

NAURU'S PROPOSALS FOR THE 27th UPU CONGRESS

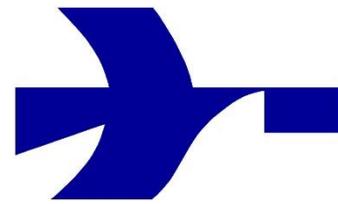
Sasikumar Paravanoor
CEO Nauru Post



REPUBLIC OF NAURU

FOR INFORMATION : Refer APPU EC 2020 Doc 19

**ASIAN-PACIFIC POSTAL UNION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
22 July 2020 , Online Session**



1. Reservation of one seat on each of the CA and POC for the UPU members of the Pacific islands

PROPOSAL

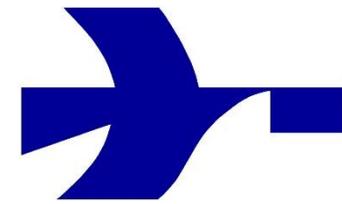
- Nauru has submitted the proposal – changes are required to UPU General Regulations Articles 106 and 112.
- Intention to proceed with this proposal declared at 2019 APPU EC in Tokyo where the basis for proceeding was presented.
- This is a straight forward proposal requiring the reservation of one seat for UPU members of the Pacific islands within the Group IV “Southern Asia and Oceania” allocation of seats to each of the CA and POC.
- If agreed, changes will not come into effect until the 28th UPU Congress in 2024.

REASONS

- Pacific island nations are seeking a voice in these UPU bodies and wish to contribute to the decisions, standards, procedures and policies promulgated for the world’s posts.
- For the last 50 years since Nauru joined the UPU as the first Pacific island member in 1969, no Pacific island nation has held a seat on either of these UPU bodies.
- The Pacific island nations are just seeking an “*equitable representation*” on these bodies, - the Pacific islands represent 5% of the UPU membership and this proposal is just seeking a 2.5% representation on each of the CA and POC.

NEXT CONGRESS

- Whilst the proposal will be decided by the next Congress, should any Pacific island nation stand for election to the CA or POC at the next Congress, it will have to contest its candidacy for a seat alongside other Group IV UPU members who have chosen to stand for election at the 27th UPU Congress.



2. The waiver of Nauru's UPU "debts in arrears"

PROPOSAL

- Nauru has submitted its proposal as a resolution seeking a Congress decision to waive Nauru's UPU "debts in arrears" and to lift the sanctions imposed earlier this year with immediate effect. This would allow Nauru to vote at the 27th UPU Congress.
- This is the only feasible option for Nauru as, if its debts are not set aside, it might lead to Nauru's Postal service being declared bankrupt.
- The resolution also seeks the introduction of procedures which would permit other SIDS nations with populations of less than 200,000 to apply to the CA for similar consideration.

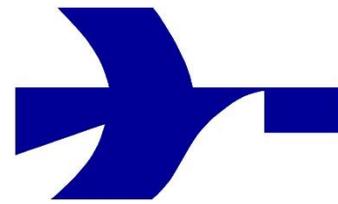
REASONS

- These are detailed in support of the resolution, but simply put, Nauru is seeking a **"Fair Deal"**:
 - Nauru's UPU debts are so large (CHF1.9 million), compared to its small population of just 11,500 people that they are impossible to repay, even when amortized over a ten year period.
 - Nor is it possible to repay just the capital and to seek the waiver of the interest by the CA.
 - The UPU contribution system was flawed – imposing this huge debt on the smallest of the island developing nations (for example, Nauru was expected to pay a per capita UPU annual contribution in 2018 that was over 400 times larger than the per capita annual UPU contribution of one large developed nation with a vibrant economy).
 - The only feasible course is for the UPU and Nauru to recognise these UPU "debts in arrears" as 'bad debts' and for the UPU to **write them off**.

NEXT CONGRESS in ABIDJAN

- Nauru now enjoys a lower UPU annual contribution rate assigned to the small island developing states (SIDS - with populations less than 200,000) which was decided by the 2018 Extraordinary UPU Congress and took effect this year. Nauru has already paid this UPU annual contribution (0.1 units) as it is affordable. However, until its UPU debts are cleared it cannot participate in the UPU and its Congresses as do other members with full voting rights.

Nauru's Proposals for the 27th UPU Congress



Implications for APPU members:

- Please consider these proposals - the Pacific island nations and Nauru especially, would appreciate your support.
- Please be mindful that your position on these proposals may well influence the voting intentions of the Pacific island nations at Congress, including voting by the Pacific island group for candidates within GROUP IV of the CA and POC.

Thank You