

REPUBLIC OF NAURU
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC (RECOGNITION OF CONVENTION) BILL
2017

SECOND READING SPEECH
Honourable Charmaine Scotty MP
27 April 2017

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I introduce to this House today a short Bill to recognise the latest USP Convention which recognises the establishment of the University of the South Pacific (“the University”) as a regional Educational Institute. This Convention further mandates that each member country must pass laws to actually recognise University in their respective Domestic laws. The Convention was adopted by the Council in its July in Majuro, Marshall Island. The Republic of Fiji Islands is the depository of this Convention.

The Convention was signed in July. It is now time for the Republic to ratify the same. For the purposes of the ratification, there is a need to have domestic laws.

Mr Speaker, the proposed legislation to be cited as The University of the South Pacific (Recognition of Convention) Act will not only give the USP Convention force of law in Nauru but for the first time will be recognised as an institute in our domestic laws. The University of the South Pacific is the premier provider of tertiary education in the Pacific region, and an international centre of excellence for teaching, research, consulting and training on all aspects of Pacific culture, environment and human resource development needs.

The University was established in 1968 by a Royal Charter. The Bill recognises this.

Clauses 5 of the Bill recognises the University as a body corporate under our laws. It enjoys the same privileges and obligations as any other corporate body. It will also be subject to our laws.

The Bill is accompanied by an explanatory memorandum explaining the Bill in more detail.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Bill to the House.