

**REPUBLIC OF NAURU**  
**TRADEMARKS BILL 2019**  
**SECOND READING SPEECH**  
**Honourable David Adeang MP**  
**12 July 2019**

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I am pleased to introduce to the House today the *Trademarks Bill 2019*.

Mr Speaker, this Bill is another new initiative for Nauru in the area of intellectual property.

Mr Speaker, a trade mark is a sign that is used to distinguish the goods and services of a business from those goods and services provided by other businesses. The registration therefore of a trademark provides the owner or authorised user of a trademark with the right to stop others from using the mark that the owner has invested in developing. This is important because a trademark:

- (a) is an asset that can grow in value significantly;
- (b) strengthens the reputation of a business and its goods or services, by providing consumers with information on the source and quality of those goods or services; and
- (c) provides certainty for consumers and allow them to make informed choices.

When we think trademarks, key signs and words like: ‘*Nike*’, ‘*McDonalds*’, ‘*KFC*’, ‘*Coca Cola*’ come to mind as some of the most popular trademarks in the world.

Mr Speaker, the Bill specifies the grounds that prevent registration of a trademark. An absolute ground for refusal of registration include, if the mark infers immorality, is misleading or likely to mislead, is scandalous or the use is contrary to Nauru law. There are also restrictions on the registration of any trademark that contain flags, emblems, a person’s name and certain words.

Registration of trademarks under the proposed Bill is simple, effective and cost efficient for trademark owners and authorised users.

Mr Speaker, the explanatory memorandum details the provisions of the Bill.

I commend the Bill to the House.