value of the tribal system and events such as traditional competitions that showcase ones tribe.



On behalf of the Able-Disable School, teacher-in-charge receives funds to be dedicated to the school's music program

President Waqa said the government was pleased to have sponsored the tribal choral competition.

Teachers-in charge and school principals of infants' schools, who also participated in a singing competition celebrating Angam day on 26 October, then gathered to receive from President Waqa a grant of \$5000 per school to be used on a music program.

While Boe Infants' School children won the competition on the day and were invited to sing at the Angam day evening banquet held at the government buildings forecourt, it was deemed that each infants' school was deserving of the boost to the music program they can offer to students in the early years.

With the ceremonies complete, competitors enjoyed an afternoon tea with the President•



President Waqa presents a cash prize to Junior Olsson of the Eamwit tribe

Help manage Nauru's dog problem

Bring in your dogs for de-sexing at the next clinic in early 2019
For more information on this program, call Quarantine Officer Sheba Hubert on 5572965

The benefits of de-sexing your dog:

- * Less aggression
- * Fewer attacks
- * Less noise
- * Stops unwanted puppies, stabilises dog population

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