



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND BORDER CONTROL



ANNUAL REPORT
2024 - 2025

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ACRONYMS

ADB – Asian Development Bank
AML – Anti-Money Laundering
AML-TFS – Anti-Money Laundering and Targeting Financial Sanctions Act 2023
APGML – Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering
CAT – Convention Against Torture
CFT – Counter-Financing of Terrorism
CIRT – Cyber Incident Response Team
CLE – Continuing Legal Education
DATEC – IT/Training Provider (Nauru)
DJBC – Department of Justice and Border Control
DPP – Director of Public Prosecutions
FMIS – Financial Management Information System
FUR – Follow Up Report
ICAO – International Civil Aviation Organization
ICBWG – ICAO Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group
IOM – International Organization for Migration
IP – Intellectual Property
IPMS – Intellectual Property Management System
JHOPS – Joint Heads of Pacific Security
MER – Mutual Evaluation Report
MoU – Memorandum of Understanding
NCS – Nauru Correctional Services
NFIU – Nauru Financial Intelligence Unit
NLC – Nauru Lands Committee
NSDS – National Sustainable Development Strategy
ODPP – Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
OSG – Office of the Solicitor General
PIDC – Pacific Immigration Development Community
PILON – Pacific Islands Law Officers’ Network
RONLAW – Republic of Nauru Laws Online
SAFE Project – Sanitation and Food Export Project
SOE – State-Owned Enterprise
SPC – Pacific Community (Secretariat of the Pacific Community)
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR – United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
USP – University of the South Pacific
WIPO – World Intellectual Property Organization

PREFACE

It is with great purpose and pride that we present the 2024–2025 Annual Report of the Department of Justice and Border Control (DJBC). This report reflects the dedication, professionalism, and tireless efforts of our staff across all 18 divisions as they carry out the Department’s mandate to serve the Government and people of the Republic of Nauru.

Over the past year, the DJBC has continued to safeguard the rule of law, uphold national security, and promote good governance through the provision of legal services, regulatory enforcement, legislative development, and operational excellence across its core functions. Whether through litigation, immigration services, financial intelligence, corrections, or public legal defense, each division has contributed meaningfully to strengthening justice and border control mechanisms in line with our national priorities.

This report provides a transparent and data driven account of our work highlighting achievements, confronting challenges, and mapping the way forward. Each section includes measurable outcomes, operational insights, and key performance indicators that demonstrate our alignment with the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) 2019–2030. From courtrooms to borders, registries to reform, the DJBC has remained focused on its commitment to legal integrity, security, and service.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Justice and Border Control expresses its sincere gratitude to all staff, stakeholders, and partners whose efforts have been instrumental in the successful implementation of departmental operations and services during the 2024–2025 financial year.

We respectfully acknowledge the leadership of the Honourable Minister for Justice and Border Control, Mr. Lionel Rouwen Aingimea, M.P., and the continued support of the Office of the President and the Government of the Republic of Nauru, whose commitment to justice and national security continues to guide our direction.

The Department further recognises the dedication and hard work of officers across all 18 divisions, whose professionalism and resilience have allowed the DJBC to meet its objectives and respond effectively to emerging challenges.

Finally, we commend the contributions of division heads, reporting officers, and administrative teams in compiling this report, whose collective efforts reflect our shared commitment to transparency, service delivery, and national development.



MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND BORDER CONTROL

Honourable Mr. Lionel Rouwen Aingimea, M.P.

It is my privilege to present the Department of Justice and Border Control Annual Report for the financial year 2024–2025. This report showcases the progress, resilience, and professionalism of the Department across its 18 divisions, which remain vital in upholding the rule of law, strengthening border integrity, and delivering essential justice services to the people of Nauru.

Over the past year, the Department has demonstrated notable achievements: updating legislation, strengthening financial intelligence frameworks, progressing towards e-passport readiness, expanding correctional rehabilitation programmes, and improving access to justice through public legal defence and prosecution services. In addition to this the Department was also assigned the responsibility new citizen program called the *Nauru Economic and Climate Resilience Citizenship*. These efforts reflect our commitment to the National Sustainable Development Strategy 2019–2030 and to ensuring that justice and border services remain transparent, effective, and responsive to community needs, advancement in technology and global developments.

The Department also faced challenges, particularly in staffing, technology, and infrastructure. However, through collaboration, capacity building, and strategic investment, these challenges have been met with determination and innovation. In order to meet the challenges faced, the Department invested in the construction of the new Department Building to accommodate more than 35 officers in it.

On behalf of the Government, I acknowledge the Secretary for Justice and Border Control, Mr. Jay Udit, senior management, and all departmental staff for their dedication and professionalism. I also extend my gratitude to our international and regional partners; whose collaboration has strengthened Nauru's justice sector and reinforced our collective commitment to the rule of law.

We remain steadfast in our mission to ensure a just, safe, and secure Republic of Nauru.



SECRETARY FOR JUSTICE AND BORDER CONTROL

Mr. Jay Udit

The 2024–2025 reporting year has been a period of progress, reform, and resilience for the Department of Justice and Border Control. This Annual Report records both achievements and challenges across our 18 divisions, highlighting the collective effort of our officers in delivering high-quality justice and border services to the Government and people of Nauru.

Key milestones this year was the approval and the commencement of the construction of the Department of Justice and Border Control double storey office building, the drafting and passage of important legislation, improvements in prosecution and defence case management, stronger financial intelligence oversight, and significant strides in immigration, quarantine, and passport services. Correctional Services advanced rehabilitation programmes, while new systems for business and intellectual property registration strengthened economic governance. Together, these outcomes reinforce Nauru’s stability and good governance.

The Department also invested heavily in capacity building, sending staff to regional and international trainings to strengthen legal, regulatory, and operational expertise. The construction of the new central office and the launch of the Department’s website further demonstrate our commitment to modernising service delivery and improving transparency.

Nonetheless, we recognise the continuing challenges of limited resources, staffing gaps, and the need for digital transformation. Addressing these will remain a priority as we move forward, with a strong focus on efficiency, innovation, and strengthening partnerships at both the national and international level.

I extend my sincere appreciation to all staff for their dedication, to the Honourable Minister for his leadership, and to the Government and partners for their continued support. With this collective effort, the Department is well positioned to deliver on its mandate and contribute meaningfully to a just, secure, and resilient Nauru.

Vision & Mission



VISION

We will apply our country's laws with fairness, justice and transparency. We will without fear or favour, provide accurate and timely legal advice, litigation and law and justice information to the Government and people of Nauru. We will also protect the Republic from illegal immigration, serious fraud and from pests and diseases.

MISSION

The Department of Justice and Border Control is committed to the highest standards of ethical behavior, excellence and professionalism in the delivery of legal services to its clients, users and counterparts. Underpinned by international laws and conventions and respect for the rule of law. Nauru's legal system and border security measures ensure a secure, stable and peaceful community.

INTRODUCTION

The 2024–2025 Annual Report of the Department of Justice and Border Control (DJBC) highlights the Department's continued commitment to strengthening the rule of law, protecting national security, and delivering effective justice and border services for the Republic of Nauru. Throughout the reporting period, the Department has made significant progress across its 18 divisions, aligning operational outputs with national priorities under the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) 2019–2030.

From legal reform and prosecution services to immigration control, quarantine enforcement, and public legal defense, DJBC has upheld its mandate to serve the Government and people of Nauru with professionalism, transparency, and integrity. This report provides a comprehensive account of achievements, challenges, financial execution, and future plans. It also features key performance indicators, statistical trends, and visual documentation of staff contributions and sectoral impact.

Through collaboration, innovation, and a steadfast commitment to justice and border governance, the Department continues to advance a secure, fair, and resilient nation.



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND BORDER CONTROL

SECTION
Reports



DJBC

Sections Overview

The Department of Justice and Border Control (DJBC) comprises 18 functional divisions, each contributing to the protection of Nauru's legal order, governance, and national security. Together, these sections deliver a wide range of services, including legal representation, legislative drafting, prosecution, border enforcement, regulatory licensing, corrections, and civil registry administration.

Each division operates under a defined legislative mandate, with workstreams aligned to the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) 2019–2030. Core focus areas include:

- **Legal and Judicial Services:**

Through the Offices of the Solicitor General, Public Legal Defender, and Director of Public Prosecutions, the Department provides legal advice to government, access to justice, and prosecution of criminal cases.

- **Law Reform and Regulatory Oversight:**

The Legislative Drafting Office, Business Registration and Licensing Division, Corporations and Trust Registration Division, Intellectual Property Division, and Financial Intelligence Unit promote legal modernization, commercial compliance, and protection of national and intellectual assets.

- **Civil Affairs and Border Integrity:**

The Citizenship and Adoption Division, Immigration, Passport, Quarantine, Dog Management, and the newly established Nauru Citizenship Secretariat Office (NCSO) safeguard national security, uphold public safety, and protect the legal status and rights of individuals in Nauru.

- **Corrections and Enforcement:**

The Correctional Services Division maintains secure and humane incarceration while promoting rehabilitation and reintegration.

- **Central Coordination:**

The Office of the Secretary provides overarching governance, budget management, and strategic direction across all operations.

Each section reports on its key activities, achievements, challenges, and forward strategies, supported by data-driven indicators and performance benchmarks. This integrated structure allows DJBC to remain responsive, accountable, and aligned with Nauru's national development goals.



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY FOR JUSTICE AND BORDER CONTROL

"Without administration, there is no control"

Section Summary

The Office of the Secretary for Justice and Border Control serves as the administrative and strategic hub of the Department. It coordinates departmental activities, endorses key decisions, manages internal communications, and oversees finance and human resources functions. The office ensures operational readiness through resource management, staffing support, and financial oversight, enabling the Department to meet its objectives efficiently.

Key Activities (2024-2025)

Policy Oversight and Coordination

Human Resource Management

Financial Administration

Leave and Welfare Support

Resource Allocation: Strategic Reporting

Budget Execution Summary (Reporting Period: July 2024 - April 2025)

During the reporting period, the Department of Justice and Border Control continued to implement its annual workplan within the approved budgetary framework under Head 43. The Department maintained prudent financial management while addressing operational priorities across all its divisions.

Internal shifts of funds were also made to support printing and stationery requirements, especially for passport production, which experienced higher-than-usual demand.

Budget Execution Summary

A supplementary budget was approved during the year to support critical operational areas, particularly within Border Control. This included additional funding for staff overtime, which was required to meet increased workload demands related to enforcement, surveillance, and port-of-entry duties.

Overall, budget execution remained aligned with programmatic priorities. The Department continued to monitor expenditures closely to ensure compliance with financial guidelines while maintaining service delivery across Justice, Legal, Border, and Compliance functions.

Secretariat Structure

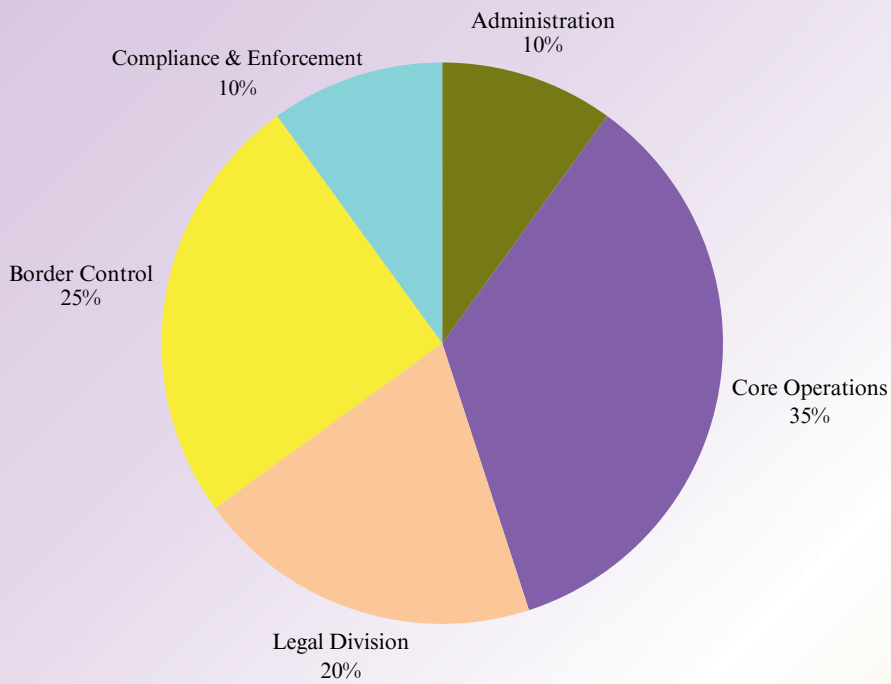


The secretariat currently consists of the Secretary,

- **Senior Personal Assistant to the Secretary**
- **Director Finance and Administration**
- **Assistant Director Finance and Administration**
- **Clerical Officer**

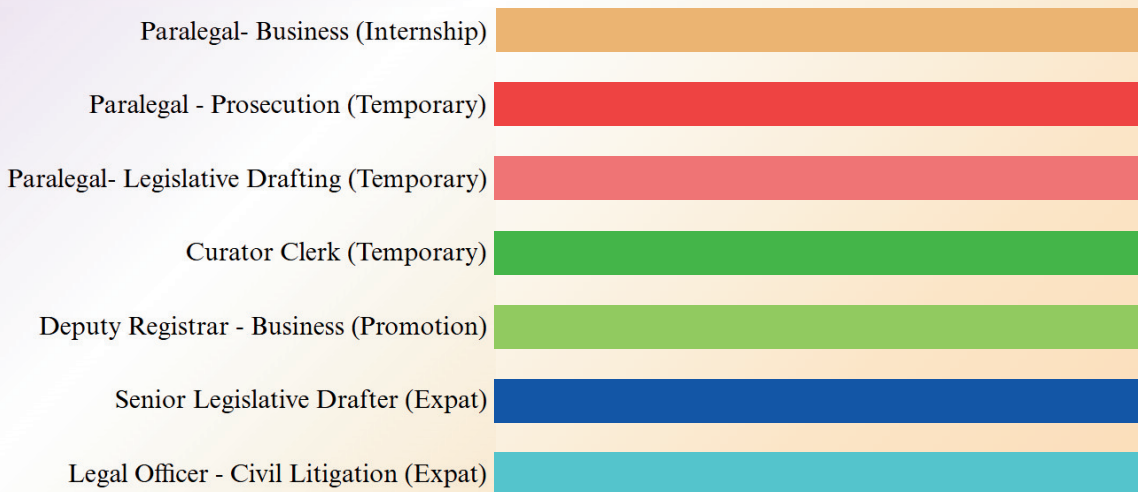
Official International Engagements (July 2024 - March 2025)

Staff from the Department of Justice and Border Control participated in various international workshops, meetings, and conferences across the Pacific and beyond, covering areas such as judicial cooperation, climate change, nuclear safeguards, financial intelligence, human rights, and regional security. Key locations included Fiji, Abu Dhabi, Ghana, Peru, Korea, Cambodia, PNG, and Australia. These engagements strengthened Nauru's legal capacity, policy alignment, and international partnerships.



This chart illustrates the distribution of expenditure across key divisions under the Department of Justice and Border Control. The largest portion of the budget was directed towards core operations and border control functions, reflecting the Department's dual focus on maintaining public safety and legal services. Strategic support was also allocated to compliance, enforcement, and administrative services to ensure continuity and operational effectiveness.

Key Positions Filled in 2024 - 2025



In 2024 - 2025, the Department filled seven key positions, including two expatriate legal experts and five local staff through promotions, temporary contracts, and internships. These appointments enhanced capacity across legal, legislative, and administrative functions.

Way Forward

The Office of the Secretary continues to play a central role in ensuring the smooth and effective operation of the Department. By driving policy implementation, supporting staff development, and maintaining financial oversight, the Office remains a vital enabler of the Department's strategic and operational goals.

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL

"The Republic is not immune from legal action"



Solicitor General- Bhavna Narayan

Section Summary

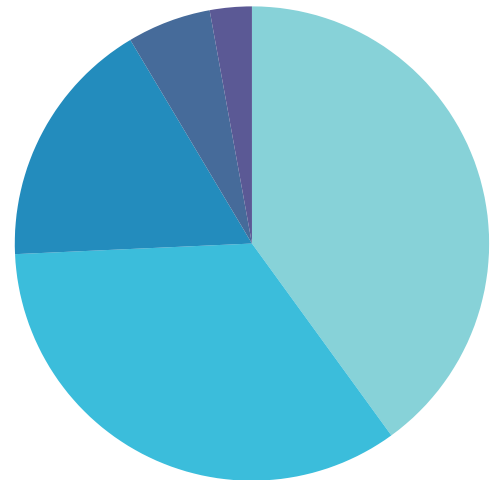
Our primary role is to serve the Government through the provision of advice and to represent the State in civil litigation. We advise on Nauru's legal system, including laws and regulations relating to constitutional matters in which the Government is either a party to or when is required to assist as an *amicus curae* or a 'friend of the court'.

We ensure that legislations meet the requirements of the Constitution and advise if laws are inconsistent with the Constitution; we support the independent Judiciary and support and advise other sub-divisions of the Department, including other Departments of the Government and its instrumentalities.

- CIVIL PROCEDURES ACT 1972
- CIVIL PROCEDURE RULES 1972
- REPUBLIC PROCEEDINGS ACT 1972
- NAURU LANDS COMMITTEE ACT 1956
- LANDS ACT 1976
- SUCCESSION AND PROBATE AND ADMINISTRATION ACT 1976
- LIMITATION ACT 2017
- SUPREME COURT ACT 2018

LITIGATION REGISTER

- Civil Suits
- Land Appeal
- Miscellaneous
- Civil Appeals
- Probate Action



The OSG is currently handling 14 Civil Suits, 12 Land Appeals, 6 Miscellaneous Appeals and 2 Court of Appeal.

NSDS Organizational Reference



Attend to civil litigation cases and to the influx of new cases

Training with Nauru Lands Committee (NLC) on the core functions and role of NLC under the Nauru Lands Committee Act 1956

Provision of timely advices to the Government and to the State-Owned Enterprises (SOE's)

Provide legal support to other Divisions of JBC.

Photos



Mr. Dageago appearing for the Plaintiff



Patricia participated in the civil litigation training in NZ



At JBC, you are the prettiest when you work hard



Left to Right - Solicitor General and Ms Kamtaura discussing on the influx of new cases

Case Highlights

Oppenheimer (trading as Capelle & Partner and Pacific Occidental) v Tom [2024] NRCA 10; Civil Appeal 3 of 2019 (8 August 2024)

OSG acted as the *amicus curae*.

This appeal turns on the threshold question of whether a lease agreement for a parcel of land in Nauru between two Nauruans is subject to:

- (a) consent in writing of the President of the Republic; and
- (b) consent of 75% of landowners of the land subject of lease.

Outcome:

1. Held that the lease agreement was subject to consent in writing of the President under **Section 3(3) of the Lands Act 1976**, and it is null and void because it did not meet this statutory requirement.
2. In the case of obtaining consent of **75% of owners of the land in dispute** under Section 6 of the Lands Act 1976, found that it is **not necessary, and the Supreme Court erred in holding a contrary view**.

Temaki v Estate of Simon Aku [2024] NRSC 37; Land Appeal Case 3 of 2020

This was a land appeal against NLC's decision in Gazette No. 162 dated 18th August 2020, OSG represented and acted for NLC.

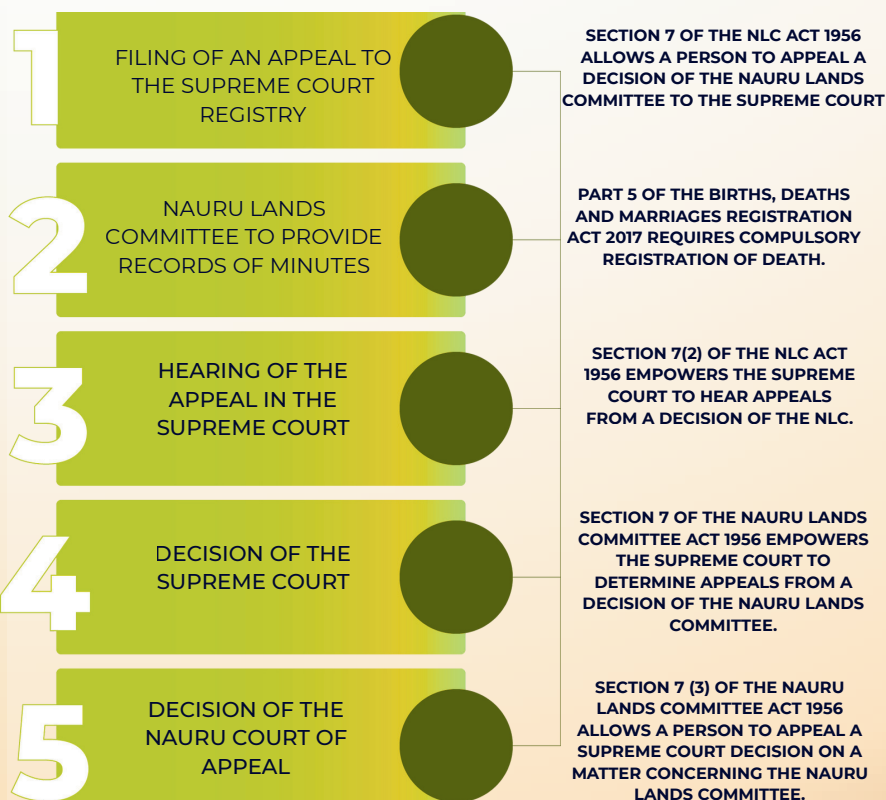
The grounds of Appeal were:

- That the estate of Simon Aku was derived from the late Kamtsi Ketner's estate decided at the family meeting between Mella (Appellant) Simon, Tererog and the Committee.
- The decision of the family was published in Gazette No. 76 of 15 December 1999, GN 326/1999; and
- The NLC made a gross error of distributing the estate of Simon Aku to Adam Aku on the basis he is an adopted son of the deceased Simon Aku.

Orders:

After the 3 day long hearing, the appeal was dismissed and the Court held that the decision of the Nauru Lands Committee regarding the estate of Simon Aku published in Gazette No. 162 of 18th August 2020 in Gazette Number 162/2020; per GNN 612/2020 is correct in law and it stands.

Appeal Process



Challenges and Way Forward

Due to the influx of new cases and the intense work load, there is a need for additional legal officers. OSG is in the process of recruiting a Principal Legal Officer to assist the Office.

OSG needs to establish a readily accessible database for all legal opinions and legal advice – the database is to be accessible to all Government Departments to use as reference in searching for precedents before requesting for advice with JBC.

Staffing

Solicitor General - Bhavna Narayan
Senior Legal Officer - Surely Kamtaura
Senior Legal Officer - Patricia Grundler
Pleader - Dane Dageago
Pleader - Jeruska Togoran (Study Leave)
Pleader - Taesha Aliklik (Study Leave)

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE DRAFTERS

"Clear and concise translation of policies into laws"



Director - Noumea Loretta Afamasaga-Teueli

Section Summary

The Office of the Legislative Drafter plays a central role in upholding the rule of law and ensuring good governance in the Republic of Nauru. It is responsible for drafting legislation, supporting legal reforms, maintaining public access to laws, and assisting government agencies in the development of legislative proposals. Through its work, the Office contributes directly to the strengthening of Parliament, justice, and law enforcement structures, aligned with NSDS Priority Area Cross-Goal 2.

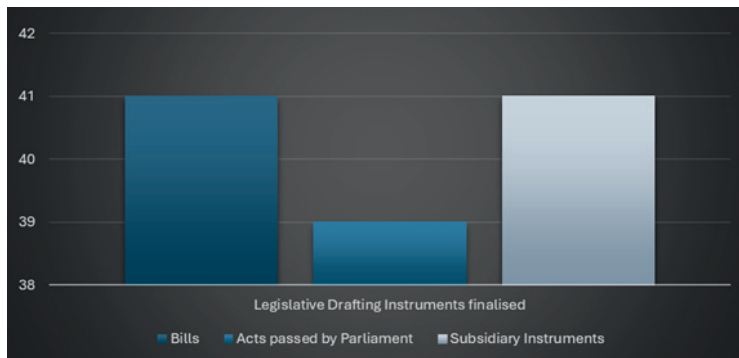
Key Responsibilities

The Office's core functions include:

- Drafting Bills and subsidiary legislation.
- Conducting legal reform consultations.
- Updating and maintaining the Republic of Nauru Laws Online (RONLAW).
- Assisting ministries and government agencies with formulating new laws and legal frameworks.

Statistics

Instruments Finalised July 2024 - June 2025



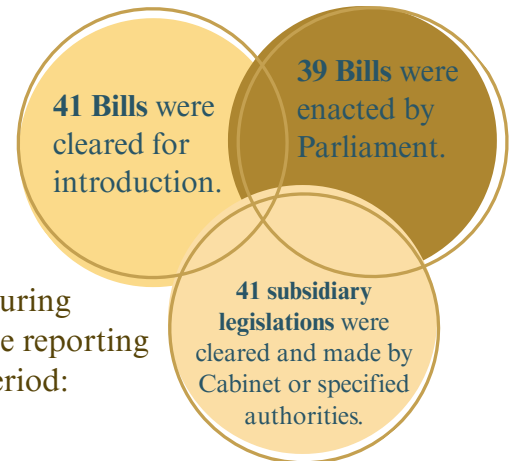
Organizational Structure

As of the reporting period, the Legislative Drafting Team consisted of:

- **Director of Legislative Drafting, Senior Legislative Drafter, Pleader and one paralegal.**

Initially, the Office operated with only one drafter until November 2024, when a second drafter joined. From November 2024 onward, the Office has been functioning with two drafters.

Performance Highlights



Significant legislative updates included:

- **Nauru Meteorology Services Act 2024** (replacing the Meteorology Services Act 1906)
- **Survey Act 2025** (replacing the Survey Act 1961)
- **Vessel Registration Act 2024** (amalgamating and replacing shipping-related legislation)
- **Fisheries Management Act 2024** (replacing the Fisheries Act 1997)
- **Consumer Protection Authority Act 2024** (replacing the Prices Regulation 2008)
- **Nauru Seabed Minerals Authority Act 2024** (replacing the International Seabed Minerals Act 2015)

Law Reform Consultations

RONLAW Updates

- Supported reforms to the **Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Financing of Terrorism Framework**.
- Assisted in the development and passage of the **Deputy Ministers Act 2023**.
- Continued updating consolidated versions of primary and subsidiary legislation.
- Uploaded Gazettes, Acts, cases, and subsidiary legislation to maintain public access.

Capacity Building and Training

The Office prioritized internal capacity development with the following initiatives:

- Training the Paralegal on updating and filing the loose-leaf Volumes of Laws.
- Training on uploading Gazettes, cases, Acts, and subsidiary legislation onto RONLAW.
- Participation in Basic Legislative Drafting Training conducted through the Pacific Islands Law Officers Network (PILON).

Strategic Opportunities and Alignment with NSDS Cross-Goal 2

The Office of the Legislative Drafter identified several key opportunities during the reporting period. These included leveraging virtual consultations to enable wider stakeholder engagement in law reform processes, enhancing the visibility and accessibility of Nauru's laws through continued investment in the RONLAW platform, and consolidating and modernizing outdated legislation to ensure alignment with best international practices.

In contributing to the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) Priority Area Cross-Goal 2, the Office played a direct role in strengthening governance and the rule of law. This was achieved by modernising outdated laws and updating legislative frameworks, improving access to justice through systematic updates to RONLAW, and supporting the government's capacity to deliver legal, parliamentary, and regulatory reforms essential for national development.

Challenges and Way Forward

During the reporting period, the Office faced challenges including staffing shortages, vacant positions, and unreliable internet connectivity, which affected timely updates to RONLAW. To address these issues, the Office will focus on recruiting additional staff, strengthening its technological infrastructure, updating legislation, and investing in capacity building to ensure long-term sustainability and improved service delivery.

Photos

Director Drafting presenting at the PILON.



Team Justice at the Annual PILON meeting held in Fiji.

OFFICE OF THE CURATOR OF INTESTATE ESTATES

"Administering intestate estates with care and responsibility"

Curator of Intestate Estates - Brenda Soriano

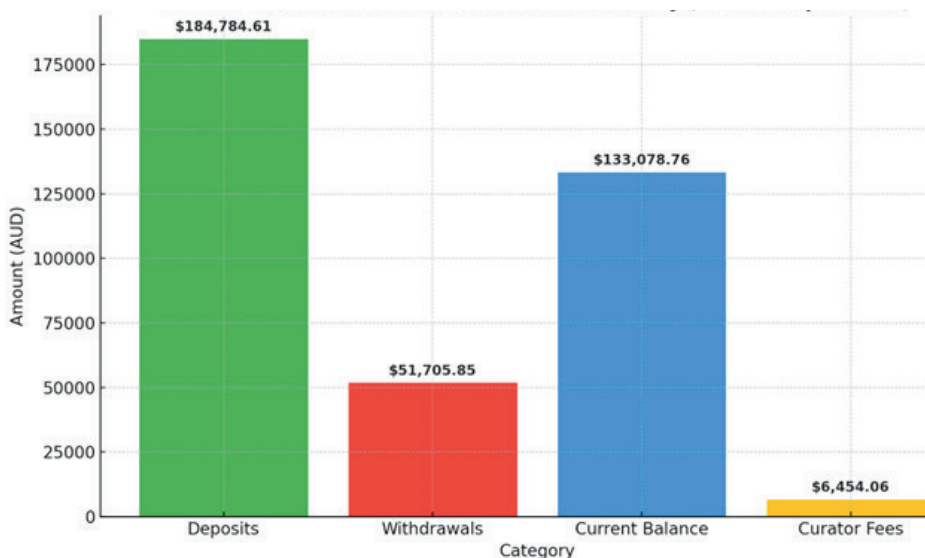
Section Summary

The Office of the Curator of Intestate Estates continues to administer deceased estates in accordance with the Curator of Intestate Estates Act. The office is staffed by one Curator and one Clerical Officer. Its primary responsibilities include managing estate funds received from Treasury, Ronphos Corporation, RPC land rentals, and other government entities; publishing gazettal notices; maintaining registers; liaising with State-Owned Enterprises on rents, royalties, and final entitlements; and disbursing funds to beneficiaries in line with gazette directions.

Specific functions carried out during the reporting year included:

- Managing ledger inputs of deposits and withdrawals.
- Publishing estate lists online and maintaining communication with key state-owned enterprises (SOEs) such as RonPhos Corporation, Nauru Lands Committee, Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation, Nauru Utilities Corporation, Lands & Survey, and the Judiciary.
- Updating and archiving gazettes from 2014 to present.
- Handling estate files, serving beneficiaries, and managing public inquiries.
- Streamlining and updating estate records, particularly focusing on estates older than six years.

Curator of Intestate Estates Financial Summary (as of 11 April 2025)



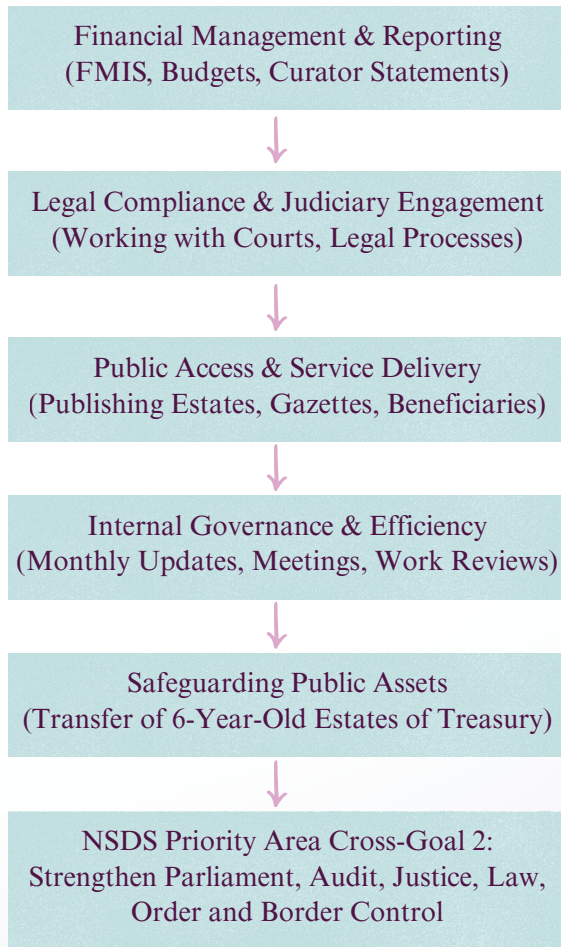
The graph illustrates the financial summary for the Office of the Curator of Intestate Estates as of 11 April 2025 is illustrated through four key financial activities.

The largest figure is Deposits, totaling \$184,784.61, indicating a strong inflow of funds managed by the office. Withdrawals amount to \$51,705.85, reflecting funds disbursed in line with estate management obligations.

The Current Balance remains healthy at \$133,078.76, showing prudent financial stewardship. Curator Fees Collected are recorded at \$6,454.06, a smaller but important figure representing administrative revenue generated by the office.

Operational processes were enhanced with the introduction of scheduled FMIS processing days, monthly SOE streamlining, and monthly team meetings. Estate workflows were reviewed each month to ensure compliance and accuracy.

Curator of Intestate Estates Contribution to NSDS Goal



The flow chart visually demonstrates how the Office of the Curator of Intestate Estates systematically contributes to strengthening Nauru's justice and governance systems, aligned with NSDS Priority Area Cross-Goal 2.

At the top of the chart, the Curator's office begins by ensuring strong financial management and reporting, including maintaining the FMIS, preparing budgets, and submitting regular financial statements. This foundational accountability supports broader government audit and financial transparency goals.

Next, through legal compliance and judiciary engagement, the office works closely with the Nauru Court and relevant agencies to ensure estates are administered in accordance with legal requirements, thus reinforcing the rule of law.

The office also emphasizes public access and service delivery by publishing estate lists and government gazettes and by serving beneficiaries directly, ensuring transparency and facilitating access to justice for citizens.

To support internal effectiveness, the Curator's office undertakes regular governance and efficiency measures, including structured monthly meetings, work reviews, and updates with state-owned enterprises (SOEs). This ensures a coordinated, accountable, and organized operation.

Additionally, by safeguarding public assets, specifically transferring unclaimed estates older than six years to the Treasury Fund, the office protects government financial interests and enhances national financial sustainability.

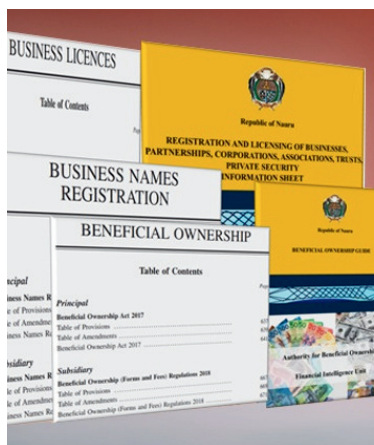
All these layers of work culminate in achieving the overarching national objective: Strengthening Parliament, Audit, Justice, Law, Order, and Border Control - directly contributing to a stronger, more transparent, and resilient governance framework in Nauru.

Key Challenges and Way Forward

The Office of the Curator of Intestate Estates operates with a lean staff of one Curator and one Clerical Officer, who together manage estate deposits, gazettal notices, financial reporting through FMIS, and payments to beneficiaries. While core functions have been maintained, the office continues to face operational challenges arising mainly from external factors, including pending court injunctions and estates awaiting determination by the Nauru Lands Committee particularly those involving overseas beneficiaries. These legal and procedural delays have resulted in some estates remaining unsettled. Despite this, the Curator's Office has successfully processed deposits of \$172,117.27, distributed \$52,944.58 to beneficiaries, and collected curator fees of \$31,719.29 within the reporting period. Moving forward, priorities include clearing backlogs of estates older than six years, ensuring timely coordination with SOEs, and maintaining transparent, accountable management of estate funds in accordance with statutory requirements.

BUSINESS REGISTRATION, BUSINESS LICENSING, SECURITY LICENSING, IMPORT LICENSING, AND BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP DIVISION

"Local businesses contribute to a sustainable economy"



Section Summary

The Business Registration, Licensing, and Beneficial Ownership Division commonly referred to as the Business Division continues to be a key driver of economic development in Nauru. This year, the Division maintained its commitment to streamlining access to formal business registration and licensing services, ensuring that entrepreneurs can establish and operate businesses with greater ease. A well-regulated business environment not only promotes economic participation but also reflects the overall health and progress of the national economy.

**NSDS PRIORITY AREA 1
ECO-GOAL 5**

PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL AND MICRO-ENTERPRISE, FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION INTO THE GLOBAL ECONOMY



Small and micro-enterprise



Foreign investment



Economic integration



Global economy

Business Name Registrations

During the reporting period, a total of 91 new business names were successfully registered, generating \$18,000 in revenue. This reflects continued entrepreneurial interest and formalization of commercial activities in Nauru. To maintain transparency and regulatory compliance, public notices for business name cancellations were published through official channels, including the Nauru Government Gazette and the Government Information Office (GIO).

Transfer and Variation of Business Licenses

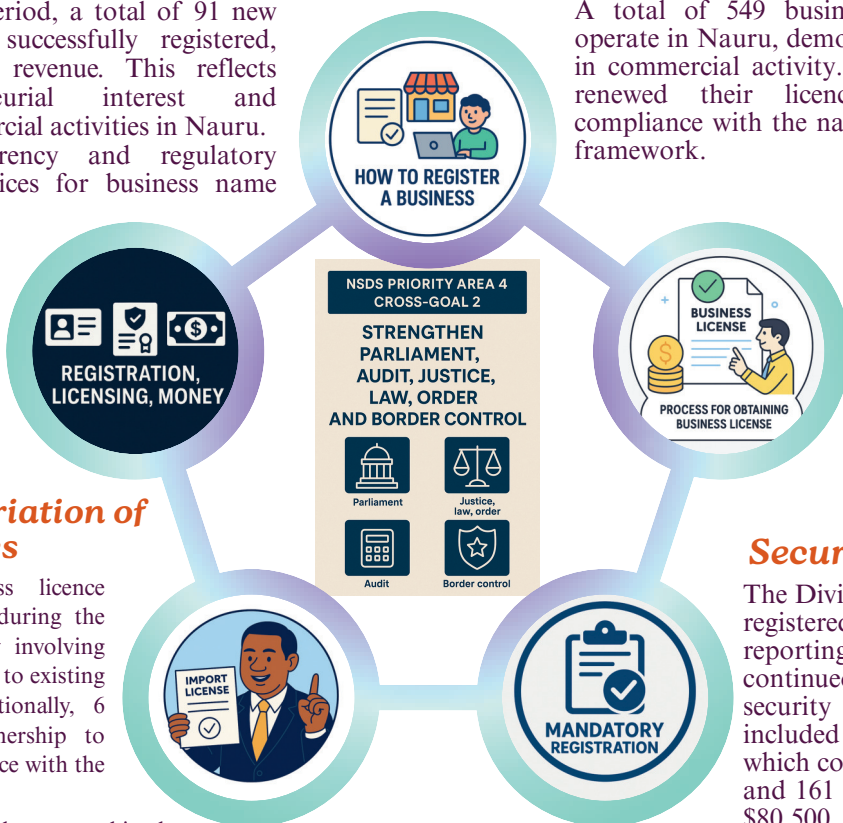
A total of 30 business licence variations were processed during the reporting period, primarily involving the addition of new services to existing business operations. Additionally, 6 businesses transferred ownership to new proprietors in accordance with the regulatory requirements.

These activities generated a combined revenue of \$11,400. The Division continues to ensure that changes to business structures are accurately recorded and compliant with current licensing laws, promoting both business flexibility and legal accountability.

Business License

A total of 549 businesses were registered to operate in Nauru, demonstrating a steady growth in commercial activity. Of these, 373 businesses renewed their licences, reflecting ongoing compliance with the national business regulatory framework.

The total revenue collected from business licence registrations and renewals amounted to \$111,700. The Division remains committed to maintaining an efficient and transparent licensing process that supports economic development while ensuring regulatory standards are upheld.



Security Firms

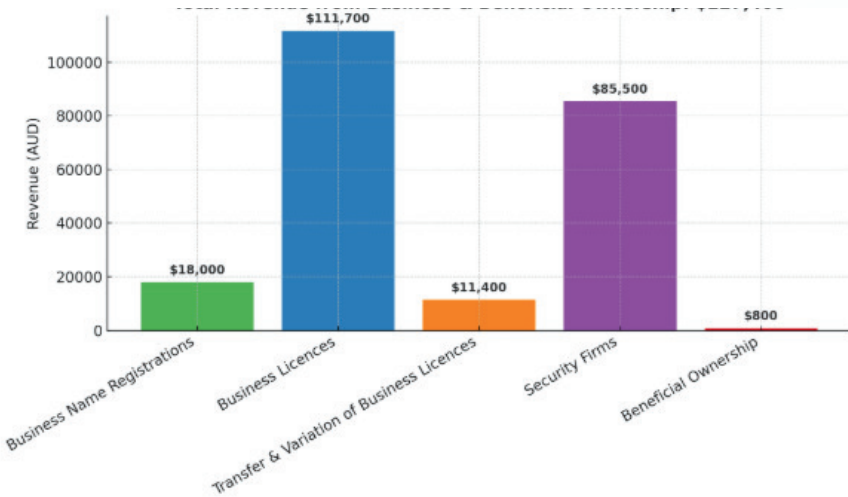
The Division recorded a total of 171 registered security firms during the reporting year, underscoring the continued demand for private security services in Nauru. This included 10 new security firms, which contributed \$5,000 in revenue, and 161 licence renewals, generating \$80,500.

The total revenue collected from the registration and renewal of security firm licences amounted to \$85,500. The registration process ensures that all security service providers meet compliance standards under relevant legislation, thereby enhancing public safety and accountability within the sector.



Beneficial Ownership (Under Partnerships)

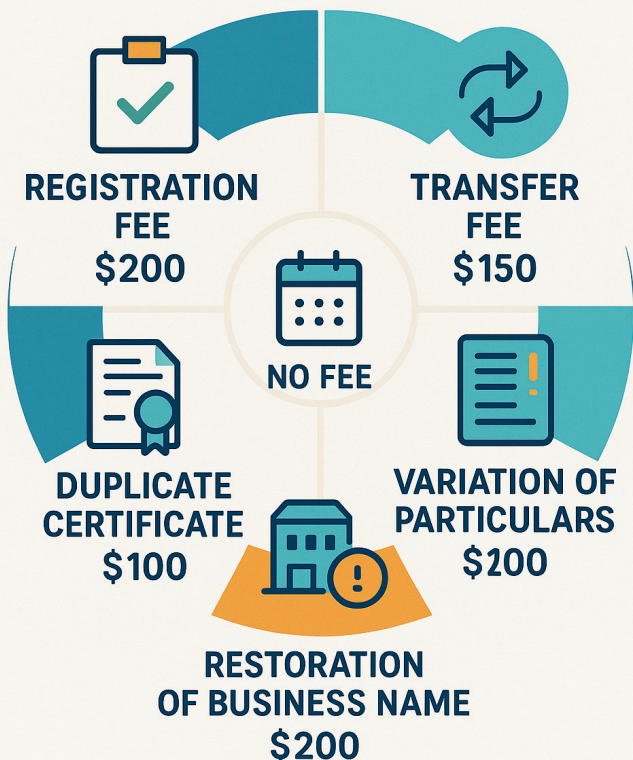
A total of 12 partnerships were registered during the reporting period, each also completing the required beneficial ownership registration. These activities generated \$800 in revenue. The Division also implemented the Beneficial Ownership (Identity and Declaration) Regulations 2023, which strengthen transparency and compliance with anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CFT) standards.



\$227,400
 Total Revenue Collected
 Business & Beneficial Ownership

FEES

(REGULATION 15 & SCHEDULE 2)



Challenges and Way Forward

During the reporting period, the Business Division faced challenges including limited public awareness on registration requirements, delays in submitting forms, and occasional application errors that affected processing times. Moving forward, the Division aims to improve public outreach, simplify registration processes, and enhance accessibility through more user-friendly and possibly digital services to ensure greater compliance and efficiency.

FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT

"Follow the money"



Supervisor NFIU- Rajas Swamy

Section Summary

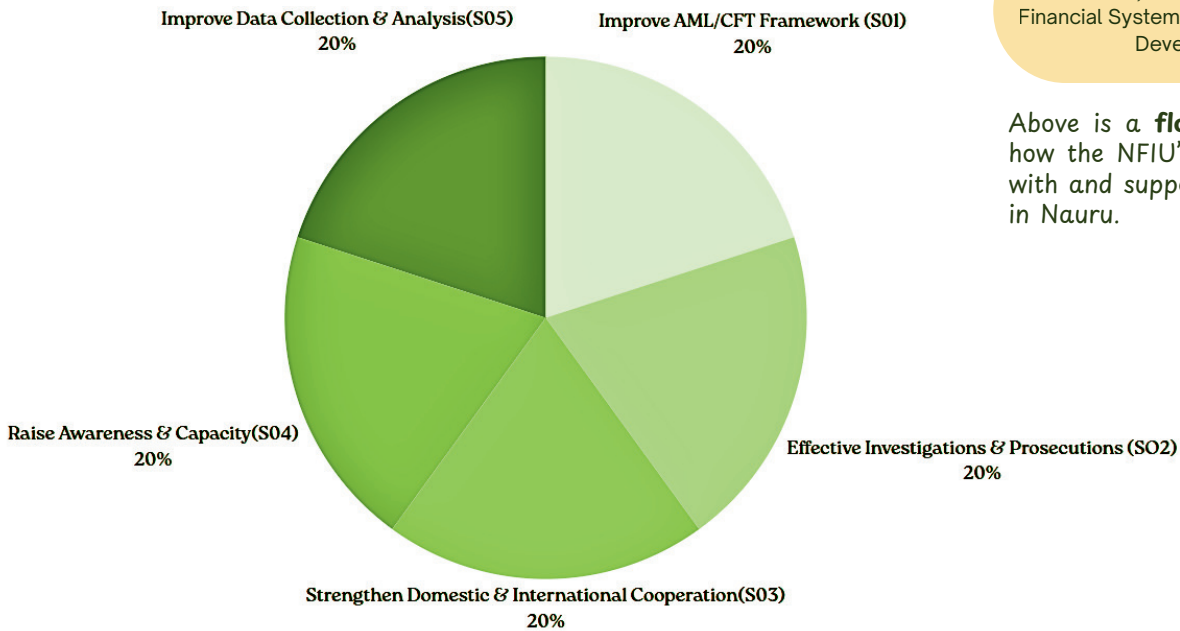
In contrast to last year’s focus on strengthening partnerships for a secure financial system, this year’s Annual Report emphasizes the Nauru Financial Intelligence Unit’s renewed drive to “**follow the money.**” Under the updated Anti-Money Laundering and Targeting Financial Sanctions (AML-TFS) Act 2023, the NFIU is broadening its reach with new staffing, enhanced international collaborations, and a forward-looking approach to detecting and preventing illicit financial flows. This year also marks significant milestones in preparing for our Enhanced Follow Up status under the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APGML), launching a new National Risk Assessment, and developing the 2025–2030 AML-CFT Strategy. These developments underscore our strengthened commitment to safeguarding Nauru’s financial system against money laundering, terrorism financing, proliferation financing, and other serious crimes- building on, yet distinctly evolving from, last year’s achievements.



ECONOMIC GOAL 7
An Effective, Competitive, and Stable Financial System Enhancing Growth & Development

Above is a **flow chart** illustrating how the NFIU’s key activities align with and support **Economic Goal 7** in Nauru.

Strategic Focus Breakdown - Financial Intelligence Unit



The pie chart visually represents the Financial Intelligence Unit’s five strategic priorities, each contributing equally to the fight against financial crime.

- **SO1: Improve AML/CFT Framework** – Strengthen legal and regulatory structures to meet global AML/CFT standards.
- **SO2: Effective Investigations & Prosecutions** – Enhance capabilities to detect, investigate, and prosecute financial crimes.
- **SO3: Strengthen Domestic & International Cooperation** – Foster collaboration and information sharing with key local and international partners.
- **SO4: Raise Awareness & Capacity** – Increase public awareness and build institutional expertise through training and outreach.
- **SO5: Improve Data Collection & Analysis** – Upgrade systems to better gather, analyze, and use financial intelligence for decision-making.

Key Results for This Year

1. Enhanced Compliance Standing

- Following the 2024 Mutual Evaluation (ME), Nauru’s technical compliance ratings improved (19 Compliant, 17 Largely Compliant, 3 Partially Compliant), demonstrating continued progress in aligning with international AML/CFT standards.

2. Progress Toward Enhanced Follow Up Requirements

- Steady advancements in meeting the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering’s (APGML) Enhanced Follow Up criteria, including ongoing preparation for the first Follow Up Report (FUR) due October 2025.

3. Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) Roll-Out

- Finalized a SIP in collaboration with APGML, addressing the Key Recommended Actions from the Mutual Evaluation Report (MER). Key domestic stakeholders participated in the three-day SIP development workshop.

4. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Signed with Key Stakeholders

- Strengthened information-sharing and inter-agency cooperation by formalizing the MoU among the NFIU, law enforcement, and other pertinent agencies—fulfilling an MER recommendation and enhancing the domestic AML/CFT framework.

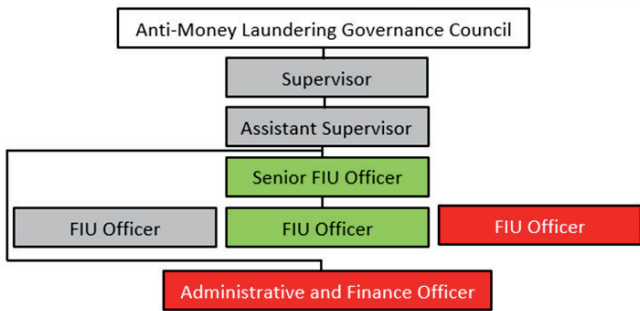
5. Preparations for the National Risk Assessment 2025

- Collaborated with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to plan a whole-of-government NRA, ensuring all sectors’ ML/TF risks are analyzed and mitigation strategies are well-informed.

6. Foundations Laid for the New AML/CFT Strategy (2025–2030)

- Began formulating a successor to the current strategy (due to expire mid-2025), with a focus on addressing the evolving landscape of money laundering, terrorism financing, and proliferation financing.

Organisational Structure



Shade Legend:

- ◻ – Existing occupied positions.
- ◻ – Approved 2025-26 government funding for new positions.
- ◻ – Not approved government funding for new positions yet remains in the structure.

Key Challenges and Way Forward

The Nauru Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU) faces key challenges in establishing a structure suited to its national context, ensuring it effectively receives, analyses, and disseminates financial intelligence. Criminal tactics continue to evolve, requiring constant adaptation. Specific challenges include integrating gaming entities and law firms as reporting entities, which demands significant outreach and resource allocation to ensure compliance. Additionally, legal barriers to information sharing hinder coordination, although progress has been made through informal channels and a recent MoU among AML/CFT stakeholders. Moving forward, NFIU must enhance institutional capacity, promote stakeholder compliance, and continually adapt to emerging financial crime risks.

Photos



NFIU Supervisor signing MoU.



Abu Dhabi for the APGML Annual Meeting.



NFIU Supervisor in a meeting.



Sheikhs in Abu Dhabi.



Pacific Financial Intelligence Community meeting.



APGML, NFIU and stakeholders developing the SIP.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIVISION

"Protection of intellectual property is recognition of creativity"



Section Summary

The Intellectual Property (IP) Division plays a critical role in safeguarding the creations of the mind ensuring that inventions, trademarks, and creative works are adequately protected and legally recognized. Intellectual property rights not only reward innovation but also foster the generation of new knowledge and creative output, contributing to national development.

Established under Section 11A of the *Public Service Act 2016* and formally gazetted on 14th May 2021, the Division is mandated with the administration and registration of IP rights in Nauru, including **trademarks, patents, and copyrights**. These rights help stimulate economic growth by protecting the unique ideas and innovations that drive commerce and industry.

The Division is headed by the **Registrar of Intellectual Property**, supported by legal officers, a pleader, and paralegal staff drawn from the Office of the Solicitor General and Business Section. Key services include the registration of trademarks and patents, conducting official searches, issuing certificates, and managing IP databases in accordance with national legislation.

To further strengthen the Division's leadership and technical direction, a new position - **Director of Intellectual Property Division** is currently in the process of being established. This senior role is intended to provide dedicated strategic oversight, policy direction, and international liaison functions, ensuring that the Division keeps pace with evolving global standards and technological advancements. Once implemented, the position will enhance coordination across IP functions, streamline decision-making, and improve engagement with external stakeholders, including WIPO and regional IP offices.

Capacity building remains a cornerstone of the Division's development, with officers regularly attending virtual trainings and participating in regional workshops.



REVENUE SNAPSHOT

Period: July 2024 – April 2025

Total Collected:
\$218,896.00

- Trademark Registrations
- Annual Maintenance Fees
- Search Requests
- New Patent Applications

*This amount reflects revenue earned through core IP services. Final reconciliation is pending confirmation from the Revenue Department and may result in additional recorded income before financial year-end.

- Copyright Act 2019** - offers protection to literary and artistic works in Nauru
- Trademarks Act 2019** - safeguards businesses in branding and reputation and ensures that consumers are not misled about products.
- Patents Registration Act 1973** - protects inventions - grants inventors exclusive rights to their creations for a specified period.



Trademarks

From 2021 to 2025, a total of 626 trademark applications were recorded. Notably, 2022 saw the highest number of applications (268), with a declining trend in subsequent years, 21 applications registered as of April 2025. A total of 343 trademarks have been successfully registered since 2021.

This decline may be attributed to the high volume of legacy applications processed earlier and stricter compliance with registration and maintenance deadlines. The division collected fees through new registrations, annual maintenance, and search services. Each new registration is charged at \$200 per class, with annual maintenance at \$100 (or \$150 if paid after the due date), and search fees at \$50 per class.

Patents

Patent processing commenced in 2025. To date, 27 applications have been recorded, with six published in the official Gazette for the 90-day opposition period. The application fee is \$500.

Revenue

The division has collected \$218,896.00 in revenue for the current fiscal year (July 2024 – April 2025). This includes income from trademark and patent services. Further updates are pending from the Revenue Department.



ONGOING TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING REMAIN A PRIORITY

Challenges and Way Forward

The Intellectual Property Division continues to perform its functions effectively, processing trademarks and newly commenced patent applications, and maintaining revenue collection. However, operational challenges remain. Current reliance on Excel spreadsheets for recordkeeping creates limitations in data management and multi-user collaboration. The absence of a dedicated Intellectual Property Management System (IPMS) also restricts the Division's ability to efficiently track applications, maintain accurate financial records, and generate real-time reports. In addition, space constraints affect workflow efficiency and client engagement.

To strengthen service delivery, the Division is exploring options to improve its office infrastructure and to implement a secure, centralized IPMS that will enable real-time updates, multi-user access, and streamlined reporting. These improvements will enhance transparency, efficiency, and the Division's capacity to support Nauru's growing intellectual property framework.

Staffing and Capacity Building

The division is staffed by:

- Ms. Marilyn Deireragea – Pleader
- Ms. Regina Deidenang – Pleader
- Miss Justine Akubor – Paralegal (on study leave from 2025 for four years)
- Miss Cicily Baguga – Paralegal (Probationary period commenced February 20, 2025)



"PROTECTING CREATIVITY, ONE REGISTRATION AT A TIME — THE DEDICATED TEAM BEHIND NAURU'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SYSTEM."



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

"Prosecuting to ensure a crime free community"



Director - Andie Driu

Section Summary

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions ('ODPP') is one of many sections within the Department of Justice and Border Control. The ODPP is responsible for the representation of the Republic in all criminal proceedings before the court. The ODPP is headed by the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) who is appointed by the President pursuant to section 45 of the Criminal Procedure Act 1972.

The ODPP is motivated by the principle that it is in the interests of justice that the guilty be brought to justice and the innocent are not wrongly convicted.

The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) plays a key role in supporting the enforcement of criminal laws in Nauru, international laws and treaties and conventions that the Republic of Nauru has ratified, as well as contributing towards the continued development and maintenance of a just and fair criminal justice system.

The DPP is responsible for prosecuting criminal appeals before the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Nauru.

Goals & Objectives

- The ODPP's goal is to deliver high quality prosecutions independently, fairly and efficiently to the Republic.
- The ODPP strives to provide professional and quality services when it comes to the prosecution of cases before all three tiers of the Nauru Court.
- The ODPP is here to promote and uphold the rule of law by providing a modern, professional and effective prosecution service to the people of the Republic.

Values

The ODPP's core value is to honor the fundamental human rights of all persons, to be fair, transparent and accountable and to not to use the prestige or position of a prosecutor for personal gain or advantage.

Our values are our core beliefs about how we should behave and how we do things. Our culture is shaped by these values through their influence on our attitudes and actions.

- Treat everyone with respect.
- Work collaboratively.
- Embrace innovation.
- Demonstrate professional excellence.
- Act with integrity.

Organizational Structure and Staffing Roles & Responsibilities

The ODPP has one Principal Government lawyer, one Senior Government Lawyer, a Public Prosecutor, and a pleader.

The Police Prosecution Unit of the Nauru Police Force has two of its members sitting within the ODPP so to allow for them to be continually mentored and capacity-built.

The two Police Prosecutors appear in all traffic offences as well as minor summary offences before the District Court while the DPP and her Prosecutors prosecute criminal cases before all three tiers of the Courts.

The ODPP will review any investigation file brought by the police to see if there is prima facie evidence in support of a charge and whether it is in the public interest or not to prosecute the case.

The ODPP must be fair and objective in all of its decision-making and not be influenced by nationality, citizenship, gender, religious beliefs, political views or sexual orientation and has a duty to ensure that the rights of a suspect or accused is observed at all times.

Strategy

The ODPP is committed to building capability through learning, innovation, and feedback-driven improvement. It ensures fair and consistent prosecutions through strong governance, early case analysis, efficient processes, and outcome-focused decision-making, while promoting collaboration and continuous improvement.

Capacity Building and Regional Engagement

- Pleadings Study Tour (Sept 2024): Miss Kori Itsimaera joined a two-week legal study tour in Fiji, focused on court observations and legal aid attachments.
- Cybercrime Workshop (Nov 2024): The DPP and SG Pleader attended a regional workshop on handling cybercrime and electronic evidence.
- ODPP Fiji Conference (Nov 2024): Miss Itsimaera and Prosecutor Jesse Adun attended sessions on narcotics, AI, cyber security, and mental health.
- PILON Workshop (Feb 2025): The DPP, law enforcement officers, and Justice Wimalasena participated in training on asset seizure, confiscation, and regional cooperation.

Case Register & Prosecution Statistics

ODPP ACTIVE FILES AS AT 14 April 2025	
	NO. of ACTIVE FILES
ADVICE FILES (incl of those awaiting response from Police)	12
FURTHER DETENTION ACTION	
DISTRICT COURT	27
SUPREME COURT	31
COURT OF APPEAL	11

With sexual cases being one of the many cases prosecuted by the ODPP [13 active files and 6 are closed]

Challenges

Considering the geographical context of the Republic, one of the main challenges by the ODPP is ensuring the availability of all witnesses prior to a matter proceeding for trial. The other aspect is the mental well-being of our victims of sexual offences. Ensuring that they are not re-traumatized by the trial process and providing them with the support needed for their wellness.

Way Forward

The ODPP continues in its endeavors to provide continued legal education to its prosecutors, police and other relevant stakeholders. We intend to continue to work closely with stakeholders to provide support to victims of violence. We endeavor to continue and maintain the highest standard and services to the Republic.

Photos



CORPORATIONS, PARTNERSHIP, ASSOCIATIONS, AND TRUST REGISTRATION DIVISION

"The future starts with registration, let us help you"



Section Summary

The Corporations, Partnerships, Associations and Trusts Registration Division was established to implement a dedicated framework for the registration and regulation of legal entities in Nauru.

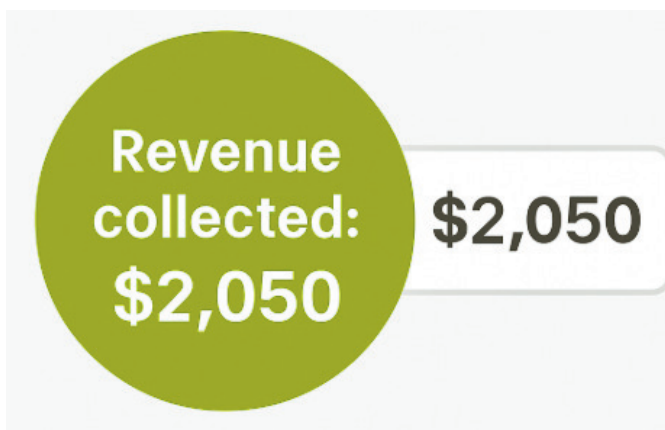
As one of the newer divisions of the Department, it provides structured procedures for the incorporation and registration of corporations, partnerships, associations, and trusts under their respective legislations.

The Division continues to focus on streamlining internal processes, building staff capacity, raising public awareness, and enhancing inter-agency collaboration particularly in areas concerning beneficial ownership and anti-money laundering compliance.

NSDS PRIORITY AREA 4 CROSS-GOAL 2	NSDS PRIORITY AREA 1 ECO-GOAL 5
STRENGTHEN PARLIAMENT, AUDIT, JUSTICE, LAW, ORDER AND BORDER CONTROL	PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL AND MICRO- ENTERPRISE, FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION INTO THE GLOBAL ECONOMY
 Parliament	 Small and micro-enterprise
 Justice, law, order	 Foreign investment
 Audit	 Economic integration
 Border control	 Global economy

Associations

A total of 12 associations were registered during the reporting period, comprising 4 new registrations and 8 renewals, generating \$800 in revenue. The Division also undertook awareness activities, including a joint session with the Financial Intelligence Unit on 31 August 2023, to support compliance with AML/CFT obligations.



Core Activities

- Processing Registration Applications
- Renewal and Variation of Existing Registrations
- Conduct public awareness sessions
- Data and Revenue Management

Trusts

There was one trust application received during the reporting period, which remains pending at year-end

Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Description	Target/Goal
Registration Processing Time	Average number of business days to process applications from submission to certificate issuance	≤ 10 working days
Accuracy of Statutory Registers	Percentage of up-to-date and error-free entries in the corporate, partnership, association, and trust registers	≥ 85% accuracy
Annual Renewal Compliance Rate	Percentage of expected registration fees collected	≥ 85%
Public Awareness Sessions Conducted	Number of outreach or training sessions held on legal and regulatory obligations	At least 2 per year

Partnerships

During the reporting period, 12 partnerships were registered, generating \$800 in revenue. The Division also implemented the Beneficial Ownership (Identity and Declaration) Regulations 2023, ensuring partnerships comply with transparency requirements under the Beneficial Ownership Act 2017.



Corporations

The Corporations Subdivision processed 58 corporate registrations, with 11 new incorporations and 47 renewals. This indicates strong uptake of formal corporate structures among businesses operating in Nauru.



Total Revenue Collected

Across all four subdivisions, the Division generated a total of \$104,775 in revenue during the financial year.



Challenges and Way Forward

The Division faced challenges including limited staffing, low public awareness of registration obligations, reliance on manual processes, and minimal uptake of trust registrations. Moving forward, it aims to build staff capacity, enhance public education, review legislation, and strengthen inter-agency collaboration to improve efficiency and compliance.

Types of Adoption Applications

Sole Application - Applicant has attained the age of 25 years and not less than 21 years older than the child in which the application is made.

Joint Application - Applicants must be a man and his wife and both have attained the age of 25 years and not less than 21 years older than the child in which the application is made.

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC LEGAL DEFENDER

"Providing Nauruans with quality legal representation and access to justice"

Director - Ravuanimasei Tagivakatini

Section Summary

The Office of the Public Legal Defender (PLD) continued to deliver essential legal services to the citizens of the Republic of Nauru, focusing on criminal, family, and limited civil matters. During the Reporting Period, the Office comprised five dedicated staff members, with notable appointments across departmental and national committees, including contributions to the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and the Nauru Law Society.

The Office maintained high activity levels in litigation, with increased appeals, expedited case disposal in the Supreme Court and District Court, and sustained high disposal rates in the Family Court. Statutory services, including the witnessing of documents and preparation of statutory declarations, remained in strong demand.

Capacity building remained a focus, with staff participating in local and overseas training programs and study tours to Fiji and the United States. Continuing Legal Education (CLE) initiatives, supported by the UNDP, enhanced the professional development of our pleaders.

A total of 14 new files were opened and 87 cases closed across various courts, marking a significant throughput. Key achievements included the recruitment of a Principal Public Legal Defender and Pleaders, along with the disposal of longstanding appellate matters.

Advancing Access to Justice for All

Contribution to NSDS Priority Area Cross-Goal 2:

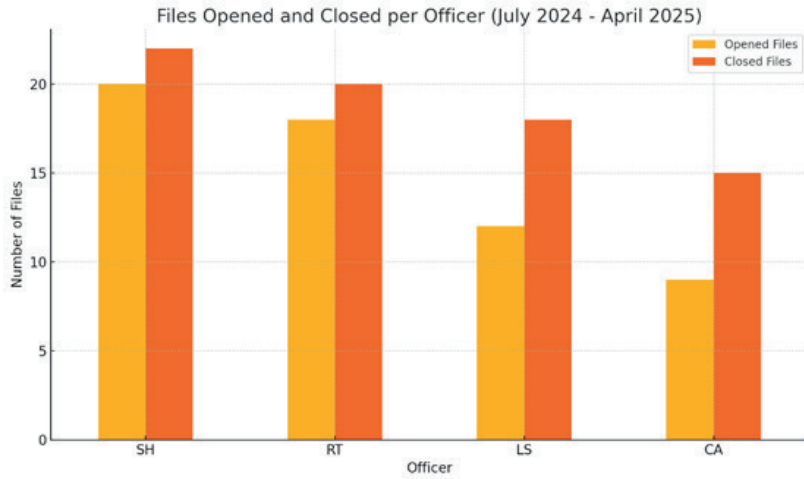
Strengthen Parliament, Audit, Justice, Law, Order and Border Control

The Office of the Public Legal Defender (PLD) plays a critical role in strengthening Nauru's justice system by ensuring that all citizens, regardless of financial means, have access to legal representation and advice.

In the 2024–2025 reporting period, the Office achieved significant results, including the disposal of 114 cases across the Nauru Court of Appeal, Supreme Court, District Court, and Family Court. Staff also contributed to national leadership efforts such as the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, while continuing to provide daily services like witnessing documents and preparing statutory declarations.

Through active litigation, public legal services, leadership appointments, and participation in international training, the PLD continues to protect individual rights, promote fairness, and build public confidence in the justice system directly supporting the goals of the NSDS Priority Area Cross-Goal 2.

Statistics



The Office recorded a total of 87 opened files and 114 closed files during the reporting period. Monthly trends indicated a steady workload across both criminal and family jurisdictions, with minor fluctuations reflecting court sittings and case readiness.

The Office recorded a total of **87 opened files** and **114 closed files** during the reporting period. Monthly trends indicated a steady workload across both criminal and family jurisdictions, with minor fluctuations reflecting court sittings and case readiness.

A line chart depicting opened and closed files by month shows that file closures consistently outpaced new file openings, demonstrating the office's focus on progressing matters to finality and reducing backlog. The highest number of closed matters occurred in August 2024 and March 2025, corresponding with scheduled hearing blocks.

Officer allocation was balanced across the reporting period. Analysis shows that four officers – SH, RT, LS, and CA – consistently managed the caseload, with SH and RT leading in both opened and closed matters.

Overall, the section maintained a strong case completion rate, supporting its strategic objective of delivering timely access to justice. The caseload trends demonstrate the effectiveness of internal systems in prioritizing and resolving cases promptly.

Study Tours, Case Handling and Continuing Legal Education

During the reporting period, junior staff members were given greater exposure to case handling and litigation experience.

- **Chloe Adeang** conducted her first criminal trial in the District Court, successfully securing an acquittal.



Chloe Adeang deep in lawyer mode - proving that fierce advocacy starts with a notepad, a pen, and one very determined client.

- **Lisa-Marie Solomon** conducted her first custody hearing and her first domestic violence hearing before the Family Court.
- Ms Solomon also undertook a two-week study tour to Fiji (17 September – 2 October 2024), further enhancing her legal knowledge and regional engagement.
- Both Ms. Adeang and Ms. Solomon attended continuing legal education (CLE) sessions conducted by an experienced legal specialist recruited under the UNDP program, strengthening their advocacy skills and professional development

This increased exposure to litigation and training reflects the Office’s commitment to building a skilled and confident legal workforce.



Lisa-Marie Solomon during her study tour in Fiji, undertaking a private firm attachment and witnessing the MoU signing between the Nauru Law Society and the Legal Aid Commission of Fiji.



Nauru delegation attending the 43rd Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network (PILON) Annual Meeting in Fiji

Challenges and Way Forward

The Office of the Public Legal Defender continues to face key structural and operational challenges, including the urgent need to recruit additional staff, the prolonged process of reviewing the Office Guidelines, and delays in enacting the Public Legal Defender’s Bill. The vacancy for a Senior Public Defender remains pending, awaiting action from the Office of the Chief Secretary.

Moving forward, the Office is committed to addressing these issues by continuing to advocate for the finalization of the legislative framework, strengthening internal policies, and expanding its team to meet increasing service demands. With sustained institutional support, the Office aims to enhance access to justice and improve service delivery in the upcoming reporting period.

OFFICE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS

"Nauruans deserve protection of human rights"



Director - Stella Duburiya

EKAMAWIR OMO FROM THE OFFICE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE!

The Office of the Human Rights consists of the Director of Human Rights, Ms. Stella Duburiya and Pleader (Human Rights), Ms. Katherine Belong.



Goals for 2025



Submit 4th Cycle UPR Report



Submit CAT (Convention against Torture) Report



Establish Human Rights Policy



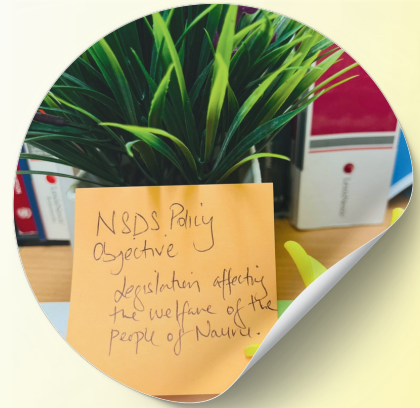
Expand the Human Rights Office

Key Responsibilities

- Roll out the red carpet of equal opportunities for everyone, from kids to women, folks with disabilities, and those in detention.
- Spread the word about human rights across the Nauru community like confetti at a parade.
- Team up with the Public Legal Defender Office to tackle family dramas like divorces, maintenance, custody, and child adoption.
- Join forces with the Department of People with Disabilities and the Department of Women and Social Development Affairs for some epic collaborations.
- Partner up with the Human Rights and Social Division/Pacific Community along with other human rights dynamos.
- Bring international human rights treaties into the Nauruan spotlight, making them as local as your favorite Chinese restaurant.
- Tackle the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) National Report for Nauru like it's a thrilling mystery novel.
- Share the pearls of wisdom from the last UPR National Report with the key players and departments.



Activities of the Human Rights Office



The Office of the Human Rights in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat conducted a 3-day 4th Universal Periodic Review working session in March 17-19 2025.



In early April 2025, the Human Rights staff attended the two workshop whereby Mrs. Stella Duburiya attended the GovStack and accelerating deployment of digital solutions while Katherine Nauru Cyber Incident Response Team(CIRT) Incident Response Team

CHALLENGES

Being one of the smallest divisions in the Department, the OHR is looking to increase its staffing capacity to meet the Divisions strategic and operational goals. With the increase in staffing, the OHR needs a bigger office space.

WAY FORWARD



CITIZENSHIP AND ADOPTION DIVISION

"Adoption is loving family"

STRENGTHENING Families

Section Summary

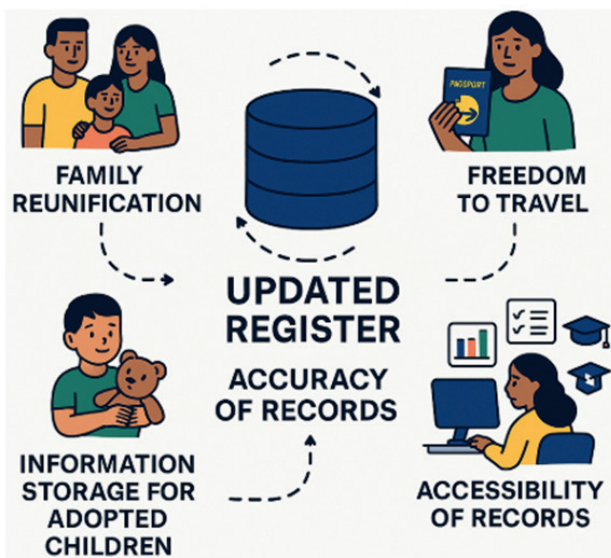
The Citizenship and Adoption Division maintains secure and accurate records of citizenship and adoption in Nauru, protecting individuals' legal status and ensuring access to rights such as family reunification, public service eligibility, and freedom of movement.

The Division continues to administer ordinary citizenship and adoption records, while the newly established Nauru Citizenship Secretariat Office (NCSO) oversees the economic citizenship pathway under the NECRC Act 2024. Its efficient registry system also supports key government agencies in services such as electoral roll updates and scholarship selection.



Established under Section 11A of the *Public Service Act 2016* and gazetted on 14 May 2021, the Division operates through two main functions: the **Citizenship Subdivision**, guided by the *Naoero Citizenship Act 2017*, and the **Adoption Subdivision**, operating under the *Adoption of Children Act 1965*. Each plays a vital role in legal compliance, decision-making support to Cabinet, and ensuring transparent and accountable processing of citizenship and adoption matters.

Pathway to Citizenship: Upholding National Identity



The Citizenship Subdivision, established under the *Naoero Citizenship Act 2017*, oversees the process of acquiring Nauruan citizenship. Officers of the Subdivision receive and assess applications, ensuring all required documents are properly submitted and fees paid. They prepare formal memoranda and Cabinet submissions, which are then presented by the Minister for Justice. Final decisions are communicated to applicants through the Secretary to Cabinet, ensuring a transparent and accountable process that upholds Nauru's national identity and legal integrity.

Adoption in Action: 20 Lives Changed This Year

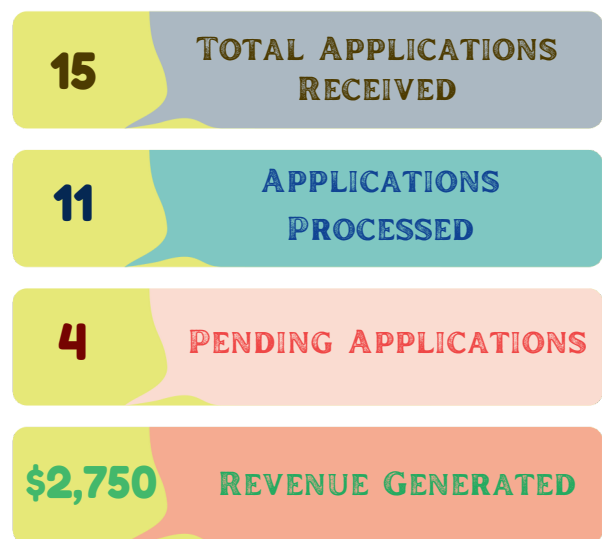


Key Activities – Strengthening Application Outcomes

- ✓ Provided tailored guidance to applicants on citizenship and adoption requirements.
- ✓ Conducted thorough reviews of submitted applications.
- ✓ Verified accuracy and completeness of all supporting documents.
- ✓ Issued invoices to applicants for prescribed processing fees.
- ✓ Prepared Cabinet submissions for approval.
- ✓ Awaited and communicated final decisions from Cabinet.

Citizenship Applications Summary

During the reporting period, the Citizenship Subdivision received a total of 15 applications for Nauruan citizenship. Of these, 11 applications were successfully processed, while 4 remain pending due to incomplete documentation and outstanding payments.



Challenges and Way Forward

The Division faced internal challenges during the reporting period. A few citizenship applications remained pending due to incomplete submissions and unpaid fees. These gaps reflect a need for clearer communication with applicants and a more proactive follow-up mechanism. Additionally, the time invested by officers in manually checking and chasing documents places strain on staff resources.

Looking ahead, the Division sees opportunities for innovation. Developing a digital application platform could greatly improve the efficiency of processing, payment tracking, and document management. Enhanced public outreach would also help reduce delays by educating applicants on the full range of requirements at the outset. Stronger collaboration with key government agencies presents another avenue to align data systems and improve cross-sector service delivery.

However, the Division remains alert to external risks. Ongoing attention to resourcing will be essential to ensure the Division can keep pace with demand and uphold the integrity of its services.

NAURU CITIZENSHIP SECRETARIAT OFFICE (NCSO)

"Delivering compliant, high-integrity economic citizenship to support national resilience"

Section Summary

The Nauru Citizenship Secretariat Office (NCSO) was established in January 2025 under the Nauru Economic and Climate Resilience Citizenship Act 2024 (NECRC Act). Operating under the Office of the Registrar (Secretary for Justice and Border Control), the NCSO safeguards the legal and documentary integrity of the Nauru Economic and Climate Resilience Citizenship Program (NECRCP). The Office works in close coordination with the Nauru Program Office, which oversees the administration, promotion, and preliminary due diligence of applications. Together, these entities ensure that all applications are thoroughly reviewed, compliant with statutory requirements, and properly submitted to Cabinet for approval.

Once approved, the NCSO facilitates the issuance of citizenship certificates by the Minister, arranges for the Conferment of Citizenship Certificates to be signed by His Excellency, the President, and manages the delivery of passports to successful applicants through the Program Office. It also maintains the official statutory registers for the grant, cancellation, and renunciation of citizenships, along with a separate register for travel documents issued under the Program.

The NECRCP provides a vital non-refundable financial contribution to the Government's Treasury Fund, supporting national economic growth and climate resilience projects.

Enforcement Provisions

In accordance with the NECRC Act 2024, the Government of Nauru retains the authority to cancel any acquired citizenship if an individual is found to have obtained it through fraud, engaged in terrorism or money laundering, or been designated under United Nations Security Council financial sanctions.

Core FUNCTIONS

Compliance Scrutiny

Ensuring that all applications meet the legislative framework of the NECRC Act 2024.

Case Resolution

Addressing any information gaps by requesting further documentation or updated verification reports.

Inter-Agency Coordination

Engaging effectively with key government stakeholders, including the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), Nauru Police Force, Passports Division, and Department of Finance.

Certificate and Passport Issuance

Managing the granting of citizenship certificates and the subsequent issuance of passports to approved applicants.

Cabinet Submission Management

Preparing and submitting applications to Cabinet, complete with due diligence reports and recommendations from the Program Office.

Maintenance of Official Registers

Keeping the official registers for all grants, cancellations, and renunciations of citizenship, as well as the travel documents issued under the Program.

Program Performance and Financial Metrics (January – September 2025)

The NECRCP has demonstrated significant operational progress and growing momentum in 2025.

Metric	Status (as at September 2025)	Comment
Total Applications Received	33	Includes 13 applications received in September 2025, surpassing the monthly performance target.
Total Citizenships Processed	14 individuals across 7 applications	Reflects a strong conversion rate from completed applications.
Financial Contribution to Treasury	USD 0.575 million (approx. AUD 0.87 million)	Paid to the Government of Nauru from the seven Cabinet-approved applications.
Pipeline	25 in-progress applications	Represents a potential future contribution of USD 1.875 million (approx. AUD 2.84 million), subject to Cabinet approval.

The Four-Tier Due Diligence (DD) System

The program mandates a multi-layered, four-tier Due Diligence process to vet every applicant aged 16 years or above, ensuring only individuals who pose no security risk and possess legitimate wealth are accepted.

Tier	Lead Entity	Scope and Verification Check
Tier 1 (World Check)	Program Office	Screening against the World Check database for PEP status, sanction lists, and high-risk persons. Identity verification against ICAO standards.
Tier 2 (Public Domain)	Program Office	In-depth search of public domains in multiple languages to verify the applicant's profile (Source of Funds/Wealth) and identify any negative topics or associations.
Tier 3 (Inter-Agency)	Government (Police & FIU)	Screening against International, Regional, and Local crime databases (e.g., Interpol, Europol, PTCN). The FIU consults with its counterparts in the applicant's home/residence countries.
Tier 4 (External Verification)	Specialist Due Diligence Firm	A written Background Verification Report (BVR) from an internationally recognized firm. This includes in-country checks (legal, criminal, asset verification) and a mandatory interview.

Integrity and Safeguards

Mandatory Interviews

All main applicants are interviewed personally. Dependents aged 16 years and above are interviewed based on their assessed risk profile.

Continuous Monitoring

Approved citizens remain under ongoing monitoring for 24 months post-approval to identify new sanctions, adverse media, or politically exposed status changes.

Annual Audit

An external auditor independently reviews the Program's financial and procedural compliance each year.

Building Foundations for Growth

The office is laying strong foundations to ensure the Nauru Economic and Climate Resilience Citizenship Program operates with the highest standards of integrity and compliance. Focus areas include strengthening institutional capacity, improving coordination with domestic and international partners, and introducing secure digital systems to enhance efficiency and accountability.

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

"Rehabilitating offenders for reintegration into the community"



Chief Correctional Officer- Jezza Uepa

Section Summary

The Nauru Correctional Services (NCS), operating under the Department of Justice, is committed to the safe, humane, and effective management of prisoners, aligned with international standards and Nauruan cultural values. The Centre provides custodial care and rehabilitation services aimed at reducing reoffending and supporting reintegration into the community.

The Correctional Centre has a total bed capacity of 82 across three sections, male, female, and juvenile with two high-risk isolation areas. Rehabilitation remains a key focus, with prisoners participating in programs to build life skills and address behavioral needs.

Major achievements this year include the successful establishment of an agriculture farm and the acquisition of a fishing boat, enabling the sale of livestock and fish products and enhancing prisoner skill development, while reducing financial dependence on government funding.

NCS remains committed to continuous improvement, with key priorities for the coming year including staff capacity building, facility upgrades, better case management, and enhanced rehabilitation initiatives. Throughout 2024–2025, the Centre welcomed visits from the Honourable Minister for Justice, religious groups, and senior government officials, reflecting ongoing community engagement.

Contribution to NSDS Priority Area Cross-Goal 2

Nauru Correctional Services remains committed to strengthening the justice, law, and order sectors in line with NSDS Priority Area Cross-Goal 2. Through the secure and humane management of inmates, the Department ensures compliance with international standards while promoting rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

Key initiatives this year included the establishment of an Agriculture and Fisheries Program to equip inmates with life skills, extensive staff training to improve service delivery, and regular medical and mental health screenings to safeguard wellbeing.



Tuna fish catch.



Inmates showcasing their carpentry skills through practical work carried out at the Corrections Garage.



Christmas gifts from churches.

Engagement activities, such as family visits, religious services, and participation in national events, have fostered public confidence and supported community reintegration.

By focusing on rehabilitation, capacity building, operational transparency, and partnerships with stakeholders, Nauru Correctional Services continues to advance a safer and more resilient justice system for the Republic of Nauru.



Deputy Correctional Officer – Kero attending conference in Singapore.

Key Achievements

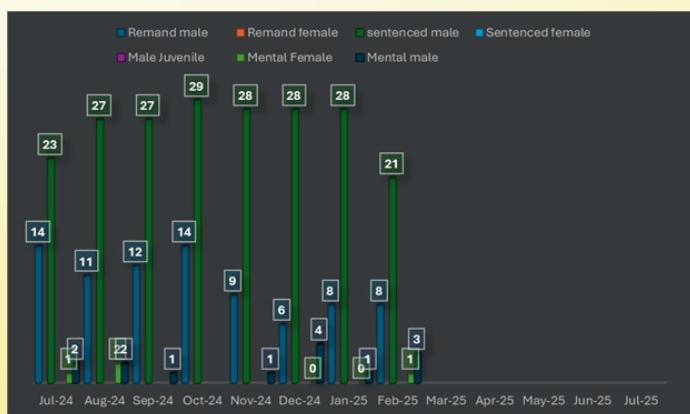
- **Established an agriculture farm and acquired a fishing boat**, providing inmates with new life skills and generating revenue through livestock, egg, and fish sales.
- **Expanded inmate rehabilitation programs**, focusing on behavioural development, carpentry skills, and life skills for reintegration.
- **Opened a new correctional complex**, inspected and endorsed by the Honourable Minister for Justice and Border Control.
- **Strengthened staff capacity**, with officers undertaking training in Basic English and literacy development.
- **Enhanced inmate welfare**, through regular medical check-ups, TB screenings, and weekly mental health visits.
- **Fostered community engagement**, hosting Christmas events, religious services, and inmate participation in national celebrations.
- **Maintained operational compliance** with the Nauru Correctional Services Act 2009 and Correctional Regulation 2020.

Capacity Building

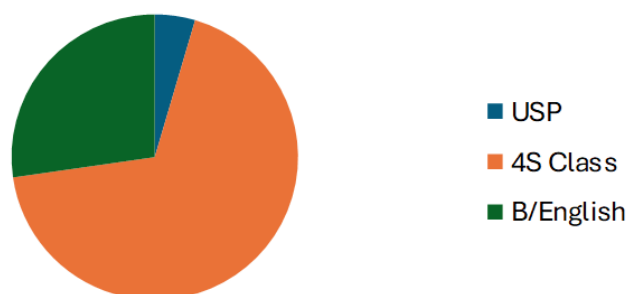
1. Opportunities are given to the staff to take part in any available course or they can chose training that capable to their standards.
2. Training is limited to staff to which be subject to funding Budget.

Applicant (Staff)	Course	Venue
5	Basic English	USP Campus
20	4S approach to literacy	Correctional Center

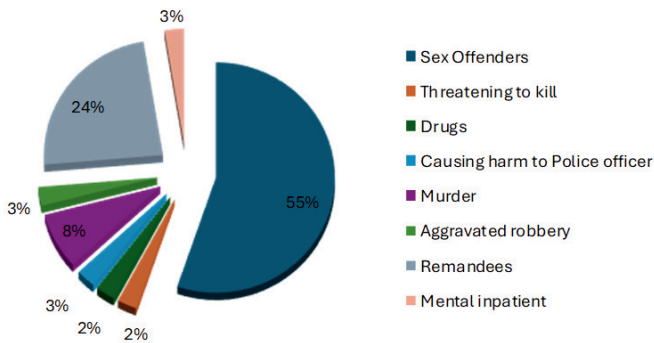
Statistics



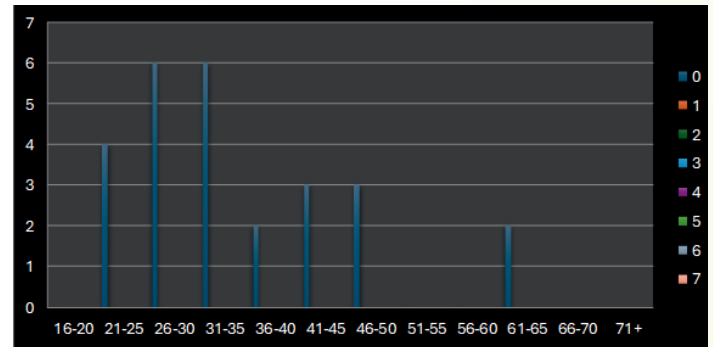
Staff Training Chart



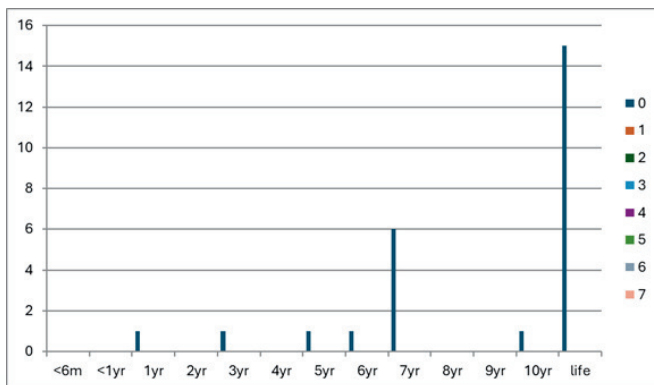
Type of Offence Committed [Sentence] NCS DATA



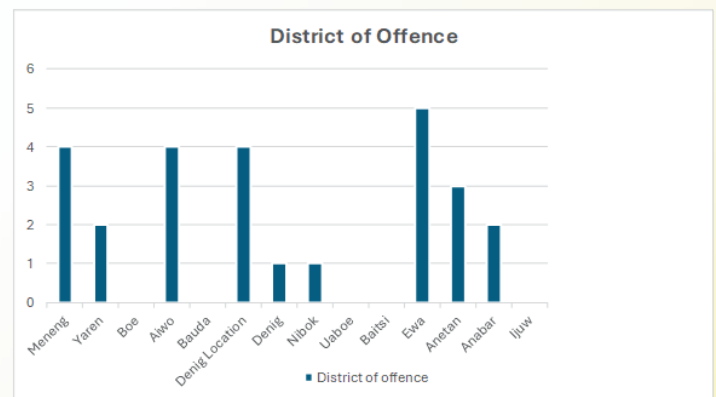
Inmates Age Rate Record



Length of Sentence



Crime Scene [Occurrence of the Offence]



Challenges

Despite the progress achieved, Nauru Correctional Services continues to face several challenges, including limited training opportunities for staff due to budget constraints, the need for better infrastructure and facilities to support a growing inmate population, and the management of individual inmate case files. Maintaining a balance between security and humane treatment, ensuring consistent delivery of rehabilitation programs, and addressing health and mental health needs of inmates remain ongoing priorities. Resource limitations and operational pressures highlight the need for continuous improvement to uphold public confidence and community safety.

Future Developments

Nauru Correctional Services remains committed to continuous improvement with a focus on strengthening staff capacity through ongoing training, securely and humanely managing offenders, and enhancing inmate rehabilitation programs. The Department plans to improve individual case management systems, further develop correctional infrastructure, and expand life skills programs to better prepare inmates for reintegration. Upholding transparency and natural justice practices remains a priority to maintain public confidence and support community safety.

DOG MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL UNIT

"Being safe is being responsible"



Director - Dawson Agege

Section Summary

The Dog Management and Control Unit, established under the Dog Management and Control Act 2017, plays a vital role in protecting public safety, promoting responsible dog ownership, and improving community wellbeing. This reporting period saw significant progress in the Unit's ongoing mission to address the threat posed by stray and dangerous dogs.



**NSDS PRIORITY AREA 4
CROSS-GOAL 2**

**STRENGTHEN
PARLIAMENT,
AUDIT, JUSTICE,
LAW, ORDER
AND BORDER CONTROL**

Operational Highlights

During the reporting year, the Unit successfully removed approximately **780 stray and unlicensed dogs** from the community. This includes dogs that were surrendered, impounded, or destroyed. The Unit maintained compliance with strict legal and humane standards throughout all operations.

Community Impact

The outcomes of the Unit's activities have had positive effects on public life:

- **Improved Safety:** Fewer stray dogs have reduced the risk of attacks, allowing residents to walk, jog, and cycle safely along public roads.
- **Protection of Livelihoods:** Farmers have reported a marked decrease in livestock attacks, especially to chickens and pigs, helping to sustain small-scale community agriculture.
- **Health and Hygiene:** Reduced nuisance from faeces and noise in public areas, enhancing general cleanliness and comfort.

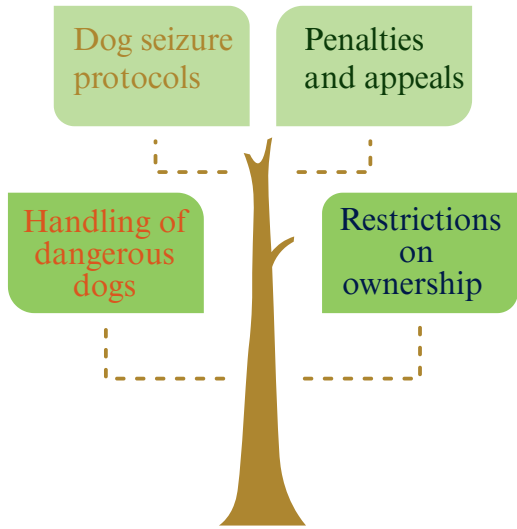
Challenges and Way Forward

The Unit faced challenges including resistance from aggressive dog owners. Moving forward, the Unit aims to improve public awareness, strengthen collaboration with key agencies, and seek additional resources to boost operational capacity.



Legislative Compliance

All operations were conducted in accordance with the Dog Management and Control Act 2017 and its associated regulations, including:



IMMIGRATION DIVISION

"Protecting Nauru's sovereign borders and its national security"



Director - Darlene Dabana

Section Summary

The Immigration Division remains a cornerstone of Nauru's national security strategy. Comprising a director and 15 officers, the division oversees the full lifecycle of immigration operations—from visa processing to border control and enforcement of the Immigration Act 2014. This year, the division improved service delivery, supported overstayers in regularizing their status, enhanced internal records, and developed officer capabilities through targeted training.

Continued efforts to modernize infrastructure and build regional partnerships will further strengthen border integrity and promote compliance, aligning with the Division's ongoing commitment to protecting Nauru's sovereignty and national security.

NSDS Priority Area Cross - Goal 2:

Strengthen Parliament, Audit, Justice, Law, Order and Border Control

Key Activities

- Visa Issuance
- Airport Operation -Flight/ Pax/ Arrival /Departure data input
- Seaport Vessel/ Cruiser arrival/ Departure input
- Improving records management



Capacity Building and Training

1. USP

- Basic Computer – 2 officers
- Business Administration – 1 officer
- Human Resources Management - 1 officer

2. DATEC – UNDP funded

- Fundamental (Excel) – 2 officers
- Advance Excel – 2 officers

3. PIDC (Pacific Immigration Development Community)

- Reporting and information sharing platforms – 2 officers

4. JHOPS (Joint Heads of Pacific Security)

- Borders Security – 2 officers

Key Achievement



Received printer for main office to ease the problem of printing daily application.



Fill the Vacant Position



Upgrade skills (USP) (Microsoft ware) – 2 officers completed the course.

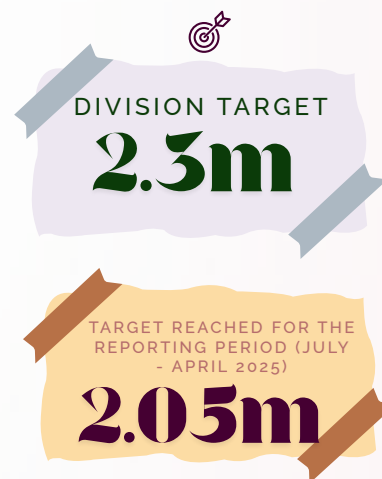


Updated status for overstayed.

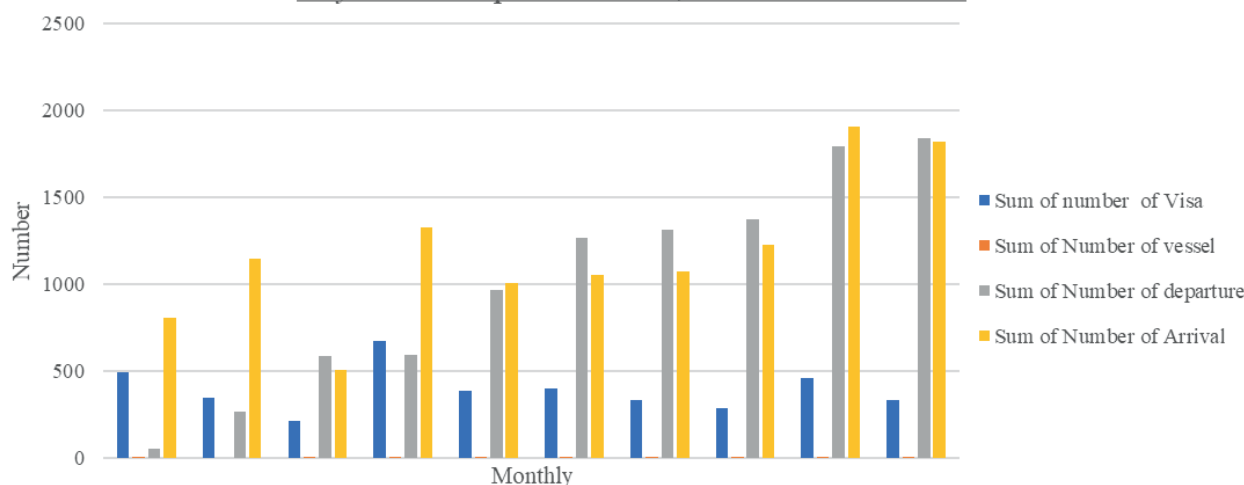
Statistic

Visa from July,2024 to April 2025

Month	Number of Visa	Revenue	Number of Vessel	Number of Departure	Number of Arrival
July	673	\$ 231,140.00	4	592	1325
August	345	\$ 205,710.00	-	265	1145
September	290	\$ 262,950.00	1	1372	1229
October	331	\$ 277,650.00	3	1841	1822
November	461	\$ 205,620.00	2	1794	1905
December	332	\$ 267,010.00	1	1314	1072
January	496	\$ 170,100.00	2	54	804
February	403	\$ 161,210.00	1	1267	1054
March	384	\$ 199,540.00	1	965	1006
April	217	\$ 69,810.00	1	587	507
Total Amount	3,932.00	\$ 2,050,740.00	16	10,051.00	11,869.00



July 2024 to April 2025 Pax, Vessel and Visa Data



Key Challenges

The Immigration Division continues to face operational challenges such as unreliable internet connectivity, which disrupts visa processing and data input functions. Additionally, the passport scanning system at the airport remains inactive, forcing officers to rely on manual checks, which slows operations and affects accuracy. Internally, database updates and time management also remain ongoing administrative concerns.

Way Forward

To address these issues, the Division plans to migrate its systems to a cloud-based platform, enhancing reliability and efficiency. It also seeks international support and technical partnerships to modernize visa issuance and border control infrastructure, ensuring stronger national security outcomes.

PASSPORT DIVISION

"Connecting you to the world"



Director- Ruby Emiu

Section Summary

The Passport Division operates under the Passports Act 2011 and in accordance with ICAO international standards. Its core functions include issuing passports and travel documents, replacing lost or damaged passports, and providing certificates of identity.

Between 1 July 2024 and 11 April 2025, the Division maintained its services despite operational challenges, securing a printing slot with its long-standing supplier to deliver diplomatic passports by 31 March 2025. It also strengthened national security through an MoU with the Nauru Police Force and other agencies to combat transnational crime.

Working closely with the Nauru Citizenship Secretariat Office (NCSO), the Division ensures that travel documents are issued only after lawful conferment of citizenship under the NECRC Act 2024, maintaining integrity from application to issuance. Participation in international workshops on biometrics, document security, and e-passport readiness supports Nauru's transition to biometric e-passports by 2030.

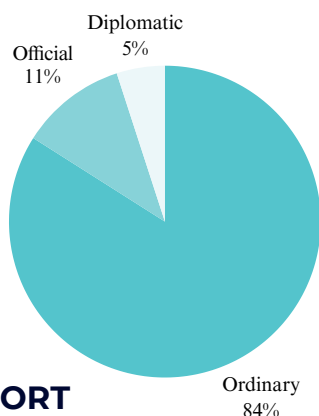


The Passport Division advanced key priorities under NSDS Goal 4-strengthening justice, law, order, and border control-through operational success, inter-agency collaboration, and capacity building. A secure printing slot with the supplier ensured timely delivery of diplomatic passports by 31 March 2025, showcasing a trusted 20-year partnership. On 2 April, the Division was a core stakeholder in the MoU signed with law enforcement and border agencies to address transnational crime. Staff flexibility enabled swift responses to operational challenges, despite scanner shortages. Capacity building was prioritized, with officers completing training in computing, Excel, and international compliance. The Senior Processing Officer also represented Nauru at ICBWG, IOM, and UNHCR workshops, focusing on travel document security and refugee access. These efforts reflect a commitment to modernizing services and meeting global standards. Total passport revenue from July 2024 to April 2025 was \$112,680.00.

Statistics

Passport production and revenue from July 1st to 8th April 2025 - \$112,680.00.

Passports Summary July 2024 - April 2025



Revenue from the sale of ordinary passports July 1st 2024, to 11th April 2025.

\$112,120.00

Innovations

- **Gamified Awareness Campaign:** Engage the public through interactive media games to educate them about correcting biodata.
- **Collaborative Training:** Partner with global experts for staff training and may be host an innovation summit.
- **Blockchain Security:** Use blockchain technology for passport data storage to ensure transparency and prevent tampering.

Key Challenges and Way Forward

The Passport Division faces challenges in implementing e-Passports due to funding constraints, with MRP passports set to phase out by 2029. ICAO and ICBWG recommend that Small Island States transition by 2025–26 to allow time for system adjustments. High costs from small-batch passport orders strain the budget, requiring donor support to finalize contracts and material procurement. Future plans include upgrading to biometric e-Passports with PKI security, raising public awareness on accurate biodata, cross-training staff, and transitioning to electronic filing. These efforts aim to modernize operations, reduce fraud, and meet the 2030 compliance deadline for international travel document standards.

Photos

Passport section at work.



QUARANTINE DIVISION

"Protecting the people of Nauru from the entry and spread of pests and diseases"



Director - Amy Tsitsi

Section Summary

The Nauru Quarantine Division protects the nation from invasive pests and diseases. Operating 24/7 at airports, seaports, and cargo depots, the division ensures compliance with the Agricultural Quarantine Act 1999 and the Plant and Animal Quarantine Regulations 2004.

Organizational Overview

The division comprises 16 staff members and operates through four key units:



Airport Operations



Seaport Operations



Surveillance Unit



Trade Unit

Key Operational Highlights

Airport Operations

- 6 passenger flights weekly (avg. 100 passengers each)
- 1 freighter weekly with ~5 food pallets
- 50kg of non-compliant goods destroyed weekly

Seaport Operations

- ~130 containers/month (1,400 annually)
- One container with spoiled chicken confiscated; \$100,000 fine issued

Surveillance Unit

- Active programs targeting Yellow Crazy Ants and Mango Fruit Flies
- 10,000 fruit flies captured in 3 months

Inspection Overview



This bar chart shows consistent levels of sea container inspections throughout the year, with a slight increase in October, January, and May. It reflects the division's continuous effort in managing biosecurity risks associated with maritime trade.

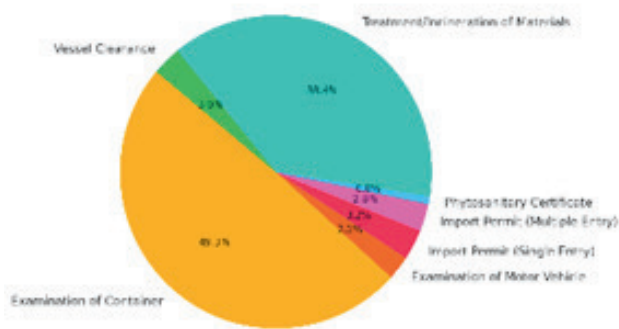
"Every container inspected is a step toward protecting our island from harmful pests and diseases - biosecurity begins at the border."



Revenue Breakdown by Source (2024-2025)

Total Revenue:

\$283,700



This chart illustrates the various revenue sources within the Trade Unit. The largest contributor is the examination of containers, accounting for nearly 50% of total revenue, followed by treatment/incineration services. This visual emphasizes the operational significance of container inspections and biosecurity compliance actions in generating income.

Training & Development

- Attended regional phytosanitary and container inspection workshops in Fiji.
- National legislation review with SPC consultant.
- Received 8-tonne incinerator via SAFE Project for confiscated items.



Quarantine officers during a training session.



The Director signs a Memorandum of Understanding between the Nauru Police Force and key stakeholders, reinforcing a united commitment to combating transnational and financial crimes. This agreement marks a critical step toward strengthening collaborative efforts in investigation and prosecution, safeguarding national sovereignty and community stability.

Challenges

The Nauru Quarantine Division continues to face critical challenges that impact its operational efficiency and responsiveness. Chief among these are staffing shortages, which result in high workloads and limit the division's ability to adequately cover all points of entry around the clock. The growing volume of global trade has increased the number of consignments and inspection duties, further straining limited resources. Additionally, the continued reliance on manual reporting systems affects data accuracy and slows the processing of quarantine records and risk assessments. External threats, including the emergence of new pests and diseases, and potential changes in international regulatory frameworks, also pose ongoing risks to national biosecurity.

Way Forward

To address these challenges, the division plans to expand staff training programs and advocate for increased recruitment to ensure adequate coverage and expertise. Emphasis will be placed on adopting digital inspection and reporting technologies to improve efficiency and reduce the risk of human error. Investment in enhanced surveillance tools and techniques will support proactive pest management, while collaboration with regional partners and legislative reforms will help align Nauru's quarantine system with evolving international biosecurity standards. These initiatives will enable the division to remain resilient and responsive in a rapidly changing global environment.

CAPACITY BUILDING



3 Pleaders from the Department of Justice and Border Control completed a two-week study tour in Fiji, engaging with private and public sector law firms as part of capacity building and professional development efforts.



Representatives from DJBC, Marley and Shantel attended the Basics of International Nuclear Safeguards Engagement Program Course to strengthen Nauru's nuclear safeguard capacity



On 29-31 October, the 43rd Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network (PILON) Annual Meeting was held in Fiji. PILON is a network of senior law officers from 19 Pacific Island countries, including Australia and New Zealand, who work together to contribute to a safe and secure Pacific by advancing key law and justice issues. With the financial support of UNDP, Nauru went full force with a team of 8 staff from DJBC.

2 dedicated staff attended the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering in Malaysia from 11-13 November 2024. The Typologies Workshop included two streams, abuse of legal persons and cyber-enabled fraud/scams.



Febony and Wylie attended the High-Level Regional Conference on Beneficial Ownership Transparency in Australia

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Construction of DJBC building



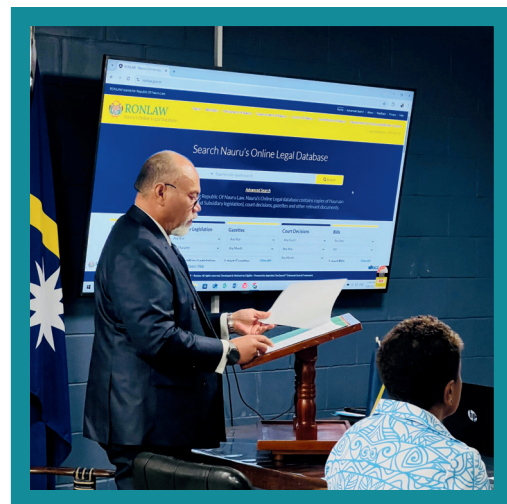
The DJBC had launched the construction of a new double-storey central office building, marking a key step toward strengthening institutional capacity and improving public service delivery. Scheduled for completion by July this year.

This project supports the Department's strategic goals of workforce expansion, operational efficiency, and service integration, and aligns with the National Sustainable Development Strategy under Cross-Goal 2: Strengthening Parliament, Justice, Law, Order, and Border Control.

Website Establishment

The DJBC website continues to provide crucial data and updates on the DJBC sections and registries, enhancing visibility and our services to the wider community.

JBC information is fully accessible on <https://justice.gov.nr>



Establishment of e-Passport System

E-passport Policies and staffing are in place. Nauru is well on its way to join the growing list of countries that have an e-passport system. This initiative is to add a layer of security to the traditional Nauru passports, reduce identity fraud and increase the effectiveness of citizen travel.



PHOTO EXHIBITION



Supreme Court bar admission for our newest JBC lawyer, Mrs. Tea.

JBC counsels catching up while waiting for the Continuing Legal Education session to begin.



Fishing offers good health, technical knowledge and skills to inmates.



The mandatory selfie when there's good lighting



Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress and working together is success

Spot the thorn amongst the roses



JBC ladies ensuring that there is gender balance in the working group



Smiles, laughter and a whole lot of of cuteness



Inmates fixing their fences



Correctional Officers ready for another training



Meetings becomes high priority when there is free food

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Training



The drafting team trained Judiciary staff on updating Services 1–3 of the Law Volumes to ensure all 10 sets are current.

The Legislative Drafting Office assisted the Department of Infrastructure with public consultations on the Building Control Bill, targeting contractors, suppliers, and Cabinet. Stella from JBC supported public outreach through a radio interview explaining the Bill's purpose and content.

Training was also provided to Heads of Departments and DFAT staff on using the new RONLAW website, launched on 9 May 2025. The Minister for Justice acknowledged UNDP and all contributors. Acting Secretary for Justice, Ms Loretta Teueli, demonstrated the new website's features, including improved search functions.



Business Sector Public Notices



Through the official Government of Nauru Facebook page, the Business Registration Section under the Department of Justice and Border Control (DJBC) issued proactive public notices and reminders to businesses regarding the renewal of licences and compliance deadlines.



Public Notice by the Curator's Office

Public Notice
A list of beneficiaries who have yet to collect their entitlements is posted here.
THE OFFICE OF THE CURATOR

The Office of the Curator published a list of beneficiaries who have yet to collect their entitlements and displayed the notice prominently at the entrance of the Justice Department building.

TABLES & FIGURES

Office of the Secretary for Justice and Border Control (JBC Secretariat)	Secretary for Justice	Janmaj Jay Udit	M	Contract
	Senior Personal Assistant	Febony Detenamo	F	Band 8.1 – \$18,679 pa
	Director Finance and Administration	Angelina Itsimaera	F	Band 12.1 - \$24,075pa
	Assistant Director Finance and Administration	Letima Adire	F	Band 9.1 – \$19,113 pa
	Paralegal [Citizenships, Adoptions, Trusts and Seabed Mining]	Kayla Akua	F	Band 9.1– \$19,113 pa
	Clerical Officer	Toanteraoi Raimon		Band 4.1 - \$13,503 pm
Office of the Solicitor General (OSG)	Solicitor General	Bhavna Narayan	F	Contract
	Personal Assistant	Taesha Aliklik <i>[study leave]</i>	F	Band 7.1 - \$16,389 pm
	Principal Legal Officer	vacant		
	Senior Legal Officer	Patricia Grundler	F	Band 13.1.2 - \$27,302 pa
	Senior Legal Officer	Surely Kamataura	F	Band 13.1.2 - \$27,302 pa
	Legal Officer	Vacant	F	Band 13.1.2 - \$26,060 pa
	Legal Officer	Vacant	F	Band 13.1.2 - \$26,060 pa
	Pleader (Civil Litigation)	Jeruska Togoran <i>[study leave]</i>	F	Band 11 – \$22,210 pa
	Pleader (Civil Litigation)	Dane Dagaego	M	Band 11 – \$22,210 pa
Paralegal (Civil Litigation)	Ofa Fay Temaki	F	Band 9 – \$19,113 pa	
Corporations, Partnerships, Associations and Trusts (CPAT)	Registrar	Secretary for Justice	F	Contract
	Deputy Registrar Corporations	Wylie Detenamo	M	Band 11.1 – \$22,210 pa
	Pleader [Corporations and Businesses]	Kosak Kosam <i>[study leave]</i>	M	Band 11.1 – \$22,210 pa
	Paralegal [CPAT]	Letisha Adire		Band 9.1 – \$19,113 pa
	Paralegal [Business Registration, Business Licenses, Beneficial Ownership]	Tulip Agir <i>[Temp]</i>	F	Band 9.1 – \$19,113 pa
	Business Licensing Inspector	CJ Ratu Waqa	M	Band 5.1 - \$14,313pa
	Deputy Registrar Business	Camellia Renzo	F	Band 11.1 – \$22,210 pa
Internship [Business]	Holly Canon	F	Band 5.1 - \$14,313pa	
Intellectual Property Division (IPD)	Pleader [Intellectual Property]	Regina Deidenang	F	Band 11 – \$22,210 pa
	Pleader [Intellectual Property]	Marilyn Deireregea	F	Band 11 – \$22,210 pa
	Paralegal [Intellectual Property]	Justine Akubor	F	Band 9 – \$19,113 pa

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP)	Director of Public Prosecutions	Andie Driu	F	Contract
	Principal Public Prosecutor	Saif Izaan Shah	M	Contract
	Senior Public Prosecutor	Margaret Suifaasia	M	Contract
	Senior Public Prosecutor	Vacant	F	Contract
	Police Liaison Officer			
	Public Prosecutor	Wenona Deive	F	Band 13 - \$26,002 pa
	Public Prosecutor	Vacant	M	Band 13 - \$26,002 pa
	Pleader	Kori Itsimaera	F	Band 11 – \$22,210 pa
	Pleader	Vacant		Band 11 – \$22,210 pa
Paralegal	Cicily Baguga	F	Band 9 – \$19,113 pa	
Office of the Public Legal Defender (OPLD)	Director Public Legal Defender	Ravuanimasei Tagivakatini	M	Contract
	Principal Public Legal Defender	Shantel Natasha Hazelman	F	Contract
	Senior Public Defender	Vacant		Band 13.1.2 - \$27,302 pa
	Senior Public Defender	Vacant		Band 13.1.2 - \$27,302 pa
	Public Defender	Vacant		Band 13.1 - \$26,002 pa
	Public Defender	Vacant		Band 13.1- \$26,002 pa
	Pleader	Lisa Marie Solomon		Band 11.1 – \$22,210 pa
Office of the Public Legal Defender (OPLD)	Pleader	Chloe Adeang		Band 11.1 – \$22,210 pa
	Paralegal	Princess Honey [study leave]		Band 9 – \$19,113 pa
Office of the Curator	Curator Intestate Estates	Brenda Soriano	F	Band 10 – \$20,641 pa
	Curator Clerical Officer	Mercy Detenamo	F	Band 4 - \$13,503 pa
Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)	Supervisor – Financial Intelligence Unit	Rajas Swamy	M	Contract
	Assistant Supervisor – Financial Intelligence Unit	Bernard Grundler		Band 13 - \$26,002 pa
	Financial Intelligence Unit Officer	Rogous Aingimea	M	Band 11 – \$22,210 pa
Office of the Director of Human Rights	Director Human Rights	Stella Duburiya	F	Band 13.3.1 – \$28,667 pa
	Pleader [Human Rights]	Katherine Belong		Band 11 – \$22,210 pa
	Paralegal [Human Rights]	Vacant		Band 9 – \$19,113 pa
Immigration Division	Director of Immigration	Vacant		Band 13.3.1 – \$28,667 pa
	Assistant Director of Immigration	Darlene Dabana	F	Band 12 - \$24,075 pa
	RPC Visa Manager	Bronia Detageouwa (nee Hiram)	F	Band 10 – \$20,641 pa
	Senior Immigration Officer	Vacant		Band 9 – \$19,113 pa
	Senior Immigration Officer	Acting capacity – Greg Garoa	M	Band 9 – \$19,113 pa
	Visa and Immigration Officer	vacant		Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Visa and Immigration Officer	JJ Bop	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa

	Visa and Immigration Officer	<u>Cheisty Duburiya</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Visa and Immigration Officer	<u>Whitney Botelanga</u>	F	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Visa and Immigration Officer	<i>Vacant</i>		Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Immigration Officer	<i>Vacant</i>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Immigration Officer	<u>Deuce Hedmond</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
Immigration Division	Immigration Officer	<u>Starrington Dowabobo</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Immigration Officer	<u>Amuson Bernicke</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Immigration Officer	<u>Ideana Atto</u>	F	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Immigration Officer	Stanton Dame	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Clerical officer	<u>Dawnia Aiyunge</u>	F	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
Passports Division	Director Passports	Ruby Amram	F	Band 13.3.1 – \$28,667 pa
	Senior Passports Officer	<u>Zita Itsimaera</u>	F	Band 9 – \$19,113 pa
	Passports Officer [Records and Data Management]	<u>Kerryn Notte</u>	F	Band 7 - \$16,389 pm
	Passports Officer [Customer Care Services]	<u>Girlina Brechtefeld</u>	F	Band 7 - \$16,389 pm
Quarantine Division	Director of Quarantine	<u>Amy Tsitsi</u>	F	Band 13.3.1 – \$28,667 pa
	Principal Quarantine Officer	Sheba Hubert	F	Band 12 – \$24,075 pa
	Senior Quarantine Officer	Tremaine Dick	M	Band 9 – \$19,113 pa
	Senior Quarantine Officer	<i>Vacant</i>		Band 9 – \$19,113 pa
	Quarantine Officer	<u>Kazna Benjamin</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Quarantine Officer	Pat Cook	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Quarantine Officer	<u>Kane Akubor</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Quarantine Officer	<u>Link Uera</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Quarantine Officer	Norman Cook	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Quarantine Officer	<u>Wilkes Dejve</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Quarantine Officer	<u>Zac Detenamo</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Quarantine Officer	<i>Vacant</i>		Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Quarantine Officer	<u>Kyle Brechtefeld</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Quarantine Officer	Tana Finch	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Quarantine Officer	Bren Heinrich	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
Quarantine Officer	<u>Chamrock Agir</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa	
Clerical Officer	<u>Khaizmen Simon</u>	M	Band 4 - \$13,503 pa	
Dog Management and Control Unit (DMU)	Director Dog Management and Control Unit	<u>Dawson Agege</u>	M	Band 13.3.1 – \$28,667 pa
	Dog Control Supervisor	<u>Daniel Tsiode</u>	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Dog Control Officer	<u>Peter-Posa Deireragea</u>	M	Band 4 - \$13,503 pa
	Dog Control Officer	<u>Jethro Tamakin</u>	M	Band 4 - \$13,503 pa
	Dog Control Officer	<i>Vacant</i>	M	Band 4 - \$13,503 pa
Office of the Legislative Drafter (OLD)	Director Legislative Drafting	<u>Loretta Afamasaga Teueli</u>	F	Contract
	Senior Legislative Drafter	<u>Sioyia Liu</u>	F	Contract
	Legislative Drafter	<u>Arushi Chauhan</u>	F	Contract
	Pleader	<u>Deborah Togoran</u> [study leave]	F	Band 11 – \$22,210 pa

Correctional Service	Chief Correctional Officer	Jezza Uepa	M	Band 13.3.1 – \$28,667 pa
	Deputy Correctional Officer [Administration]	Vitromich Limen		Band 11 – \$22,210 pa
	Deputy Correctional Officer [Operations]	Max Kamtaura	M	Band 11 – \$22,210 pa
	Supervisor [Administration]	Darwina Spanner		Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor [Stores]	Michael K Namaduk	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor	Vacant	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor	Ringo Tannang	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor	Rojay Wabeiya	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor	Wisdom Tannang	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor	Jett Demauna	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor	Lincoln Eoaeo	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor	Jasper Uepa	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor	Jesse Uepa	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor	Mutima Dake	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor	Vacant		Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
Correctional Services	Correctional Officer	Brendan Waidabu	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Brammel Teimitsi	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Langitupu Taleka	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Conack Maaki	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Greco Tom	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Jude Reweru	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Barcelona Star	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Jester Duburiva	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Jesse Cannon	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Iona Julius	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Jaywan Ephraim	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Ramoun Dongobir	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Yanmar Bam	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Ronrico Togagae	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Vincent Deireragea	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Ganibwe Fritz	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Thomas Fritz	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Jackovick Uepa	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Jason Teimitsi	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Tuda Bam	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Rhet Uepa	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Jacob Temaki	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Ruki Kam	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
Correctional Services	Supervisor [Women]	Sandy Angabate	F	Band 8 – \$16, 052 pa
	Supervisor [Women]	Jerusha Mau	F	Band 8 – \$16, 052 pa
	Correctional Officer	Thiana Fritz	F	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Tokaibure Josiann	F	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Joliene Ika	F	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Katherine Agigo	F	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Wynette Demaunga	F	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Correctional Officer	Litany Eoaeo	F	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Supervisor [Juvenile]	Ibnbatuta Deireragea	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Supervisor [Juvenile]	Preslin Aubiat	M	Band 8 – \$18,679 pa
	Juvenile Correctional Officer	Kurt Oscar	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Juvenile Correctional Officer	Delton Depoudu	M	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Juvenile Correctional Officer	Vacant		Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Juvenile Correctional Officer	Vacant		Band 5 - \$14,313pa
	Administrative Officer	Ikinalla Thoma	F	Band 5 - \$14,313pa
Medical Officer	Vacant		Band 11 – \$22,210 pa	
Cook	Vacant		Band 5 - \$14,313pa	

CONCLUSION

The 2024–2025 year has been a period of significant progress and consolidation for the Department of Justice and Border Control. Through its 18 divisions, the Department continued to uphold the rule of law, safeguard national security, and strengthen access to justice for all Nauruans. Each division contributed to advancing legal, regulatory, and border frameworks while maintaining integrity, transparency, and service excellence.

Key achievements included the passage of new legislation and subsidiary laws, the continuous updating of outdated legal frameworks, and regular updates to RONLAW to improve public access to Nauru’s laws. The establishment of the *Nauru Citizenship Secretariat Office (NCSO)* under the *Nauru Economic and Climate Resilience Citizenship Act 2024* marked a major milestone, introducing a robust due diligence and compliance process that strengthens governance and contributes to national revenue.

In the area of border and identity management, the Department enhanced coordination among the Immigration, Passport, and Quarantine divisions, improving record systems, streamlining processes, and reinforcing national protection measures. The Public Legal Defender’s Office and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions continued to ensure fair and efficient administration of justice through quality legal representation and prosecution, while ongoing training and study programs further developed staff capability.

Construction of the new DJBC central office building is well underway and represents an important investment in the Department’s future. The project aims to expand office space to accommodate additional officers and improve working conditions, enabling greater efficiency and productivity across divisions. This development, together with ongoing digital transformation initiatives and strengthened inter-agency cooperation, positions DJBC to operate with increased agility, transparency, and accountability.

While challenges remain in resourcing, technology, and infrastructure, the Department continues to respond through innovation, capacity building, and regional cooperation. Guided by the NSDS Cross-Goal 2, DJBC remains committed to delivering fair, transparent, and secure justice and border services for a safe and resilient Nauru.