

**REPUBLIC OF NAURU**  
**NAOERO CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) BILL 2019**

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

The *Naoero Citizenship Bill 2019* is a Bill for the *Naoero Citizenship (Amendment) Act 2019*.

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 *Naoero Citizenship (Amendment) Act 2019*.

**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 *Naoero Citizenship Act 2017*.

**Clause 4** inserts a new clause 19A. This clause is to provide for the anomaly in which a minor or dependant finds himself or herself when one or both of his or her parents acquire citizenship. The presence of the minor or dependant in the Republic requires him or her to have a visa to enter and live in the country. In the case of minors or dependants, they normally accompany parents. This clause provides the parents or the minor or dependant with an option to apply for citizenship. The Minister has the power to grant or not to grant citizenship to such a minor or dependant. This relates to the child or dependant of the marriage or relationship and not any other relationships which is provided for in section 14 of the Act.

For the purposes of this clause, a minor is defined as a person under the age of 20 years. On the other hand, the dependant has the same meaning as that under the Immigration Regulations.