

## REPUBLIC OF NAURU

### MENTALLY-DISORDERED PERSONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2020

#### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The *Mentally-disordered Persons (Amendment) Bill 2020* is a for the *Mentally-disordered Persons (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 *Mentally-disordered Persons (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 *Mentally-disordered Persons Act 1963*.

**Clause 4** amends Section 1 of the Act by amending the short title from '*Mentally-disordered Persons Act 1963*' to '*Mental Health Act 1963*'. The change to the name of the Act ensures the Republic keeps up with the evolving landscape of mental health care and the terminology used.

**Clause 5** is the general amendment clause which removes the following words from being used: 'mental disorder', 'mentally-disordered' and 'mentally disordered'.

The Act will instead use terms such as '*mentally impaired*' or '*mental impairment*' in place of 'mental disorder', 'mentally-disordered' and 'mentally disordered', which are more palatable.