



## REPUBLIC OF NAURU

### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT FOR PARLIAMENT

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Mr Speaker, Your Excellency, Honourable Members,

It is my pleasure to provide an update to this august house on the progressive development executed by the Department of Commerce Industry and Environment.

Mr Speaker,

#### **Energy Road Map**

I am pleased to announce that Government has approved the 2014-2020 Energy Road Map and it is now ready for mobilization.

The document itself provides a blueprint to the Government, our implementing partners and donors for the development of our Energy Sector especially in achieving our development goals under our National Sustainable Development Strategy.

Through a collaborative approach and support by Government and our development partners the expected targets of the Energy Road Map by 2020 are to obtain:

1. 24/7 grid electricity supply with minimal interruptions;
2. 50% of grid electricity supply from renewable energy sources; and
3. 30% improvement in energy efficiency in the residential, commercial and government sectors

Much work has gone into developing this document and I would like to acknowledge SPC, GIZ, IRENA, the department, and the Energy Technical Working Group consisting of key stakeholders (NUC, DFAT and Finance) for their valued time and efforts.

With this document Nauru will be able to approach donor partners for development opportunities.

“Together let us embrace this Roadmap for a brighter future.”

Mr. Speaker,

### **Water Tanks Project funded by Australia DFAT**

I would like to take this time to inform the House on the progress of the “Water Tanks Project funded by Australia DFAT”, after being stagnant for 3years I am pleased to inform the House that constructive discussions and efforts between the DFAT (AusAID), the Procurement Agent and the department have paved some headway and are progressing well.

The project will be executed in two phases whereby tender for both phases will be carried out:

1. First Phase - construction of water tank platforms
2. Second Phase - construction and installation of water tanks

As you may be aware currently the tender for the construction of the water tank platforms at the household level has been issued and awaiting local companies to bid, the closing date is 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014. Positive discussions are already underway for the engagement of the mass production of poly water tanks in-country between the parties.

Since I came into office I understand that this particular project has dragged on for quite some time now this is purely because it is a donor-funded project and all parties must ensure the effective utilization of funds whereby the government’s procurement law must be applied.

I kindly seek everyone’s patience, understanding and support on this project and I provide my assurance that we will get this project started and completed.

Mr Speaker,

### **Ridge to Reef GEF/UNDP Project**

I would like to inform the house that the department has been working with the United Nations Development Program in developing a 2million dollar Project on the Ridge to Reef Concept.

The project will be funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) under Nauru's allocation for environmental projects.

The expected outcomes of the project are:

- Improved management effectiveness of new marine conservation areas;
- Integrated landscape management practices adopted by local communities;
- Biodiversity conservation and SLM mainstreamed in policy and regulatory frameworks; and
- Improved data and information systems on biodiversity and land management best practices

Consultations with key stakeholders have been undertaken by the department and UNDP and the application is ready for submission to GEF.

Mr Speaker,

### **Agriculture**

I am pleased to inform the house that a grant of US259,000 dollars from the Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) has been approved for Nauru to strengthen Household Capacity for integrated Agro-forestry and Food Crops Production and Utilisation in Nauru.

This project will be executed by the Agriculture division within the department.

Mr Speaker,

### **Community outreach**

I would like to inform the House that the department has conducted a community group outreach, which lasted two weeks, involving key members of the department.

The purpose of the Community outreach activity is to create a platform between the department and the Communities for more interaction towards development of strategic plans, policies and action plans needed in the area of environment, agriculture and business. The outcome of the outreach was very productive and the Communities were indeed pleased that their needs and priorities were heard and noted.

Mr Speaker, this is a refreshing initiative by the department in showcasing our community engagement style.

Finally Mr. Speaker,

### **WHO Evaluation Impact Assessment on Phosphate Dust**

I would like to take this time to inform the house and especially the communities that are affected by pollution from phosphate dust, that the World Health Organization have completed their 2<sup>nd</sup> mission to Nauru to investigate and assess this very serious matter.

The WHO team consists of an Environmental Health Specialist - “Dr. Rokho Kim” and an Environmental Epidemiology Specialist - “Professor Domyung Paek”.

The department facilitated and organized meetings for the WHO team with key agencies and affected communities.

The expected outcome of the WHO mission is to ascertain the Health and Environmental impacts of dust pollution with the intention of formulating an application to engage assistance from concerned parties or partners to address any detrimental effects or impacts from the pollution.

“We are being responsible and showing leadership on this issue”

Thank you,

Delivered by Honorable

MP Aaron Stein Cook Member for Aiwo  
Minister for Commerce Industry and Environment