

**REPUBLIC OF NAURU**  
**ASSISTANT MINISTERS BILL 2016**  
**SECOND READING SPEECH**  
**Honorable Baron Divavesi Waqa MP**  
**19<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I have the pleasure of introducing to the House today a Bill for the Assistants Ministers Act 2016.

Assistant Ministers as they will be known in this country have existed in Pacific Island nations such as Samoa and Papua New Guinea for well over twenty years and they have helped to ensure the machinery of Government in their respective countries operated efficiently.

The primary duty of an Assistant Minister will be to assist his or her Minister in discharging Ministerial responsibilities. The Assistant Minister may handle such matters delegated to him or her by the Cabinet Minister and this may vary from a general range of subjects depending on the size and complexity of the respective Cabinet Minister's portfolio.

The Cabinet Minister will maintain overall accountability and responsibility for his or her Ministry.

The explanatory memorandum describes in detail the provisions of the Bill.

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