

Votes & Proceedings Of the Eighteenth Parliament

No. 10

**First Sitting of the Eighth Meeting
Tuesday, 16th December 2008**

10.00 a.m.

1. The House met at 10 a.m. in accordance with the resolution of the House made on Tuesday, 25th November 2008.

2. The Hon. Riddel Akua, M.P., Speaker of Parliament, took the Chair and read Prayers.

3. Notices of Motion

Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke (Minister for Finance) gave notice that at the next sitting of Parliament he shall move to present the Treasury Fund Protection (Amendment) Bill 2008.

4. **Questions without Notice** were asked.

5. Ministerial Statements & Tabling of Papers

(a) Hon. Mathew Batsiua (Minister for Justice) presented and tabled the Plant and Animals Quarantine Regulations 2008.

(b) Mr. Thoma (Aiwo) as Chairman of the Privileges Committee presented the Report of the Committee Privileges and made the following statement:

'Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Committee of Privileges I present to the House the Report of the Committee of Privileges of the Eighteenth Parliament of Nauru.

Matters relating to alleged breach of privileges and contempt were referred to the Committee on 16 and 17 July 2008. In the succeeding months, the Committee held 14 meetings for the examination of those matters, and obtained evidence from 7 witnesses. The Committee also obtained legal advice and advice from other Parliaments. I wish on behalf of the Committee to express my thanks to everyone who responded to the queries of the Committee and provided material and information for its use.

The Committee was faced with the difficult task of examining the conduct of a sitting Member of Parliament. It is a very grave matter for a sitting Member to be alleged to have committed breaches of privilege and contempt of Parliament, and the Committee has taken its task very seriously, attempting to satisfy itself of the facts surrounding the matters that were referred to it, to gather all relevant information, to conduct its inquiry in a fair manner, and to reach objective conclusions and recommendations.

The Committee ultimately made six recommendations, some of which relate to proposed punishment of the suspended Member, and some of which relate to preventative

measures to try to avoid this sort of incident in future, or to enable Parliament and the police to better deal with such incidents.

The Report that is now presented to Parliament sets out the evidence presented to the Committee, the relevant legal provisions that apply to matters before the Committee, the Committee's findings of fact and also the reasoning and rationale behind each of the Committee's recommendations.

There were unfortunately some delays in preparing and submitting this report to Parliament, due to the difficulty of obtaining adequate advice in the early phase of the Committee's work. The recent changes in the Parliamentary Secretariat has resulted in improvement to the services available to Committees and have enabled this Committee to finish its inquiry and complete its report.

I am grateful to the members of the Committee for their valuable contributions and wish to thank them for the time given by them to finalise the report.

On behalf of the Committee of Privileges, I commend the report to the House. I hope that Members will be satisfied with the efforts of the Committee, and will consider the recommendations made by the Committee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.'

(Pursuant to S.O. 218 further deliberation of the report was adjourned to a future day.)

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

Resumed.

6. Motion

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen as Leader of Government Business moved that motion Nos. 1 to 8 be deferred to the next sitting.

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

Question put and passed.

7. Motion

Mr. Amwano (Ubenide) as Chairman of the Constitutional Review Committee moved that the Constitution of Nauru (Parliamentary Amendments) Bill 2008, be read a second time.

Hon. Frederick Pitcher (Minister for C.I.E) seconded.

Second Reading speech ensued.

(Pursuant to S.O., 159 further debate on the Bill was adjourned to a future date.)

8. Motion

Mr. Amwano (Ubenide) as Chairman of the Constitutional Review Committee, moved that the Constitution of Nauru (Referendum Amendments) Bill 2008, be read a second time.

Hon. F. Pitcher (Minister for C.I.E) seconded.

Second reading Speech ensued.

(Pursuant to S.O. 159, further debate on the Bill was adjourned to a future date.)

9. Leave sought for

Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke (Minister for Finance) sought leave of the House to move a motion.

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen seconded.

Leave was granted.

10. Motion

Hon. Dr. Kieren Keke (Minister for Finance) moved to present the Treasury Fund Protection (Amendment) Bill 2008.

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen seconded.

First Reading - The Bill was presented and read a first time.

11. Motion - Second Reading

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

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen seconded.

Second Reading Speech ensued.

(Pursuant to S.O. 159, further debate on the Bill was adjourned to a future date.)

12. Order of the Day No. 1 - Shipping Bill 2008

Motion

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen, as Leader of Government Business, moved that Order of the Day No. 1, be adjourned and made an Order of the day of the next sitting.

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

Question put and passed.

13. Order of the Day No. 2 - Disaster Risk Management Bill 2008

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.

14. Leave sought for

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

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

Leave was granted.

15. Motion – Third Reading

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

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

Question put and passed.

The Bill was read a third time.

16. Order of the Day No. 3

Mr. Scotty (Anabar/Ijuw/Anibare) moved that Order of the day No. 3 be discharged from the Notice Paper.

Mr. Waqa (Boe) seconded.

Question put and passed.

17. Order of the Day No. 4

On the Statement made by Hon. Frederick Pitcher (Minister for C.I.E.) on, RONPHOS & Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation, be noted.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The paper was noted.

18. Leave of Absence

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen sought leave of absence for Hon. Sprent Dabwido (Minister for Transport) and Mr. Solomon (Meneng) who are overseas on Government business.

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

Leave was granted.

19. Motion Fixing the Date for the next sitting

His Excellency President Marcus Stephen moved that Parliament at its rising do adjourn until Thursday 18th December 2008 at 10.00 a.m.

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

Question put and passed.

20. Adjournment

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

And then the House at 5.35 p.m. adjourned until Thursday 18th December 2008.

Members Present

All Members were present at sometime during the sitting, except:-

- * Mr. Sprent Dabwido
- * Mr. Solomon.
- ** Mr. Adeang

John Garabwan
Deputy Clerk of Parliament

* Leave of Absence

** Suspension