

**REPUBLIC OF NAURU**  
**FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2017**  
**SECOND READING SPEECH**  
**Honourable Tawaki Kam MP**  
**1 August 2017**

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I am pleased to introduce to the House today a Bill to amend the *Nauru Fisheries Act 1997*.

Mr. Speaker, the proposed Bill will ensure the proper management, development, protection and conservation of Nauru marine resources in a sustainable manner for our future generations and will further achieve greater economic development through licencing, permits, and registration of purse seine vessels.

The proposed Bill will help increase government revenue and at the same time create more job opportunities for the citizens of Nauru through joint venture arrangements.

The Bill outlines the general terms and conditions of licensing, sets out the registration requirements for fishing vessels and obligations of operators applying to register. It sets out the procedures and registration requirements for foreign vessels and imposes an obligation on vessel operators before applying to register their vessel as a Nauru flagged vessel.

Mr Speaker, these amendments also gives general powers to the Chief Executive Officer to grant the authorisation to fish, to suspend or cancel the authorisation on the basis of conservation or management of marine resources or there is a reason to believe that the vessel or its operators have engaged in illegal, unreported or unregulated fishing activity or other illegal activities. The powers of the Chief Executive Officer stress the importance of strengthening our laws that govern and control our marine resources.

These amendments will guarantee the effective implementation of Fisheries strategies and management plans for the sustainable management and use of the fisheries and marine resources of our country.

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

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