

REPUBLIC OF NAURU

PASSPORTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2020

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The *Passports (Amendment) Bill 2020* is a Bill for the *Passports (Amendment) Act 2020*.

This memorandum provides an explanation of the Bill and is only intended to indicate the general effect.

EXPLANATION OF CLAUSES

Clause 1 provides that, once enacted, the short title of the Bill will be the *Passports (Amendment) Act 2020*.

Clause 2 sets out when the Bill's provisions will commence which is upon certification by the Speaker.

Clause 3 is the enabling provision for the amendment of the *Passports Act 2011*.

Clause 4 amends Section 3 of the Act. The Act is assigned to the Minister for Justice and Border Control. The Minister for Justice and Border Control exercises a number of functions under the Act. However, there is no definition of the '*Minister*' under the Act.

There is a definition of '*Head of Department*' who is also given a number of responsibilities. The '*Department*' is also not referred to. The '*Head of Department*' is the Secretary for Justice and Border Control.

For clarity, the 2 new terms and their definitions need to be inserted to ensure that the validity of any travel document is not put into question.

Clause 5 deletes and substitutes Section 56 of the Act. This amendment is necessary to meet the Republic's requirements under the *International Civil Aviation Organisation* (ICAO) that records of all travel documents are maintained. A recommendation was given by ICAO to ensure that record keeping is upgraded.

Clause 6 is a general amendment of the Act whereby '*Head of Department*' is deleted and substituted with '*Secretary*'.