

these activities, right through to the spectators and crowds that watched from the sidelines, I thank you again. All of you have helped to make this year's celebrations a very successful and enjoyable one.

I particularly wish to acknowledge and thank those remarkable individuals within our community, who year after year, continue to devote their time, energy and resources to ensuring that Independence Day on Nauru remains a special and happy day. Through their selfless efforts, this annual event is remembered and enjoyed by all of the people of Nauru. I hope that they will continue this wonderful service to Nauru in the years ahead and I look forward to joining them in their efforts.

Having said this I would also like to encourage everyone to play a greater and much more active role in future. Independence Day activities, most especially my fellow Parliamentarians in this August Chamber, including senior employees in Parliament and various heads of departments and corporations and their respective officials. I will not name them but will strongly encourage them. After all, this is the most important and sacred event in our history and as patriotic citizens of this beloved country, we can do no less.

Before closing, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Anne Billeam for being voted the "Employee of the Year for 2010" and also the Health department for winning the "Department of the year for 2010". These two awards were only introduced for the first time by Government last year and I am happy to say that this has now become an annual event and the winners are always announced and presented with their awards at the Independence Day State Function. This annual event is important and significant in that it is a time where we acknowledge and recognize the services of our hard working public servant.

Lastly, I would like to make special mention of the outstanding effort of the Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation during this year's independence celebrations and congratulate them for participating in all of the activities. Their effort and enthusiasm is appreciated and noted. I hope NRC's example will

inspire us all to step up our efforts for next year and for all other future national event.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

4. Notice of Motion

a) Mr. David Adeang (Ubenide), moved that at the next sitting of Parliament, he shall moved the following motion:

That this House resolve that Ronwan Beneficiaries be permitted to withdraw all their monies from the Ronwan Fund this calendar year 2011.

5. Questions Without Notice were asked

(Questions Without Notice were extended a further one hour).

The Chair with the concurrence of the House suspended the sitting for lunch break and to resume at 2.00pm.

Resumed

6. Ministerial Statement and Tabling of Papers.

a) His Excellency President Marcus Stephen made a statement to the House which read as follows:

Mr. Speaker,

I would like to inform this August House of my visit to the Republic of China (Taiwan) from the 30th of December, 2010 to the 2nd of January, 2011.

This trip to Taiwan was undertaken for official purposes and was fully funded by the Government of Taiwan. I was accompanied by the Deputy Speaker, Honourable Landon Deireragea, the Chief Secretary Mr. Michael Cain, the Director of Lands and Survey Mr. Porthos Bop, the Supervising Surveyor Mr. Wess Tsitsi and the Airport Chief Security Officer Mr. Skipper Hiram.

Ambassador Ludwig Keke and his wife Mrs. Keke were also part of the Nauru delegation and joined us in Taiwan. And of course, our very own resident Ambassador, Mr. Jason Wan, also accompanied me on my trip to Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, though my stay in Taiwan was very short I am pleased to report that it was a successful one. I had very good bilateral meetings with both His Excellency President Ma Ying-Jeou and the Minister for Foreign Affairs. I will not go into details of our meetings here as our talks are still ongoing, but I can however assure you that they were very positive indeed.

You also have my assurance that Minister Keke will be providing you with a full update of the progress and developments of our bilateral cooperation with Taiwan as soon as they have been finalized.

I take this opportunity to extend my delegation's sincere appreciation and thanks to Ambassador WAN and his staff at the Taiwan Embassy on Nauru. And also the government of Taiwan for the excellent arrangements which ensured that our visit to Taiwan was a most enjoyable and successful one.

b) Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke M.P., made a statement and Tabled to the House the Inter Sub-Head Transfers 2010-11.

Mr Speaker and Honourable Colleagues,

Today I table for the Parliament a report of inter sub-head transfers (ISHTs) for the period 21st December 2010 to 22nd February 2011.

Youth Affairs – Head 52

\$800 in savings in the Youth Affairs fuel budget (SH 355) was transferred to their Printing & Stationary budget. The extra printing and stationary expenditure has arisen largely due to the high volume of printing required for their administrative needs as well as for printing required for the programs & classes being run.

Land Transport – Head 92

Travel expenses relating to the repatriation of a former expatriate employee which were incurred in the last financial year but not paid for, had to be paid for in this financial year. Savings in SubHead 502, Plant & Equipment, enabled a transfer of \$945.01 to SubHead 251 Staff Travel, to cover this expense.

Maritime Transport – Head 93

Insufficient provision was provided under SubHead 251, Travel – Staff, to cater for the travel of the dependants of Harbour Master, which is a contract entitlement. Savings due to vacancies, were identified under SubHead 202, Salary – Local, which enabled a transfer of \$400 to SubHead 251.

Mr Speaker,

Even though these transfers are all of very small amounts, I table this report as required by the relevant laws and for the information of the House.

Thank you.

c) Hon. Mathew Batsiua made a statement to the House which read as follows:

Honourable Speaker & Members,

I wish to make a brief statement regarding my recent official travels.

On December 28 through to the first week of the new-year, I was in Brisbane and Melbourne for scheduled meetings with AFL Oceania staff, the Manager of CTS (freight forwarder for the Ministry of Health) and representatives of an artificial turf company on a project to develop an artificial turf sport oval.

For the information of Members and the general public, over the past couple few years, the Ministry of Sports has been working to develop options for the development of a proper

sports oval in Nauru, to cater for all outdoor ball sports. After much research, it has been decided that artificial grass is the most appropriate surface for Nauru given the onerous maintenance requirement of a normal grass surface.

To this end, the Ministry is aiming to have the first northern district multipurpose outdoor sports court to be made from artificial grass and is currently in talks with the artificial turf company to have this finalized and done before the end of this Financial Year. I will keep Members informed on the progress.

On January 24, I led a delegation from Nauru to attend our first ever Universal Period Review conducted by the UN Human Rights Council at their Geneva Headquarters. Members of my delegation included Mrs. Charmaine Scotty the Secretary of Home Affairs, Barina Waqa a legal officer in the Department of Justice and we were assisted by Mr. Lionel Aingimea a Senior Legal Advisor from the Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT).

For the information of Members, Nauru had completed its National last year in October and after obtaining approval from Cabinet it was submitted to the United Nations Human Rights council months ahead of our scheduled time for the UPR. Government is extremely proud to state that despite our obvious lack of human resources, the National Report was put together by a taskforce comprising of our own officials, without the assistance of outside experts. The taskforce undertook open consultations with representatives of civil society and other stakeholders when putting together the National Report which led to a final report that was widely praised by the International community. It gave a comprehensive and very frank account of the Human Rights situation in Nauru outlining the achievements and progress we have made and also the problems we encounter.

This report plus other shadow reports from NGOs (local and international) were the reports on Nauru's Human Rights situation that were submitted to the UPR and they formed basis for all question that arose from the countries on the floor, during the interactive sessions.

There was overwhelming praise of our Nation Report at the UPR session for Nauru and many countries and other Institutions have subsequently offered their assistance to us in specific areas

we have reported that we struggling to cope with, such as reporting on conventions which we have signed and ratified.

The next step now is to respond to the report that came out of the UPR process. Our response will enable the report on Nauru's UPR to be finalized and presented to the Human Rights Council scheduled later this year in June.

I have attached a copy of my statement at the UPR for the information of Members and should any Members wish to receive a copy of our National report for the UPR, I can provide them with soft copies immediately. If Members are really interested and keen they can view all the reports submitted and view the interactive session at the UN website archives at www.update.un.org/webcast/unhrc

Tubwa kor.

d) His Excellency President Marcus Stephen made a statement to the House as follows:

Mr. Speaker and Members,

I wish to provide a report on the activities and services undertaken by the Public Service for the year 2008-2009.

The Report herewith is submitted in accordance with Article 68 (4) of the Constitution of Nauru which requires the Chief Secretary to report to the Cabinet at least once a year on such matters relating to the exercise of the powers under Article 68, as are prescribed by law and that the Cabinet shall cause a copy of this report to be laid before Parliament.

Mr. Speaker, this report highlights achievements and activities in 2008-2009 fiscal years towards implementing our priorities. The Public Service manpower has shown a significant shift due to recruitment in our ongoing initiative to address critical capacity gaps.

The 2009 report depicts the total Public Service manpower at 1,194 with 58% female and 42% male. In this period manpower increased by 6% due to the absorption of Payment Directorate in the Public Service and the recruitment of Police trainee and

expatriate employees with the department of Finance, Health, Education and Chief Secretary.

If I may reflect on some of the highlights featured in this report:-

➤ ***Pending salaries** at the amount of \$1,052, 830.00 was paid out in December 2008 for the period between 1st July, 2006 to 31st March 2007 to Public Service employees. Nauru Insurance employees were paid three fortnights with Bank, Computer Bureau and Works Department four fortnights from this fund.*

➤ ***Expatriate Accommodation Project** which was funded by DIAC through AusAid to convert existing rooms at Menen Hotel into self contained rooms with kitchen facilities for use of expatriates. 18 single units and 1 family unit was be anticipated on completion of this project. This project was awarded to Eigigu Holdings Corporation for Implementation under supervision of the department of Chief Secretary.*

➤ ***The Directorate of Payment**, formerly the Bank of Nauru was established under the department of Finance on 1st August, 2008. The directorate's main responsibility is to manage the government cash accounts held on the Island and maintain accurate records of cash disbursements and bill payments on rendered government services. Under the new scope and duties the Directorate of Payment is looking towards producing a forward plan for the next five years.*

➤ *The payment scheme towards **Electricity** was implemented in November 2008 where \$25 was deducted from employee's salaries for a duration of 6 fortnights to covers arrears accumulated due to years of non-payments.*

➤ *In January 2009 the **Republic of China, Taiwan** donated **11 containers of Rice** which were distributed to employees whom salaries were deducted towards payment of electricity under the Supervision of Warehouse staff of the Chief Secretary's department.*

➤ **The Chief Secretary's department** underwent a new restructure, implemented with the aim to improve the effectiveness of the Public Service workforce in terms of efficiency and service delivery. 5 new Units were created within the department to address key operations within the department:-

- **Recruitment and Selection Unit** to ensure that the recruitment process is both transparent and fair to those seeking employment with the Public Service

- **Salaries Administration & Employee Benefits Unit** which is responsible for accounting of Public Service employee's salaries, benefits and leave entitlements. In this context the MYOB accounting software was implemented to computerize the Public Service salary and the paper-based staff leave and entitlement records.

- **Training & Development Unit** which is responsible for coordination and implementing of a consistent Public Service training policy with an aim to centralize all of the Public Service capacity building initiatives through a single avenue .

- **Employee Relations Unit** to address employee work related issues in terms of grievance, disciplinary actions and other such related matters.

- **Warehouse** was established after and other such related matters.

- **Warehouse** was established after the closure of the IOM Offshore Processing Centre with facilities and assets from this being handed over to Nauru Government. The current purpose and operations of this facility is utilized to store all government assets and stores and procurement process for all government requirements in terms of material needs.

➤ **The Information, Communication and Technology Unit** or ICT complete the Government Project that would see more Public Service employees with access to email services. This project was funded by the Republic of China, Taiwan whom graciously donated 200 workstations and three network servers to facilitate this project. This is consistent with implementation of the NauruGov Wide Area Network (WAN) project that was previously installed using the WiMAX infrastructure. A training facility at the ICT Centre was

commissioned by the department that would allow the commencement of a formal information literacy program for Public Service employees.

➤ ***The Education department*** continues to make significant progress in NSDS priorities through development of a Strategic Plan to meet NSDS goals. Some of these achievements include:-

- *Integration of the Nauruan industry and community into curriculum program*
- *Development of a four year Teacher up-skilling program for the next two years*
- *Recruitment of more male Teachers and younger Teachers by projecting better training and career opportunities.*
- *Development of a budget program for regular maintenance and repair of education buildings*
- *Training and development for all Administration and Service Staff in the department*
- *Development of a capital works program for schools*
- *Review of develop Departmental Policies to address current issues*
- *Review of school reporting systems*
- *Annual replenishment of schools resources*
- *Prepare long term projection on student and teacher numbers*
- *Create key positions in the department*
- *The new Secondary school to incorporate significant TVET facilities and engage TVET training and teaching staff*
- *Promote community involvement in the Education process*

Although this report shows the significant progress within the department it is noted that the student attendance rate is still a problem that presents a challenge to the system to rethink their strategies and programs to address this issue that would ensure every Nauruan child receives quality education.

➤ ***The Health Department*** conducted an organization review to assess the department's workforce in light of a reform in terms of staff reduction. This process is considered to address the whole

approach to staff development and training to identify areas of weakness across the complex health service. The department's ongoing program towards this initiative for capacity building saw the graduation of 3 Nurses from the Fiji School of Nursing and further intake of trainees with disciplines in different areas of Health services. However, expatriates are still recruited to fill key positions within the department.

➤ *The **department of Foreign Affairs** is also undergoing restructure to improve the management and performance level of staff within the department and its overseas missions.*

➤ *The **department of Women's Affairs** established a Safe House for Women who are victims of domestic violence seeking shelter. The establishment offers accommodation, meals and counselling to tenants on site. This achievements it part of the ongoing campaign by the department to address Human Rights issues in relation to Women.*

➤ *The **department of Finance** coordinated a major program to strengthen the accounting practices of Nauru's SOE sector. The MYOB accounting software package was installed at Nauru Utilities Authority, Menen Hotel, Eigigu Holding Corporation and RONPHOS.*

➤ *In coordination with the **department of Transport** a 5 year contract was signed for Our Airline to carry out Norfolk air routes. The \$55m agreement ensures that Our Airline continues to meet its financial obligations and dividend to government.*

➤ *In 2008 The **Nauru Police Force** conducted a community perception survey in conjunction with the development and implementation of strategic plan to address community concerns and issues in relation to the department's performance and operation within the community.*

➤ *The Central Market was established in May 2009 through the Commerce & Business Development Division of the department of*

Commerce, Industry and Environment (CIE). This initiative was implement in support of community welfare in terms of income. Vendors are able to market their products whether locally made or imported. It operates every Saturday from 9:00am to 5:00pm at the Orro Centennial Hall.

➤ In July 2008 the Epo 'n' Keramen program was established under the department of **Sports**. This program is funded by the Government of Australia through the Australian Sports Commission as is targeted towards the development of community sports programs with an aim to promote healthy lifestyles, development of skills not only in sports also in leadership and community awareness.

It is noted in this report that departments are showing progressive commitment in achieving NSDS goals on account of the numerous initiatives and programs implemented during the period to address these issues.

Capacity building will remain a challenge for the Nauru Public Service. The Public Service manpower profile revealed that key positions are still headed by expatriate staff due to lack of capacity.

The challenge continues for maintaining an effective Public Service at a critical point in the country's history. The current public service environment is characterized by resource constraints, community demands for more and better services and rapid technological changes impacting how work gets done. Overlaid on all these factor are expectations of high performance from individuals, programs and department. However Government has to manage these challenges within its limited resources.

To sum up, the Public Service Annual Reports are an important accountability mechanism as they provide a public record of performance by department in delivering services. The annual report allows space for reflection on what has and has not worded by way of achievement of the NSDS priorities.

I wish to thank the staff in the Public Service for their loyalty, dedication and support who have all contributed to the accomplishments and achievements reported.

Honourable Speaker, I commend the Public Service Annual Reports for 2008-2009 to this August House.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

e) Hon. Dr. K. Keke M.P., made a statement to the House which read as follows:

Mr Speaker and Honourable Colleagues,

I am pleased to advise the House that Nauru was invited to attend the Conference of the World League for Freedom and Democracy which was hosted by Taiwan in Taipei from January 22nd with a series of associated events thru to January 25th.

Nauru was ably represented at this global Conference by the Honourable Aloysius Amwano, MP, Member for Ubenide. I wish to express Government's gratitude to Honourable Amwano for representing Nauru, our Parliament and our people at this Conference and for the timely submission of his report on the conference and related events.

This conference included a special convention which focussed on Parliamentarian's role in promoting global freedom and democracy. The World League for Freedom & Democracy was established in 1954 and has actively promoted freedom, democracy and human rights so that a better world can be enjoyed by all. Countries from all over the world are members of this organisation and there were thousands of representatives at this Conference in Taiwan.

During his time in Taipei, Hon Amwano had the opportunity to meet with President Ma, Hon Jin-Ping Wang, the President of Taiwan's Legislative Yuan and site visits included a visit to SpeedTech Solar Energy Company where he was able to view the solar street lights that were being packed for shipment to Nauru.

I would also like to reiterate Hon Amwano's appreciation to the Government of Taiwan for enabling his participation at this Conference on behalf of the Republic of Nauru.

Thank you Mr Speaker.

f) Hon. Dominic Tabuna M.P., made a statement which read as follows:

Mr. Speaker,

I would like to provide you and members of the House an update on the current status of Utilities operation.

Power Supply

As you all know, this is a difficult time for our people because we have had load shedding in place since the first week of January due to failure of two engines (R6 & R7). The causes are suspected to be a combination of technical faults and human errors.

Mr. Speaker, the supply for the island has been sustained by two Ruston engines (R1 & R5) plus 1 Cummins set at a maximum capacity of around 2.2MW. The load shedding was able to be 3 hours on and 6 hours off to roughly around 3-4 hours offline for the two major Rings of Supply.

In the last six weeks we have been identifying and procuring parts for all the Generator sets that are down and that need parts. The timelines for all parts are not confirmed yet due to the parts sourced from various countries.

Mr. Speaker, in regards to Technical personnel, Utilities brought in a Cummins expert who was able to bring online one of the 800kw Cummins. Currently a Ruston expert is on island, he will be assessing our Generator sets and will work and try to bring online or enhance current sets more Generator sets to improve supply. Work is currently being done to improve maintenance of, supply of parts and internal systems to have an efficient and a reliable power station. Our current Power Station Manager is on medical leave and pending his medical assessment will determine his future with Nauru Utilities. We are also looking at recruitment of full time

Diesel Fitter whose role is to enhance mechanical maintenance of generator sets.

Mr. Speaker, I will update the house of the full realization of a reliable power supply.

Water production

Mr. Speaker, water production has been sustained and has minimal disruption. All three RO units are running 24/7 to produce sufficient water that meets the needs of our community. All delivery tankers are operational and additional delivery support has been provided by ReHab, Ronphos and the Capelle tankers. Without this support Mr. Speaker, the Utilities operation would struggle significantly.

Mr. Speaker, since July last year the volume of water delivered to our community has increased from 3 million litres to as high as 5 million litres in last November which is equivalent to approximately two hundred thousand litres daily. This level of delivery is higher than the same period last year and this is a reflection of the dry season we are experiencing now.

Mr. Speaker, all the Utilities tankers are now operating on double shift starting from 8am and finishing at 11pm at night on week days. On weekends, delivery starts at 8am until midnight. These long hours are put in place to ensure that delay time is limited to less than a week. As of yesterday, the delivery list has been reduced significantly to less than a hundred.

Utilities earlier in the financial year have recruited casual workers to support the operation and until the water situation is relieved. Utilities will continue to recruit casual workers.

Mr. Speaker, government has prioritized the supply of a new RO unit with double the capacity of the existing units. We expect funding to be available through the AusAID program for this project. The procurement of two water tankers has also been prioritized through the Nauru Infrastructure Strategy and Planning

project. As you may be aware Mr. Speaker, at times of prolong dry season we do not have the capacity to meet demands.

Fuel Supply

Mr. Speaker, our fuel supply has been secured for the period March through to July. Government has recently purchased from Total Fiji about 2,500 MT of diesel at 960 USD per MT and 450 MT of petrol at 1,070 USD per MT. this stock is expected to last until the new financial year and the ship is scheduled to arrive on March 1st.

The refueling service is now restored and Our Airline is able to pick up fuel on island at a competitive price. As you may recall Mr. Speaker, this service ceased in August 2009 and Utilities is now earning modest revenue from the service since its resumption.

Mr. Speaker, a Task Force consisting of personnel from Utilities and the Department of Finance has been working on a policy proposal to lease the Tank Farm facility to a private operator who may be interested in a business arrangement. If the project is implemented, we would be able to shift immediately the burden of the fuel budget from Government in addition to relieving Utilities operational budget.

Analysis of energy loss

Mr. Speaker, a Consultant is on island now to assess the losses in the power generation and distribution networks. This project is funded by the EU and NZAID through the Pacific Power Association. The outcome of this assessment Mr. Speaker will contribute to the infrastructure project that the EU has committed to.

Tubwa.

Mr. Thoma (Aiwo) moved that the Paper be noted.

g) Hon. Dr. K. Keke M.P., made a statement which read as follows:

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Colleagues,

I recently travelled on my first overseas commitment this year from the 1st to 14th of February. The primary purpose of my travel was to attend the Pacific ACP Trade Ministers meeting held in Apia, Samoa.

I travelled to Samoa via Nadi, Fiji, which gave me the opportunity to have a meeting with High Commissioner Jarden Kephias and first Secretary Peter Jacob from our High Commissioner in Suva. The Director of Regional Affairs, Mr Mike Aroi, who was departing Fiji, was able to join the meeting. We caught up on a range of issues in regards to the operation of the High Commission, but importantly, we discussed the many important issues that High Commission is working on with various other partner and organisations they have access to in Suva.

The series of Trade meetings in Samoa were critical for the Pacific in determining whether and how we are to progress the Free Trade Agreement negotiations with the European Union, known as the European Partnership Agreement (EPA). This agreement was originally scheduled to have been finalised in 2007, however for various reasons this has not happened. The negotiations with the EU have been tough and drawn out. There are many contentious issues that we have not yet been able to reach a compromised agreement on.

Papua New Guinea and Fiji have signed interim agreement to protect their existing trade with the EU in fisheries and sugar. For many of us smaller states, the agreement proposes benefits in terms of support for the development of our private sector and our ability to better participate in trade. We continue to push that any trade agreement must enable and not stifle our ability to develop new industries and to ensure that these are protected and encouraged to trade with the larger countries. A lot of focus has also been given to the rules around fisheries products which seek to promote the fishing industry in our small island by giving them favourable

access to the European market. Such outcomes would give Nauru the opportunity to develop a stronger economy in the future.

In order to bring these long overdue negotiations to a close, an ambitious program of meetings and negotiations has been agreed, which aim to have the trade agreement with the EU signed off by the end of 2011. Whether this can be achieved or not, will depend on many factors and all countries involved playing their part, but it is clear that my Ministry now has a very hectic year ahead in terms of trade.

Other than the negotiations with the European Union, we also have ongoing negotiations with our Pacific neighbours to implement the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA). Our officials will be entering into another phase of negotiations on trade in services under PICTA in the coming weeks. And then we also have the negotiations with Australia and New Zealand on the proposed PACER Plus agreement.

Government has received some valuable technical assistance over the last couple of years on trade matters and we will be seeking to finalise the National Trade Policy that has been developed after a series of public consultations. We have also placed a request with the Forum Secretariat for a trade advisor to work with department on the critical negotiations before us.

However, a lot of these consultations and internal assessments have highlights that Nauru has many issues to address if we are to make the most of the economic benefits that come from trade beyond what we are accustomed to with exporting phosphate.

We need to modernise and revise our customs process as well as some other border control matter including immigration policies and visas. We need to overhaul our whole legal and regulatory framework on incorporating business. Our land tenure system poses significant challenges to attracting foreign investment and many of our sector or service specific laws are out-dated and are obstacles. And of course, we need to develop the infrastructure and the ability for our private sector to develop products for export and trade.

I will continue to update the House on developments on all these trade matters during the course of the year.

On the way back to Nauru I had a few days in Brisbane where I was able to have a range of meeting including with our Consul General and staff and Our Airline.

I also had a meeting with Digicel's CEO for the Pacific, primarily in relation to advancing the Mobile Money project for Nauru. This was followed up by a visit to Nauru by the manager of the Mobile Money project, earlier this week. I am pleased to advised the House that this milestone project has now been given the green light to roll out.

The Mobile Money service will in effect provide most of the banking services our people need. Mobile Money is an electronic financial platform hosted on the mobile phone network. But people should see this much as banking services are delivered in Australia and around the world, where cash transactions are being used less and less people manage their money electronically thru ATM cards, on the internet and on their phones.

The Mobile Money service in Nauru will enable all of us to have our cash safe & secure on the mobile, from where we can transfer it to anyone on Nauru with a Mobile Money wallet, we will be able to pay for things we buy in the shops on Nauru, we will be able to pay for bills, top up your Digicel phone, top up your power and even send and receive money from overseas. Government, Corporations like Ronphos and in fact any employer, will be able to pay salaries directly into your Mobile Money so nobody will need to line up for hours at the Civic Centre waiting to cash their cheque. Those days of lining up, getting hot & sweaty at the Bank, will soon be over. Your salary will be delivered directly to you on your Mobile Money. If you want to cash it, you will be able to cash it at any Digicel Mobile Money outlet all around Nauru, however, everyone will soon find that you will be able to do everything you do with cash today, without cash but by using your mobile.

In addition, if you want to save your money, the Mobile Money service will also have a savings account attached so people will be able to put their money into this savings account and earn interest, knowing their money is safe & secure.

A further significant benefit that will come with the Mobile Money service is that there will be a Debit/ATM card attached the Mobile Money account that you will be able to use anywhere in the

world to pay for goods and to withdraw cash from your Mobile Money account. This card will be provided by a company that many of us know and that is internationally known and recognised. The debit/ATM card will be linked directly to your Mobile Money enabling you to use your money anywhere in the world, and even on the internet.

The Mobile Money service will bring many advantages for all the business on Nauru. Business won't have the risk of handling large sums of cash and won't have to worry about where to store their cash, but they will also be able to quickly and easily pay for goods and services they need electronically, both on Nauru and overseas. They will be able to see at the click of a few buttons how much money they have without having to count cash and they won't have to worry about trying to get their cash off island to pay for supplies and orders from overseas.

Mr. Speaker,

Over the coming weeks and months there will be a lot more information provided for the public to enable everyone to understand the Mobile Money service and what they will be able to do with it. This is a very exciting development for Nauru that in effect will provide the banking services our people have long been asking for it. It has the possibility of making Nauru the first truly cashless society in the world. It will certainly place Nauru at the forefront of technological and financial developments in our region.

Mr. Speaker,

I have attached the outcomes document from the Trade Ministries meeting as well as some information for Members on the Mobile Money service. However I am always available if any Members have further queries or wishes to discuss any of these matters in more detail

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

7. Motion – Leave sought for

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen, sought leave of the House to move a motion of condolence.

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

Leave was granted.

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen move the following motion:

Motion of Condolences

Noting the magnitude 6.3 earthquake that occurred 10km south-east of Christchurch New Zealand, on 22 February 2011, in which at least 113 lives were lost and more than 200 people are missing;

Noting the floods that affected Queensland between November 2010 and January 2011, in which at least 35 lives were lost;

Noting the severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi, which made landfall in northern Queensland on 3 February 2011, in which 1 life was lost;

Noting the loss of homes, businesses, public and historic buildings and crops in these natural disasters;

Noting the vulnerability of our region to natural disasters;

I move that the House:

ACKNOWLEDGE with great sadness the devastation caused by the recent natural disasters in our region, including the considerable loss of life and untold loss of property and livelihoods;

EXTEND its deepest condolences and sympathies to the people of Australia and New Zealand, in particular to those who are grieving the loss of loved ones;

COMMEND the affected communities for their resilience and fighting spirit in the face of unprecedented hardship;

COMMEND the support given by people from all walks of life and all parts of the region in the rescue and recovery efforts;

EXPRESS its sincere hopes for the physical, psychological and economic recovery of all the affected communities.

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

Question Put and the House resolved in the affirmative.

8. Motion

Hon. Riddel Akua (Minister for Transport) moved that motion No.1 from the Notice Paper be deferred to the next sitting

Hon. Dominic Tabuna (Minister for CIE) seconded.

Question Put and Passed.

9. Motion

Hon. M. Batsiua (Minister for Justice) moved that motions Nos. 1, 3 and 4 from the Notice Paper be deferred to the next sitting.

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

Question Put and Passed.

10. Motion

Hon. Dr. K. Keke (Minister for Finance) moved that motion Nos. 5 and 8 from the Notice Paper be deferred to the next sitting.

Hon. D. Tabuna (Minister for CIE) seconded.

Question Put and Passed.

11. Motion

Hon. Godfrey Thoma (Aiwo) moved that motion No. 6 from the Notice Paper be deferred to the next sitting

Hon. D. Tabuna (Minister for CIE) seconded.

Question Put and Passed.

12. Motion - Education Bill 2011

Hon. Roland. Kun (Minister for Education) moved to present Education Bill 2011.

First Reading

The Bill was presented and read a first time.

Motion – Second Reading

Hon. R. Kun (Minister for Education) moved that the Bill be read a second time.

Hon. M. Batsiua (Minister for Justice) seconded.

Second Reading Speech ensued.

(Under S.O. 159, further debate on the second reading was adjourned to a future date).

13. Motion – Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2) Bill 2010 – 2011.

Hon. Dr. K. Keke (Minister for Finance) moved to present the Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2) Bill 2010-2011.

His Excellency Marcus Stephen seconded.

First Reading

The Bill was presented and read a first time.

Motion – Second Reading

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

His Excellency Marcus Stephen seconded.

Second Reading Speech ensued.

(Under S.O. 159, further debate on the second reading was adjourned to a future date).

14. Motion

Hon. Dr. K. Keke (Minister for Finance) moved that S.O 159 be suspended to enable the second reading debate to proceed, forthwith

His Excellency Marcus Stephen seconded.

Question Put and Passed

Second Reading debate ensued

Question Put and Passed

The Bill was read a second time.

15. Letter of Recommendation

The Chair read the Letter of Recommendation to the House received from His Excellency President Marcus Stephen as Chairman of Cabinet which read as follows:

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2010-2011

Article 59(3) of the Constitution of Nauru

I, Marcus Stephen, President of the Republic Of Nauru, as Chairman of the Cabinet and in pursuance of a Resolution of the Cabinet, hereby notify Parliament that the purpose of the withdrawals from the Treasury fund as proposed by the supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2010-2011 is recommended to the Parliament by the Cabinet.

Dated this 25th day of February, 2011

Marcus Stephen
President &
Chairman of the Cabinet

16. Leave Sought For

Hon. Dr. K. Keke (Minister for Finance) sought leave of the House to move for the third reading of the Bill.

His Excellency Marcus Stephen seconded.

Leave was granted.

17. Motion – Third Reading

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

His Excellency Marcus Stephen seconded.

Question Put and Passed

The Bill was read a third time.

18. Leave Sought For

Mr. G. Thoma (Aiwo) sought leave of absence for Mr. Milton Dube (Aiwo) who is away overseas.

Leave was granted.

19. Orders of the Day

Order No.1 – Electoral (Amendment) Bill 2010

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

20. Motion

Mr. Sprent Dabwido (Meneng) moved that further debate on the Electoral (Amendment) Bill 2010 be adjourned and made an order of the day at the next sitting.

Mr. G. Thoma (Aiwo) seconded.

Question Put and Passed.

Order No. 2 – Administration Arrangement Bill 2010.

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

Debate ensued.

Question Put and Passed.

The Bill was read a second time.

21. Motion – Suspension of Standing Orders.

His Excellency Marcus Stephen moved that all relevant Standing Orders be suspended to enable the third Reading of the Bill to proceed, forthwith.

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

Question Put and Passed.

22. Third Reading

His Excellency Marcus Stephen moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

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

Question Put and Passed.

The Bill was read a third time.

Order No. 3 – Passport Bill 2010.

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

23. Motion

Hon. M. Batsiua (Minister for Justice) moved that Order of the Day No. 3 be adjourned and made an order of the day at the next sitting.

Question Put and Passed.

Order No. 4 – Civil Aviation Bill 2010.

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

Debate ensued.

Question Put and Passed.

The Bill was read a second time.

24. Motion – Suspension of Standing Orders.

Hon. R. Akua (Minister for Transport) moved that all relevant Standing Orders be suspended to enable the Third Reading of the Bill to proceed, forthwith.

Hon. M. Batsiua (Minister for Finance) seconded.

Question Put and Passed.

25. Motion - Third Reading

Hon. R. Akua (Minister for Transport) moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

Question Put and Passed

The Bill was read a third time.

Order No. 5 – Constitution of Nauru (Parliamentary Amendment) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010

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

26. Motion

Mr. A. Amwano (Ubenide) as Chairman of the Constitutional Review Committee and with compliance of the 90 days policy moved that the Orders of the Day No. 5 be adjourned and made an order of the day at the next sitting.

Mr. Dabwido (Meneng) seconded

Question put and passed.

Order No. 6 - Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Papers.

27. Motion

Mr. Aloysius Amwano (Ubenide) as mover of the following statements to be noted, moved that Orders of the Day Nos. 6, 7, 9 and 11 be discharged from the Notice Paper.

Question Put and Passed

Orders of the day Nos. 8 and 10 were removed from the Notice Paper due to the mover, Mr. Valdon Dowiyogo (Ubenide) not present in the House at the time the Orders were called upon.

28. Motion Fixing the Date for the Next Sitting

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

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

Question Put and Passed.

29. Adjournment

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

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

Debate ensued.

30. Leave Sought For.

Mr. S. Dabwido (Meneng) sought leave of absence for Mr. Frederick Pitcher. M.P., (Ubenide) who is away overseas.

Leave was granted.

Debate continued

Question Put and Passed.

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

Members Present

All members were present at some time during the sitting, except—

*Mr. Dube.

*Mr. Pitcher.

**John Garabwan
Deputy Clerk of Parliament.**

*Leave of Absence