

**Votes and Proceedings
Of the
Nineteenth Parliament**

No. 6

**Sixth Sitting of the First Meeting
Thursday, 13th May 2010**

1. The House met at 10:00 a.m. pursuant to adjournment.
2. The Chairman (Mr. Frederick Cain) took the Chair and read prayers.
3. **Election of Speaker.**
The Chairman (Mr. Cain) then called for nominations from Members for the vacant position of the Office of the Speaker.

Mr. Tsitsi (Aiwo) nominated Mr. Thoma (Aiwo) to be Speaker for the Nineteenth Parliament.

Mr. Waqa (Boe) seconded.

Mr. Thoma accepted the nomination.

There being no nominations forthcoming from Members, Mr. Thoma was declared Speaker for the Nineteenth Parliament.

The Chair suspended the sitting and to resume until the bell rings.

Resumed.

4. **Statement from the Chair.**

Honourable Members I wish to make a statement.

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members for the honour conferred upon me to be Speaker of this august house of the 19th Parliament.

Honourable Members,

There has been a stalemate for three weeks because we could not elect a Speaker. I have taken the first step to alleviate the current impasse with the hope that a compromise be reached amongst you the honourable members. I must also point out that it was indicated to the House at the previous sitting that our side would be able to put up a person to preside over this Parliament just for the purpose of enabling the government to call fresh elections to end the impasse. We have now fulfilled this aim in my assuming the Chair and I would call upon the caretaker government to do its part in dissolving the 19th Parliament and to call for a General Election. I am sure that after fresh elections there will be changes in the new parliamentary membership which would enable the new government with strong mandate to execute its duties with confidence for the next three year term. I am mindful however that there may be other options to pursue. In this regard, I urge both sides of the House to come up with a solution to the current stalemate by the next sitting being Tuesday 18th May, failing which I will expect the caretaker President advising me to dissolve the House, I regret to advise that this Chair will seriously consider whether to continue its current position at the next sitting and the caretaker government will be bound by its responsibilities to find a solution to the impasse.

However, I remind the caretaker government that it is incumbent upon Honourable Members to exercise their responsibilities with a mind on the welfare of the State and the people of Nauru, and this includes avoiding dissolution by State of Emergency Powers. With the Speakership now occupied, it is now possible to have a normal and orderly dissolution to break the impasse, should all other options fail.

Again I thank Honourable Members for my unanimous election as Speaker, even though I would say on a temporary basis subject to the conditions I have laid down.

I will therefore be allowing you honourable Members the opportunity until the next sitting to guide this House in reaching amicable solutions, thus meeting the expectation of those who have entrusted us in leading this nation to where it ought to be. Accordingly the House will go into recess until next Tuesday morning 18th May, 2010 at 10:00am. Thank you.

*Hon. Godfrey Thoma M.P.,
Speaker of Parliament*

The Chair then suspended the sitting and to resume on Tuesday 18th May, 2010 at 10:00am or when the bell rings.

Resumed (Tuesday 18th May, 2010) 2:30p.m.

5. The Chairman (Mr. Cain) took the Chair and read prayers.

6. **Letter of Resignation.**

Then Chairman Read letter of resignation he had received from the Speaker which read as follows -

Dear Mr. Clerk,

Under the said Article I hereby tender my resignation as Speaker of the 19th Parliament.

Hon. Godfrey Thoma, M.P.,
Speaker of Parliament,
18th May, 2010.

7. **Election of Speaker.**

The Chairman (Mr. Cain) then called for nominations from Members for the vacant position of the Office of the Speaker.

There being no nominations forthcoming from Members the Chair with concurrence of the House at forty minutes past 2:00 o'clock p.m. adjourned the sitting until Thursday 20th May, 2010 at 10:00a.m.

Members Present

All members were present at some time during the sitting.

John Garabwan
Deputy Clerk of Parliament.