



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
27 November 2025

Original: English

---

**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Fifty-first session**  
Geneva, 19–30 January 2026

## **National report submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21\***

**Nauru**

---

\* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



## Introduction

1. The Republic of Nauru hereby submits its 4<sup>th</sup> cycle Universal Periodic Review (4<sup>th</sup> Cycle UPR) National Report before the Human Rights Council (HRC). In fulfilling its reporting obligations and addressing the recommendations accepted during the 3<sup>rd</sup> UPR cycle, Nauru has achieved significant progress and remains committed to advancing the implementation of its obligations under the core international human rights conventions, treaties and protocols to which it is a party. In this context, the Government has undertaken legal reforms aimed at strengthening policies, legislation and institutional frameworks to promote, protect and fulfil the human rights of all persons within Nauru.

## Legislative reforms

2. There has been considerable progress in advancing legal reforms in the State since 2020, particularly in relation to the domestication of the international human rights treaties to which Nauru is a State party. These include the *CRC*, *CEDAW*, *CRPD*, and *CAT*.

3. Nauru remains committed to further strengthening its institutional capacities and mobilising resources to create an enabling environment conducive to addressing existing challenges and fostering sustained progress in the implementation and enforcement of the fundamental rights and freedoms enshrined under *Part II* of the *Constitution of Nauru*.

4. Significant legislative reforms that aim to domesticate ratified international human rights treaties and improve the human rights situation of the people of Nauru include:

- (a) *Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities Act 2023*;
- (b) *Anti-Money Laundering and Targeted Financial Sanctions Act 2023*;
- (c) *Consumer Protection Act 2024*;
- (d) *Nauru Economic and Climate Resilience Act 2024*;
- (e) *Nauru Small Business Enterprises Act 2025*;
- (f) *Building Control Act 2025*;
- (g) *Pharmacy Act 2025*;
- (h) *Health and Medical Services Act 2025*;
- (i) *Naoero Language Authority Act 2025*; and
- (j) *Nauru Police Force Act 2025*.

## I. Methodology

### A. National Monitoring, Implementation, Reporting and Follow Up (NMIRF)

5. The recommendations from Nauru's 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle UPR were incorporated into the UPR Implementation Plan matrix and circulated to all relevant departments and agencies for review, including to identify required resources and budget needs for implementation.

### B. UPR key agency and relevant stakeholder consultation

6. The Department of Justice and Border Control (JBC) led the preparation of Nauru's 4th Cycle UPR National Report, working closely with all relevant government departments and agencies. In April 2025, JBC convened a stakeholder consultation, supported by the Commonwealth Secretariat to gather updated information on implementation of the UPR Implementation Plan and to seek stakeholder views on the 4th Cycle review. A timeline of

activities was then circulated, with agencies invited to provide further input on progress and planned actions within their mandates.

7. The final 4th Cycle UPR National Report is submitted to the UN Human Rights Council.

## II. Implementation of recommendations from the previous cycle

### A. Fully implemented recommendations

#### Ratification of other international instruments

##### Accepted recommendations: 99.11, 99.21

*Ratification of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol is achieved*

8. The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol was ratified by Nauru on 17 June 2011.

9. Progress has been made in the domestication of the Convention which is reflected in the development and enhancement of the Asylum Seekers (Regional Processing Centre) Act 2012, the Refugees Convention Act 2012, and the Nauru (RPC) Corporation Act 2017 ensuring alignment with international standards for the protection of asylum seekers and refugees.

10. The asylum seekers who were transferred to Nauru by Australia have had their applications properly assessed under the relevant laws of Nauru and the judicial system. Following the success of the application, as refugees, they have been resettled in 3<sup>rd</sup> party countries which includes United States of America, New Zealand, Canada and Saipan. The remaining transferees were finally removed to Australia and thereafter, Australia is responsible for their processes. By mid-2023, the asylum seeker and refugee lodges and settlement facilities in Nauru were emptied.

*Consideration of the Ratification of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide*

11. Nauru became a party to the CPPCG on 27 July 1994. References of domestication can be made to the Crimes Act 2016, specifically at Part 14 – Crimes Against Humanity and Related Offences, Division 14.3 – Rome Statute Offences at Section 266 – Genocide.

#### Engagements with the UN

##### Accepted recommendations: 99.7, 99.13, 99.16, 99.38

*Establishment of Government communication processes with the UN treaty bodies*

12. Nauru seeks to strengthen communication with UN treaty bodies by creating clear procedures linking Government Departments to the Working Group on Treaties (WGT) as the NMIRF. WGT then communicates with JBC for legal vetting and then from JBC to DFAT to apply communication protocols through the Permanent Mission in Geneva. This pathway will ensure efficient and coordinated exchanges between the Government and the UN.

13. The revision of the TOR for the WGT will formally recognise and incorporate the newly established communication process to ensure official recognition and compliance.

*Nauru engagement with UN agencies*

14. Listed below are several key engagements between Nauru and UN agencies from 2021 to 2025:

- (a) In 2021:

(i) UNDP through the NAIG Program, supported reforms making Nauru's Parliament financially and administratively independent under the *Parliamentary Services Act 2020*. This makes the Nauru Parliament completely independent of the Executive and the Judicial branch. It is already enforced and the independence has been observed and followed; and

(ii) UNDP is also assisting the Nauru Justice system, Judicial and Justice Departments as follows:

- Updating and establishing the upgraded RONLAW website for public accessibility of Nauruan laws;
- Updating and establishing an upgraded immigration system;
- Establishing the beneficial ownership database;
- Providing continuing legal education to the legal practitioners;
- Funding legal practitioners to travel to Fiji to observe court proceedings and legal practice;
- Providing full support to the Nauru Law Society to enhance legal practice; and
- Other associated matters.

(b) In 2022, Australia and UNICEF embarked on a joint mission to Nauru in early 2022 to facilitate COVID-19 booster vaccination campaigns and cold-chain strengthening.

(c) In 2023:

(i) UNDP provided support for the work on the Convention Against Corruption; and

(ii) UNODC assisted Nauru by providing technical support for the finalisation of Nauru's Mutual Evaluation Report on Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing under the Financial Action Task Force Standards.

(d) In 2024:

(i) WHO provided technical assistance mission to assess progress on non-communicable diseases (NCDs) prevention and health system strengthening;

(ii) UNDP provided support for the establishment of the National Anti-Corruption Strategic Framework that is being drafted; and

(iii) UNDP aided in finalising the substantive Nauru's UNCAC Report for publication.

(e) In 2025, UNICEF deployed a monitoring mission under the coordination of the Child Protection Services focused on early childhood development and nutrition programmes.

15. These engagements are among many that illustrate Nauru's ongoing collaboration with UN entities on health, climate resilience, good governance, and human rights.

#### *Open invitation from Nauru to the UN*

16. Nauru maintains an open invitation to UN bodies, including Special Rapporteurs and Working Groups. These bodies are welcome to visit Nauru for any relevant purpose, provided that such visits are conducted in full compliance with the national laws and regulations of the Republic. This includes ensuring that at the time of the visit, the relevant stakeholders are available on island to provide accurate information.

## Social inclusion, development, equality and non-discrimination

**Accepted recommendations: 99.55, 99.56, 99.58, 99.66**

**Noted recommendations: 99.54, 99.57, 99.59, 99.60, 99.61**

*Domestication of CEDAW, CRC and CRPD to provide a robust legislative framework for social inclusion, development, equality and non-discrimination*

17. There is steady progress in the domestication of CEDAW, the CRPD and the CRC. Key legislative measures include but is not limited to:

(a) The continued implementation of the Child Protection and Welfare Act (CPWA) 2016, which include the best interest of the child as a primary consideration in all decisions affecting children. Between 30-50 child protection cases were resolved between 2021 and 2025;

(b) The increase in the number of reports relating to domestic violence under the Domestic Violence and Family Protection Act (DVFP) 2017, indicating the effectiveness of the awareness raising mechanisms under that Act;

(c) Various legislations under family law, which provide a legal framework for safeguarding family rights and well-being, have supported the following family matters between 2021 and 2025:

(i) Approximately between 850-950 registration of births and 50-150 marriages were registered under the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2017 which governs the registration of vital events, essential for establishing legal identity and family relationships;

(ii) 6 children were and are being supported under the Maintenance Act 1959;

(iii) 52 separations of unions have been resolved under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973; and

(iv) 78 adoptions were formalized under the Adoption of Children Act 1965.

(d) The Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities Act (IPWDA) 2023, which advances the rights of persons with disabilities and ensures their inclusion and participation in all aspects of society.

*Establishment of the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (IPWD) Council*

18. Department of People Living with Disabilities has established the *IPWD Council* with the task of monitoring and coordinating the implementation of the Act, ensuring that persons with disabilities receive the protection and opportunities guaranteed under national law.

19. Nauru recognizes that there is insufficiency in resource management for implementing the IPWDA with regards to expertise and infrastructure. This was clarified in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle UPR National Report for Nauru. Due to such challenges facing Nauru, support is sought regionally and internationally as follows:

(a) The DPWLD engaged DFAT-funded support to recruit an advisor to work on aligning the *Mental Health Act 1963* with provisions of the IPWDA ensuring legislative compliance to CRPD;

(b) As part of the PDFs network of 22 Pacific countries, Nauru benefits from capacity development and governance support aimed at optimal domestication of CRPD; and

(c) UN Women via its *Pacific Disability-Inclusive Resilient Development Strategy*, provides the region, which includes Nauru, with technical and financial support to ensure national policy roll out is not only gender-responsive but also inclusive of persons with disabilities.

*Nauru's efforts toward equality and non-discrimination*

20. The *Nauru Economic and Climate Resilience Citizenship Act 2024* is a new law that promotes non-discrimination, ensuring that citizenship by marriage granted through the Economic and Climate Resilience program is permanent for spouses, even where the marital relationship ends or if the Nauruan spouse, being the original Nauruan, passes away.

21. In order to eliminate any discrimination, the Government amended the *Naoero Citizenship Act 2017*, allowing the retention of citizenship for naturalized citizens. Originally the law automatically cancelled the citizenship of a derivative citizen by marriage, upon divorce or where the Nauruan spouse being the original Nauruan passes away, and the other then remarries a non-Nauruan.

22. The amendment now, allows for the parent who became a Nauruan citizen by way of marriage to be permanently unified with their child or children preventing the risk of family separation that relates to immigration breaches by non-citizens. This, further complements Nauru's effort to stabilizing Nauruan family units.

*Recognition of genders*

23. Nauru maintains its position that it does not support the recognition of non-binary genders or other forms of sexual orientation beyond the traditional binary understanding. It is important to note that only two genders, female and male, are recognised and intimate relationships between individuals of the same gender are not recognised.

24. In light of the previous statement, Nauru is committed to continuing its efforts to introduce gender-sensitized provisions within its national legislation. These measures aim to ensure that national laws progressively reflect gender equality principles, while aligning with the values upheld by Nauru.

*Access to quality health care services*

25. Nauru is currently carrying out improvements to enhance access to healthcare services for all citizens especially relating to hospital infrastructure, availability of health practitioners and improvement of health management systems and clinical procedures.

26. Since 2021, 17 medical specialist groups have engaged with the DHMS to attend patients with specific pathologies.

27. The health initiatives include:

(a) Engaging a private service provider to provide management of the health services at the RON Hospital. This engagement is to allow skilled and professional medical personnel to travel to Nauru and treat majority of the patients who would otherwise have had to travel overseas to receive treatment and to improve the quality of health and medical services provided;

(b) Enacted the *Health and Medical Services Act 2025* which clearly outlines the legislative framework of the types and extent of health and medical services that the Government is obliged to provide to the people;

(c) Enacted the *Pharmacy Act 2025* to allow for the establishment of private pharmacies in Nauru making medicine and other pharmaceutical products accessible to Nauruans domestically; and

(d) Re-introduction of community health schemes which include, treatment of persons with disability and old age by home visitation.

*Economic development for a sustainable economy*

28. Nauru is focusing on various development strategies specially to build a sustainable economy to reduce dependence on phosphate mining and regional processing center revenues. One of the important initiatives the Government has undertaken is signing a Treaty with Australia to especially manage Nauru's economic vulnerabilities through the introduction of targeted resilience arrangement. The Nauru-Australia Treaty specially focuses on Nauru's economic resilience programs.

29. New laws such as the Nauru Small Business Enterprises Act 2025 promotes economic diversification, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) growth, skills resources and market linkages, encouraging ethical practices and responsible business behaviour.

30. The Act empowers the Nauru Chamber of Commerce to represent private sector interests, assist with dispute resolution and coordinate support for MSMEs. Furthermore, Nauru has also encouraged foreign nationals operating businesses from the People's Republic of China. The Government has approved the formation of a body that consists of key Chinese business owners in Nauru.

31. Nauru's priority is to support strategic goals to achieve economic empowerment. More importantly, it is crucial for the Republic to align national economic plans with Nauru's *NSDS 2019–2030* to:

- (a) Diversify sources of revenue;
- (b) Rehabilitate mined lands;
- (c) Promote food security; and
- (d) Strengthen public-private partnerships.

### **Right to life, liberty and security of persons**

**Accepted recommendations: 99.73, 99.75, 99.76, 99.77, 99.78,**

**Noted recommendation: 99.74**

#### *Ending violence against women and children*

32. The *CPGS-SGBV 2024* was developed by DHMS to provide clear guidelines and procedures for addressing SGBV cases within the health and medical service system. The manual aims to strengthen the VSS as a key component of the WASDA process, in addressing EVAWC. It contains step by step procedural instructions for health practitioners on how to deal with SGBV survivors needing medical attention.

33. The DVU of the NPF established in 2007, has grown to five trained officers in 2024 with support from UNDP, AFP and FWCC. Additionally, the Eaoq'n Eratequo safehouse, created in 2008 for DV and SGBV survivors, has been upgraded for safety and capacity, sheltering around 30 individuals.

34. At the regional level, the Secretary for WASDA chairs the Pacific Community RWG which shares best practices, and facilitates the standardization of DVFPA implementation across the Pacific. Regional data sharing via RWG is a mechanism that is being formulated to track implementation and improve DVFPA responses.

35. To address the issue of data management, there are intentions to create a dedicated position for the collation of reliable statistics to support DVPFA tracking for a robust data management system.

36. WASDA and NPF along with other key agencies such as DHMS are working in collaboration to:

- (a) Ensure effective DVFPA enforcement;
- (b) Scale up counselling services;
- (c) Operationalize the monitoring role of the DVFPCC under the DVFPA;
- (d) Advance awareness initiatives; and
- (e) Support regional knowledge exchange.

37. Nauru's commitment for supporting regional knowledge exchange resulted in the hosting of a meeting of the Ministers for Women's Affairs in Micronesia in partnership with the Pacific Community. Nauru hosted the Second Micronesian Ministers for Women Conference from April 16-18, 2024, bringing together key decision makers to identify sub-regional priorities to prepare for the 15<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conference of Pacific Women, ensuring Micronesia's voice was heard. The *Añ Towepo Declaration* was endorsed by the participants

which included delegations from the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Kiribati, Palau, the Republic of Marshall Islands and Nauru.

*Nauru upholds the prohibition of the death penalty*

38. Nauru does not anticipate holding a referendum for the removal of the death penalty provision from the Constitution. The Government recognizes that constitutional amendments require financial and human resources. At this time, the focus remains on other aspects of law reform.

39. Furthermore, there are no current intentions to activate or apply the death penalty as a form of punishment within the judicial system. The provision remains dormant and has not been invoked.

40. In effect, the death penalty is not practiced or utilized in Nauru. Despite its constitutional existence, the death penalty is not employed as a form of punishment in practice. The Government of Nauru maintains a strong commitment to the protection of life and human rights, ensuring that the death penalty is not exercised within its legal framework.

**Administration of justice**

**Accepted recommendations: 99.79, 99.80, 99.83, 99.81, 99.82**

*Removal of judicial officers*

41. The State has a legitimate process with respect to the removal of judicial officers. The constitutional and statutory provisions that govern the dismissal or removal of judicial officers from their positions, align with principles of judicial independence, fairness, and the rule of law. The legislative framework relative to the removal procedures are outlined as follows:

(a) According to *Article 49*, a judge cannot be removed except by the President, acting on a resolution of Parliament, on grounds of proved incapacity or misconduct. The resolution must be supported by not less than two-thirds of the total number of members of Parliament. This applies to the Chief Justice and other Supreme Court judges where constitutionally, removal is only possible for serious cause, by supermajority. To date, Nauru has had no reason to invoke this provision;

(b) The District Courts are presided by magistrates who are appointed by the President pursuant to Section 4(3) of the *District Court Act 2018*. The tenure of a magistrate is also secured as their appointment only comes to an end by virtue of *Section 7* of the *District Court Act 2018* which provides that a Resident Magistrate continues to hold office until their resignation, retirement or removal from office. The appointment of a Magistrate who is appointed for a fixed term contract, lapses on the last day of the contract unless the appointment is earlier extended. However, the appointment of a magistrate may be terminated by the Chief Justice on the grounds of misconduct or inability to perform the functions of the office.

(c) Where a magistrate is to be terminated as a result of any misconduct, there has to be an independent inquiry conducted by a Judicial Complaints Tribunal that is appointed by the Chief Justice. The Tribunal is composed of a qualified lawyer with at least 10 years' experience, which is the minimum qualification requirement for a judge.

(d) The appointment and removal of Justices of Appeal follow the same rules as Supreme Court judges, relying on Article 49 of the Constitution. There are no separate removal mechanisms under the Court of Appeals Act. The current composition of the Court of Appeal Justices includes the Chief Justice of Solomon Islands, the Chief Justice of Vanuatu, the Chief Justice of Tuvalu, Judges from Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea, Australia and New Zealand.

### Specific groups of persons: migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and IDP's

**Accepted recommendations: 99.145, 99.146, 99.149, 99.147, 99.148, 99.150, 99.151, 99.153, 99.154, 99.155, 99.156**

**Noted recommendation: 99.152**

#### *Protection and support for refugees and asylum seekers*

42. Nauru reaffirms its commitment to ensuring that the country remains a safe and secure environment for refugees and asylum seekers although presently, there are none that stay in Nauru long-term.

43. Asylum seekers are guaranteed the right to appeal decisions concerning their status through the Refugee Appeals Tribunal, which operates as an independent mechanism to safeguard procedural fairness and due process. Furthermore, appeals from Refugees Tribunal lies to the Nauru Court of Appeal.

44. In relation to healthcare, International Health and Medical Services (IHMS) is mandated to ensure that refugees and asylum seekers receive adequate and appropriate health care while residing in Nauru. This parallel health care system functions independently from the Nauruan health care system and is designed to reflect the Australian standard of care. Nauruan nationals who wish to access comparable services are required to apply for Overseas Medical Referrals where they may be transported to Australia. IHMS is also responsible for delivering mental health services to refugees and asylum seekers, including specialised psychological support and counselling to address trauma-related needs. Currently, the Government has engaged a private entity to manage the health and medical services for Nauru, to bring efficiency and quality in the service, as discussed above.

45. In accordance with its obligations, Nauru, through DMA, provides a range of support measures to facilitate the integration and welfare of refugees residing in the community. These include:

- (a) Assistance in securing employment opportunities;
- (b) The provision of housing;
- (c) Support for the establishment of small businesses;
- (d) Access to free health care services;
- (e) Free education for children; and
- (f) Access to voluntary return and reintegration support.

46. With respect to the administration of justice, any criminal cases involving refugees or asylum seekers are investigated and processed in the same manner as those involving Nauruan nationals, in accordance with domestic law and under the jurisdiction of the NPF.

#### *Legal framework governing refugees and asylum seekers*

47. Nauru underscores its commitment to upholding international standards relating to the protection of refugees and asylum seekers. In this regard, the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees has been fully domesticated through the adoption of legislation that incorporates the Convention in its entirety into Nauruan law.

48. In addition, the *Asylum Seekers (Regional Processing Centre) Act* and related legislative instruments complement the *Refugees Convention Act* by establishing a comprehensive legal framework to protect, promote and fulfil the human rights of asylum seekers and refugees during all stages of processing. These measures collectively ensure that procedural safeguards, access to essential services, Government funded legal services and fundamental rights are upheld in accordance with international obligations.

#### *Nationality and protection against statelessness*

49. Due to resource constraints and the need to meet the high constitutional threshold required for amendments, Nauru is not in a position to hold a referendum solely to insert a

specific provision aimed at ending statelessness. As a small island developing State, Nauru must prioritise the allocation of limited resources to address matters that have an immediate and severe impact on the well-being of its population.

50. Nonetheless, Nauru agreed to the relevant recommendation, given that the national refugee status determination and processing system is designed to prohibit the mistreatment of refugees and asylum seekers and to uphold their fundamental rights throughout all stages of assessment.

51. With respect to the determination of the nationality status of minors, procedures are in place to ensure that no child remains stateless. It is further noted that the deprivation or stripping of nationality has never occurred in Nauru. In this context, Nauru reiterates that the laws and jurisprudence of other countries cannot override or control Nauruan domestic law. Decisions relating to nationality and citizenship remain subject exclusively to Nauru's constitutional and legal framework, which provides safety measures against arbitrary deprivation of citizenship and ensures compliance with international obligations to the extent compatible with domestic law.

## **B. Partially implemented recommendations**

### **National human rights mechanisms framework**

**Accepted recommendations: 99.39, 99.40, 99.41, 99.42, 99.43, 99.44, 99.45, 99.47, 99.46, 99.48, 99.49, 99.50, 99.51, 99.52, 99.53**

#### *Efforts to Establish a National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)*

52. The establishment of an NHRI for the State has been a work in progress since 2017. The aim is to establish a human rights redress mechanism that works for Nauru. Accreditation for Paris Principle compliance is crucial but if it is not attained at this time, Nauru will strive to meet vital criteria in due course. The Government of Nauru needs to be certain that there is sufficient capacity and resources to sustain and maintain the existence of an NHRI. It acknowledges the assistance and support of the Asia Pacific Forum and HRSD–SPC during the pre-Bill stage.

53. The Cabinet has endorsed the *Human Rights Commission Bill 2025*. The Bill has undergone several amendments to incorporate relevant advice and instructions from the Cabinet as well as key stakeholders to ensure that it can be effectively implemented in accordance with Nauru's community standards. These amendments reflect careful consideration of expert recommendations and best practices that will work for the context of Nauru which include exclusion clauses for certain matters.

### **NMIRF**

#### **Climate change, pandemic and human rights**

**Accepted recommendations: 99.62, 99.63, 99.64, 99.65, 99.68, 99.70, 99.71, 99.72, 99.93**

#### *Implementation of the RONAdapt*

54. Nauru's RONAdapt, adopted in 2015 is now updated as the NAP. The NAP is aligned with the NSDS 2019-2030 integrating climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction across all sectors with support from partners such as SPC, GIZ, GCF and SPREP. Implementation has included community consultations and capacity building.

55. It is to be noted that the *Building Control Act 2025* mandates environmental impact assessments to be conducted for certain classes of buildings and developments. Together with the *Nauru Meteorology Services Act 2024*, which strengthens climate monitoring and disaster preparedness, these measures reflect Nauru's commitment to resilience and sustainable development.

## Fundamental freedoms and right to participate

**Accepted recommendations: 99.86, 99.87, 99.91, 99.90, 99.94, 99.97**

**Noted recommendations: 99.96, 99.84, 99.88, 99.95, 99.85, 99.98, 99.89, 99.92, 99.99**

*Reform of immigration regulations for entry to Nauru especially for journalists, human rights defenders and NGO's*

56. There are no sanctions against the entry of foreign journalists, human rights defenders and NGO's from entering Nauru, subject to adherence of immigration laws and fees. Criteria for visas and fees will remain as they are not intended to prevent or discriminate the entry of persons to Nauru. The fees are based on the purpose and nature of entry into the country. If it is for a commercial gain, appropriate visa fees may be higher. Also, there is no restriction on video conferencing for media outlets through electronic or digital platforms which includes social media platforms.

57. The existing legislative and policy framework ensure that the immigration system remains responsive to emerging challenges, aligned with international standards, and conducive to the protection of national security, social cohesion, and public welfare.

*Efforts on Developing Mechanisms for Access to Information*

58. Access to information (ATI) in Nauru is a developing area and does not yet have a dedicated legislation. The ATI law is currently being drafted. In 2023, Nauru re-opened discussions regarding the establishment of a comprehensive ATI law as part of its commitment to strengthening transparency and accountability. The Government is in the process of preparing the first draft of the Access to Information Bill.

59. Although Nauru does not yet have a standalone ATI Act, some laws regulate access to information in certain sectors as follows:

(a) Under the *Environmental Management and Climate Change Act 2020*, Environmental Impact Assessments require public consultation and publication of certain documents, allowing public review and input;

(b) *The Corporations Act 1972* (as amended) provides rights to access company registers and filings, especially for shareholders;

(c) *Public Finance (Control and Audit) Act* provides for reporting obligations to Parliament;

(d) *Official Information Act 1976* also provides for the preservation and dissemination of official Government information; and

(e) The Government Information Office is also a source of information for all Government programs, agendas and activities; and

(f) Recently the Government has relied largely on social media platforms for the purposes of disseminating information. This includes Facebook and recently, Tiktok. All of these are proving to be very important media for dissemination of Government information which is available globally without restriction.

60. Restrictions exist in laws concerning national security and official secrecy, to control and manage disclosure of classified government information.

61. In line with its UNCAC commitments, Nauru aims to strengthen transparency, accountability, and access to information through robust ATI laws. Government departments are developing websites to share public service and financial information, with plans to link them to the national government website for improved public disclosure.

*Introduction of GOVSTACK to Nauru to facilitate digital transformation*

62. The introduction of GOVSTACK to the public service system marks a major step in advancing digital governance and access to information services in Nauru. GOVSTACK, a global initiative supported by ITU, GIZ, Estonia and others, provides standardised interoperable 'building blocks' that accelerate digital government transformation.

63. For Nauru, GOVSTACK promises several benefits: more efficient service delivery by digitizing administrative processes; enhance interoperability between government systems; and improved transparency through secure online portals supporting the forthcoming Access to Information law. It will also reduce costs by reusing proven digital tools, strengthen accountability with audit trails, and build public sector digital skills.

64. This aligns with government investment in connectivity, including a local Starlink system and the upcoming submarine cable, which will deliver faster, more affordable internet. Together, these developments foster an e-culture in Nauru ensuring citizens are ready to embrace electronic governance and services. Importantly, Nauruans are already adapting to digital platforms with widespread use of online banking, shopping and local e-services such as Frigate cargo services.

### **Prohibition of all forms of slavery**

#### **Accepted recommendations: 99.100, 99.101, 99.101**

#### *Nauru's Participation in the observer program in monitoring modern forms of slavery in the seafood and fisheries sector*

65. Nauru fully accepted the recommendation to protect persons from slavery, including maritime workers, reaffirming its commitment through participation in the Observer Program. Nauruan fisheries observers play a vital role in promoting transparency, accountability, and sustainability in regional tuna fisheries, supporting the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission conservation measures and the Parties to the Nauru Agreement 100% observer coverage on purse seine vessels.

66. As part of the Observers Program, Nauru contributes to strengthening compliance monitoring by ensuring that fishing vessels operating in Nauru's waters adhere to licensing conditions, area and season closures, bycatch mitigation measures, and accurate reporting of catch. In doing so, they have enhanced the overall credibility and enforcement of regional fisheries regulations.

67. Furthermore, Nauruan observers promote accountability and deter illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing through their independent and impartial reporting. Their presence also provides a form of oversight that contributes, albeit indirectly, to the monitoring of basic working conditions, safety, and human rights protections of crew members on board vessels. The Parliament has enacted the *Fisheries Management Act 2024* which specifically addresses the issue of IUU as a statutory measure.

68. The Government of Nauru recognises that the issue of slavery requires solidarity and concerted action among Pacific Island countries to ensure that maritime policies are effectively enforced for the robust protection of workers in the seafood and fisheries industry.

69. Nauru understands that its implementation may require substantial engagement of relevant experts from regional and international organisations and agencies, in order to access the necessary technical assistance and support.

#### *National action plan for the costed implementation of eliminating modern slavery and human trafficking in Nauru (2025–2030)*

70. Nauru remains committed to upholding the fundamental rights and freedoms of all individuals, including the protection of workers and vulnerable persons from modern slavery and human trafficking. The National Security Strategy has been drafted that may facilitate a comprehensive and costed approach for the period 2025–2030 to eliminate all forms of modern slavery and trafficking in persons, in line with international standards and national priorities under the NSDS and human rights obligations.

## Family and adequate standard of living

**Accepted recommendations: 99.102, 99.103, 99.104, 99.105, 99.106, 99.107**

### *Social welfare benefits and community services*

71. The State is constantly reviewing and assessing key policies for social welfare and community support to ensure relevance and effectiveness in addressing the needs of vulnerable groups out of a population of 12,023 people. These policies are as follows:

(a) For early childhood and family support there is:

(i) A birth benefit of AUD300 for employed mothers and AUD600 for the unemployed which is a one-off cash payment that is aimed at assisting with the costs of childbirth;

(ii) A budget of AUD2 million plus for the School Feeding Program (SFP) which serves students attending infant, primary and secondary school. It is aimed at improving school attendance, school retention rate and child health;

(iii) A Back-to-School payment which is a conditional cash support for families, requiring an 80% attendance of a student for continued termly assistance of AUD50 per child, enrolled at any level of schooling; and

(iv) An Education Assistance Trust Scheme (NEATS) which has paid between 150 to 250 numbers of students who have graduated at Year 12 since 2021 to 2025. The amount that has been paid out is based on the number of students who reach year 9 whereby AUD5 is paid into a trust per attended school day. This is paid out to a student upon graduation;

(b) Since 2005, elderly support in the form of an allowance is received by individuals aged 60 years plus. This has increased from AUD150 to AUD300 in the last decade. In addition, they have a free health consultation and visitations at their homes. The elderly also get a free bus service and 75% reduction in air travel through Nauru Airlines;

(c) The Death Claim Benefit is a one-off cash payment to families upon the death of a family member. This has increased from AUD1000 in 1990s. Currently it is AUD2000 in payment immediately upon notification of death;

(d) A disability allowance of AUD300 is received as universal support for a person living with a severe disability or disabilities that prevent that person from finding employment. 84.6% of persons with disabilities receive the benefit. The remaining have minor disabilities as such, they are in gainful employment;

(e) There is free universal healthcare for all Nauruan citizens giving access to basic medical, surgical, dental, pharmacy and laboratory services via the Republic of Nauru Hospital. There is also free baby clinical care, NCD and STI treatment and wellness home visits for the elderly and severely disabled and sexual reproductive health care via the Public Health Care services. Nauru is one of the few countries in the Region which provides a fully paid overseas medical referral for its citizens which includes medical cost, accommodation, food, cash subsistence allowance and a person supporting the person receiving treatment;

(f) To secure a comfortable retirement the Nauru Superannuation Scheme provides a defined-contribution fund for employees where the employers and employees each contribute 5% which is managed by Super Life, a New Zealand based financial services provider; and

(g) As part of youth support, secondary and tertiary scholarships are available for eligible students to study in Australia, Fiji, Vanuatu and China depending on the elected program.

### *Food security for climate resilience*

72. The Department of Environmental Management and Agriculture (DEMA) is designated as the lead agency for food security in relation to local food production and agriculture following its policy reform to better reflect its core mandate. As a result, a

comprehensive review of food security policies has been undertaken throughout the last 5 years to enhance the accessibility and sustainability of food resources for the population. Nauru has taken several significant steps to bolster food security, particularly by enhancing local food production and strengthening climate resilience:

(a) Nauru's National Climate Smart Agriculture Plan aims to boost resilient food production through diversified crops, integrated pest management, backyard gardening, livestock development, and water and soil conservation efforts. There is a program to restart plantation of breadfruit trees and coconut palms;

(b) Since 2019, the FAO-backed DEMA initiatives has supported about 150 households with agroforestry techniques and nutrition-focused home gardens to improve diets and incomes;

(c) The Organic Learning Farm Centre was launched in 2023–24 under the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network, focusing on agroecological techniques tailored to Nauru;

(d) Community training programs coordinated by DEMA and the Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation (NRC) were conducted to teach mulching, composting, intercropping, and indigenous farming methods, with digital tools to monitor agroecological performance;

(e) A USD8 million Adaptation Fund project commenced in 2024 to target coastal fisheries and aquaculture boosting food security, nutrition, and ecosystem resilience. This included support for plans in traditional milkfish aquaculture to revive traditional practices of pisciculture;

(f) DEMA operates community-based projects to preserve and replant breadfruit and other local staple trees aimed at restoring resilience amid droughts. It has also secured funding from GEF and UNDP of USD5 million + USD1.5 million for food security programs, including climate-smart agriculture and groundwater protection.

#### *Sustainable access to safe water and sanitation*

73. Nauru reviewed the policies related to access to safe water and sanitation to ensure that adequate measures are in place for the sustainable provision of clean water. Nauru has no reticulated water system and residents rely on rainwater or desalinated deliveries.

74. The Department of Climate Change and National Resilience is implementing the Nauru Sustainable and Resilient Urban Development Project, with financial support comprising an estimated USD37.5 million grant from the ADB and complementary national contributions. The primary objective of the project is to significantly enhance equitable and sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation services across high-density urban areas.

75. The initiative is projected to provide piped water supply to approximately 1,200 to 1,215 households and businesses, predominantly located in the districts extending from Yaren to Baitsi. This coverage is anticipated to benefit approximately 55% of the national population, thereby addressing critical gaps in water accessibility and quality.

76. The water supply will be derived from the Aiwo desalination plant. To ensure continuity and reliability of service, the infrastructure will include the construction of two new reservoirs and a dedicated pump station designed to maintain consistent pressure and delivery throughout the distribution network.

77. The system will utilize a traditional pump-and-gravity-fed ring main encircling the island, thereby enabling efficient distribution and integration with future infrastructure investments.

## Right to health and education

**Accepted recommendations: 99.109, 99.110, 99.113, 99.114**

**Noted recommendations: 99.108, 99.111, 99.112, 99.115, 99.116, 99.117**

### *Implementation of measures to protect the rights and dignities of older persons relative to COVID-19*

78. At the height of the global pandemic, the Government of Nauru established a COVID-19 Taskforce under national emergency laws to coordinate policy, operations, and enforcement. Strict border controls and a capture-and-contain strategy kept the virus out for nearly a year, making Nauru one of the last Pacific nations to record cases. Although eventual transmission was unavoidable, the country's preparedness for the broader health, economic, and social impacts remains under review.

79. The COVID-19 pandemic no doubt has forced the Government to be prepared for future pandemics. With Nauru's isolation and fragile population, any pandemic is a national security issue. The Government treats it as such. For the purposes of a health risk, the Government now has already made statutory provisions to respond to this under the *Health and Medical Services Act 2025*. The *Pharmacy Act 2025* will no doubt give Nauruans more options to purchase medication through alternative sources to that provided in the hospital. There is also a draft *Public Health Bill 2025* which will specifically focus on any public health care issues arising in or developing overseas which is likely to affect Nauru.

### *Mental health framework and services in Nauru*

80. Mental health remains an area of considerable concern in Nauru, primarily due to the absence of a centralised and comprehensive framework encompassing policy development, legislative reform, infrastructure, and the provision of specialised expertise. The existing capacity and capability gaps across these dimensions are significant, limiting the effectiveness and sustainability of mental health services. Addressing these gaps is essential to uphold the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health for all persons residing in Nauru, including vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, women and children.

81. Amendments have been enacted to the Mental Health Act, incorporating the use of non-derogatory language and revising provisions related to the treatment and management of persons living with mental health conditions, in alignment with human rights principles. DHMS has developed a Mental Health Strategy to guide implementation of coordinated action plans aimed at strengthening the mental health system and improving the accessibility and quality of care. Mental health patients are also protected under the *Inclusion of Disabilities Act 2023*.

### *Promoting healthier lifestyles in Nauru*

82. Nauru has made measurable progress in addressing non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and obesity. This progress is attributed, in part, to increasing public awareness, lifestyle changes, and greater access to healthier food options.

83. As the country continues to attain economic stability and although there have been improved income levels for many employees, Nauruans still strive to afford healthier imported food products, including fruits and vegetables. Nauru remains heavily reliant on imported foodstuffs of which the affordability is high and remains a key concern for many families.

84. The long-standing reliance on store-bought food, coupled with climatic challenges such as prolonged drought and declining soil fertility, complicates the practice of domestic food production. Revitalising community-level agriculture, especially household gardens and small livestock farms, will require sustained efforts in education, training, and support.

85. In recent years, physical activity and exercise have increasingly become a part of Nauruan family and community life. A growing number of community-based house gyms have been established, indicating strong grassroots interest in promoting health through

regular exercise. One of the most obvious organisations which was formed following the COVID-19 pandemic is the Nauru Cycling Club. As a result of this club's promotion of cycling activities, cycling has become a very common mode of physical exercise.

86. The Government of Nauru, through a multi-sectoral approach, has implemented the following strategies to promote healthy eating and active living:

(a) Promote public education and community engagement on nutritious food choices and active lifestyles as the DPH continues to coordinate public awareness and behaviour change campaigns focused on the importance of healthy food and active living;

(b) DEMA, in collaboration with Department of Education (DOE), has implemented kitchen garden pilot programs at Nauru College and in selected primary schools to foster knowledge and participation in home gardening;

(c) A comprehensive stocktake of kitchen gardens and small livestock operations is currently being planned;

(d) Review and regulate customs tariffs to encourage the importation and affordability of healthy food products which has resulted in an increasing number of retail stores that are importing and stocking fruits and vegetables, reflecting rising public demand for healthier foods. The Government itself has facilitated this effort by dedicating a freighter from Brisbane to Nauru weekly;

(e) Promote and support a local foods program to increase the availability and accessibility of fresh, locally sourced produce; and

(f) The Government has also provided funding or boats for some Nauruans so that they are able to catch and supply fresh fish for the community.

87. The State recognises that addressing food security and public health challenges requires long-term investment in education, agriculture, infrastructure, and behaviour change. Continued inter-agency coordination and support from development partners will be key to fostering healthier diets and lifestyles across the country.

#### *Access to education and gender equality in Nauru*

88. The Government of Nauru upholds every child's right to education under the Education Act 2011, requiring school attendance for all under 18 without discrimination. Recent amendments in the *Education (Amendment) Act 2025* and *Education (Fixed Penalty) Regulations 2025* introduced on-the-spot fines for parents who fail to send children to school. In practice, boys and girls have equal access and opportunities in education, with most graduates being female, reflecting Nauru's commitment to non-discrimination under the CRC and CEDAW.

#### **Specific groups of persons: women**

**Accepted recommendations: 99.118, 99.119, 99.120, 99.121, 99.122, 99.123, 99.124, 99.125, 99.129, 99.130, 99.133, 99.134, 99.126, 99.128, 99.127, 99.131**

#### *Promotion and protection of women's rights and wellbeing in Nauru, including access to mental health services*

89. The Government of Nauru continues to advance the rights and wellbeing of women in line with its commitments under CEDAW and the NSDS.

90. Access to healthcare for women, including mental health services, is supported through the DHMS. Targeted outreach programs and counselling services have been expanded, with specific attention to addressing the mental health needs of women who may be exposed to gender-based violence, family stress, or socioeconomic vulnerability.

91. The Government continues to work in partnership with local community leaders, faith-based organisations, and regional partners to raise awareness on women's rights and mental wellbeing. These efforts include prevention campaigns, training for service providers,

and support for women's networks and safe spaces. Nauru recognises that the promotion and protection of women's rights is essential to achieving inclusive development.

*Measures to combat gender-based violence against women, including domestic violence, and to ensure access to justice in Nauru*

92. The *DVFPA* provides comprehensive measures to prevent domestic violence, protect victims, and hold perpetrators accountable. It defines domestic violence broadly to include physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, and economic abuse, and establishes clear procedures for obtaining protection orders and related remedies.

93. The Government, through WASDA, continues to implement policies and programmes to prevent violence against women and to support survivors. Key measures include:

(a) Establishment of designated *DV Unit Officers* within the Nauru Police Force, trained to respond sensitively and effectively to cases of domestic violence;

(b) Ongoing capacity-building for law enforcement personnel, judicial officers, and frontline service providers to improve victim-centred approaches and ensure effective enforcement of legal protections; and

(c) Public awareness campaigns and community outreach to challenge harmful gender stereotypes and promote zero tolerance for violence.

94. Nauru provides a range of support services to survivors of gender-based violence, including:

(a) Free legal advice and assistance in obtaining protection orders;

(b) Access to emergency accommodation and safe spaces for women and their children at risk;

(c) Psychosocial counselling and referrals through the DHMS; and

(d) Coordination with NGOs and faith-based organisations to provide material and social support.

95. To ensure survivors can exercise their right to justice and remedies, Nauru has simplified procedures for applying for protection orders, including interim orders available on an urgent basis. It has also established mechanisms for the enforcement of orders and sanctions against breaches and provision have been made for child protection and confidentiality of victim information during proceedings.

*Statistics on women participation in the public and private sector and in education*

96. As of the latest available data, specific statistics on the number of women employed in Nauru's public service is 700 plus out of 1430 public servants. This indicates that women hold a significant presence as employees in the public sector, including senior government positions.

97. Gender disparity affecting girls in schools is not a major concern in Nauru. It may be that there are less males participating in all levels of education. There are:

(a) 69.1% out of the total number of enrolled students who have graduated from school since 2021 to 2025 are girls; and

(b) approximately 60% of graduates from USP are women and girls.

98. The State has collaborated with the Pacific Private Sector Development Initiative to remove constraints to women's full economic participation and promote women's business leadership. 278 businesses are owned by women.

99. Nauru is stabilizing access to adequate commercial banking services on island by installing prominent banks like the Commonwealth Bank that is replacing the Bendigo Bank Agency which served Nauru for more than half a decade. Physically available banking services can certainly facilitate initiatives aimed at improving women's participation in Nauru's private sector.

*Entitlements of public service employees for women in Nauru including maternity leave*

100. Under the Public Service Act 2016, women in the Nauru Public Service receive full employment protections, including 84 days of paid maternity leave, two weeks of paternity leave, and access to annual and sick leave. The Act ensures equal pay, prohibits sex-based discrimination in employment, and reflects Nauru's commitment to fair and supportive workplace practices for women in government.

*Addressing workplace harassment, including sexual harassment*

101. The Nauruan government has implemented a *Public Service Sexual Harassment Policy*, reviewed in 2021, which obligates public sector employers to take appropriate steps to prevent and respond to sexual harassment in the workplace, ensuring the protection of all employees from such acts.

102. While there is no specific legislation criminalizing sexual harassment in the private sector, the PSA prohibit discrimination, bullying, and harassment, including sexual harassment. Employers found violating these provisions can face criminal charges.

103. The Human Resources and Corporate Services under the Office of the Chief Secretary holds the authority to inspect workplaces without prior notice and can prosecute employers for violations of the Public Service Act or employment contracts. However, the absence of a formal complaint mechanism for sexual harassment cases in the private sector may limit the avenues available for victims to seek redress.

**Specific groups of persons: children**

**Accepted recommendations: 99.135, 99.136, 99.137, 99.138, 99.139, 99.140**

*Review of policies on corporal punishment in all settings*

104. Nauru comprehensively reviewed the use of corporal punishment to ensure that national practices and policies align with international human rights standards as compared to the accepted forms of discipline in Nauru. This review assessed the disciplinary system of children in schools, where corporal punishment was strictly prohibited and at the home front, where corporal punishment is, to an extent, very much practiced within the limits of law.

105. The amendments to the *Education Act 2011* passed by Parliament in July 2025 has now allowed the use of reasonable force as a form of discipline at schools.

106. In Nauruan communities, family is the main unit of socialisation, where parents may use reasonable force for discipline. To maintain consistency, schools are allowed regulated corporal punishment, reinforcing community standards and classroom order. Its reintroduction became necessary to curb student misconduct, protect teachers, and ensure a safe, focused learning environment for all students.

*Enhancing children's access to education and addressing school drop outs and absenteeism*

107. The DOE and ICT have been working together to ensure internet connectivity in all education buildings, facilitating access to digital learning resources.

108. The DOE has implemented the following to sufficiently address school drop outs and absenteeism:

(a) *Education Act 2011* mandates compulsory school attendance and provides for the appointment of school inspectors, who can enter schools at any time to inspect records of enrolment and attendance;

(b) To combat high truancy rates, the government introduced NEATS, which provides financial incentives to encourage school attendance among students;

(c) There is an emphasis on strengthening educational data management through the EMIS to inform decision-making and policy development aimed at reducing dropout rates and absenteeism.

## Specific groups of persons: disabilities

### Accepted recommendations: 99.141, 99.142, 99.143, 99.144

#### *Law reform Relating to the inclusion of persons with disabilities*

109. The State acknowledges that it requires significant technical assistance and expertise, as well as financial resources, to effectively facilitate the functions of DPWLD. The Department is actively engaged in building its support network with a view to identifying appropriate regional and international organisations and agencies that are able to provide the necessary assistance to Nauru in this regard.

110. In this context, Nauru enacted the *Inclusion of Persons with Disability Act 2023*, establishing the legal framework for the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities. Pursuant to the Act, the statutory Council was established in 2024 with the mandate to oversee and coordinate the implementation of the legislation. At present, the Council is in the process of formulating the costed implementation plan to ensure the effective realisation of the rights enshrined in the Act.

#### *Nauru's engagement with bilateral and international partners on disability rights implementation*

111. Nauru has recognised the importance of technical cooperation and capacity-building partnerships to facilitate the effective implementation of its obligations under the CRPD. Accordingly, the Government has been working to strengthen collaboration with a range of bilateral and multilateral partners, including the UN system, regional organisations, and development agencies.

112. Nauru has engaged in dialogue with the UNDESA, particularly through the UN Programme on Disability, to explore technical support for policy development, capacity building, and data collection systems to monitor CRPD implementation.

113. Nauru cooperates closely with the PIFS and the Pacific Disability Forum, which have provided technical assistance in policy formulation and awareness-raising initiatives on disability inclusion.

114. Nauru has sought support from bilateral donors and development agencies, such as DFAT, in strengthening inclusive education services, improving accessibility standards, and enhancing social protection measures for persons with disabilities.

115. Nauru continues to prioritise strengthened partnerships with the UN and other development actors to ensure that commitments under the CRPD are translated into concrete measures and services that promote the dignity, rights, and full participation of persons with disabilities in Nauruan society.

## C. Pending recommendations

### Ratification of international human rights instruments

**Accepted recommendations: 99.1, 99.2, 99.3, 99.4, 99.5, 99.6, 99.8, 99.9, 99.10, 99.12, 99.14, 99.17, 99.19, 99.20, 99.22, 99.23, 99.24, 99.25, 99.26, 99.27, 99.28, 99.29, 99.30, 99.31, 99.32, 99.33, 99.34, 99.35, 99.36, 99.37**

**Noted recommendations: 99.15, 99.18**

#### *Key stakeholder consultations and cabinet submissions on ratification of international human rights instruments*

116. The Government of Nauru has undertaken a comprehensive assessment to determine the necessity and feasibility of ratifying the five remaining core human rights treaties to which Nauru is yet to be a party. As part of this process, consultations were conducted with key stakeholders upon receipt of the 4<sup>th</sup> Cycle UPR recommendations in 2021, to evaluate

the recommendations that require the ratification of the ICCPR, ICESCR, ICPPED, ICERD, ICRMW including various optional protocols.

117. Following the consultations, proposals for the ratification of all core human rights treaties and their associated optional protocols that were recommended through the 4<sup>th</sup> Cycle UPR, was submitted to the Cabinet for consideration and approval.

118. With regards to Cabinet submissions, priority was given to the treaties and optional protocols that Nauru had already signed but is yet to ratify, reflecting a commitment to advance human rights obligations. Notably, Nauru has signed the ICCPR, ICERD, OP-CRC-AC, OP-CRC-SC, the ICCPR-OP1 and OP-CAT. Cabinet resolutions are yet to be reached.

#### *Resource management of the ratification of international human rights instruments*

119. The Government of Nauru is in the process of estimating the financial costs associated with the implementation of ratified conventions, following their domestication. This includes an assessment of the resources required to ensure full compliance and the operationalization of the rights and protections outlined in the treaties.

120. It is important to highlight that the WGT serves as Nauru's NMIRF. The WGT is currently undergoing a restructure of its current composition, along with a revision of its TOR, to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of processes related to human rights reporting and implementation.

### **III. Status of implementation for voluntary pledges**

121. Nauru did not make any voluntary pledges at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle UPR.

### **IV. New and emerging issues, including advances and challenges**

#### **Economic diversification and investment**

122. Nauru has launched the HGI aiming to relocate a high percentage of the population to elevated areas to mitigate climate risks. This initiative includes developing sustainable agriculture, renewable energy and green housing.

123. Additionally, Nauru introduced the Economic and Climate Resilience Citizenship Program, offering investment opportunities to global citizens, with proceeds directed toward infrastructure, renewable energy and sustainable agriculture projects.

#### **Infrastructure development and energy transition**

124. Nauru is investing in infrastructure projects including a new port and refrigerated storage facilities, to enhance trade and economic activity. The State is also transitioning to renewable energy, with plans to generate 50% of electricity.

#### **Economic security**

125. Nauru faces a complex set of challenges related to human rights with economic security as the underlying factor. While the government is making efforts to diversify the economy, address climate change, and improve public services, the nation's small size and limited resources pose as seeming limitations. The most pressing issues include transitioning away from phosphate dependency and the existential threat posed by climate change. To address these challenges, Nauru relies heavily on international aid and partnerships, particularly with Australia, but the country faces significant hurdles in achieving long-term economic security improvements for its citizens and residents.

## **V. Challenges requiring support of the international community**

126. Nauru has initiated several efforts to address the environmental and human rights challenges stemming from its extensive phosphate mining. NRC, established in 1999, is at the forefront of these efforts, focusing on rehabilitating land degraded by mining activities.

127. Strategies include back filling mined out areas with crushed coral and secondary phosphate, applying top soil enriched with organic mulch, and reforestation with native species to restore biodiversity and stabilize the soil. Additionally, the Nauru Restoration Generation Initiative, supported by the Global Environment Facility and UNEP, emphasizes sustainable land management practices, aiming to rehabilitate degraded sites for agricultural production and establish protected areas for biodiversity conservation.

128. These efforts are part of a broader national strategy, RONAdapt which was previously mentioned in this Report. Despite these initiatives, challenges remain, including limited resources and the scale of rehabilitation required, underscoring the need for continued domestic and international support to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of these efforts.

---