

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 2024-25

SECOND READING SPEECH

His Excellency Honourable David Adeang MP

11 March 2025

Mr Speaker Sir,

I present before Parliament the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2024-2025.

This Bill reflects updated revenue and expenditure estimates since the last Supplementary was presented.

Revenue increases

\$5.4 million in new RPC reimbursable revenue from the Government of Australia has been received and will be recognised in this supplementary.

I will now outline the Expenditure changes included in the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2024-25 in more detail.

Expenditure increases

• \$1 million is allocated to Ministerial Department to cover additional essential travel costs for the rest of the financial year

- \$1 million is allocated for the establishment of the new Department of Internal Affairs, which is tasked with managing the administration and operations related to receiving and hosting special cohort transferees from Australia.
- \$0.6 million is allocated to the Presidency department for increased essential travel costs and official celebrations
- \$0.3 million is allocated to the Chief Secretary Office, Statics, DFAT,
 Suva Consulate and Beijing Embassy to cover increased expenditures
 not anticipated in previous supplementary bills.
- In line with maintaining Nauru's fiscal responsibility measures, \$2.4 million is provided to the Fiscal Cash Buffer to address urgent and unavoidable expenditures that may arise for the remainder of this financial year.

The revenue recognised in this supplementary relates to pass through items which, by nature, are excluded from Nauru Trust Fund contribution calculations. Therefore, no allocation is made toward the Trust Fund in this bill.

Mr Speaker,

In addition to the measures, I have outlined above, this Supplementary Appropriation gives us an opportunity to address a housekeeping matter relating to the \$15 million first tranche budget support from the Government of Australia. Specifically, Government will recognise the \$15 million budget support revenue from the Government of Australia and account for it in the revenue estimates for this financial year. The accounting entries will henceforth reflect both the receipt of the budget support into the treasury fund, and the appropriation and transfer of the entire

contribution into the Trust Fund. These accounting changes involve equivalent increases to both revenue and expenditure and will, therefore, have no impact on the overall budget position.

The second and final tranche of the budget support of \$5 million for the 2024-25 financial year was accounted for in Supplementary Appropriation No 3, passed in January, this year.

The Supplementary Appropriation recognises additional government revenue and allocates it toward current and future operational requirements that are priorities for the Government, as well as addressing the housekeeping matter relating to the first tranche of the Australia budget support.

With the passing of this Bill, the approved 2024-25 Budget will recognise total revenue of 20.4 million dollars, comprising the \$5.4 million RPC reimbursable revenue and \$15 million from the budget support funds. It will also appropriate new expenditures of 20.4 million, resulting in a revised budget balance of 0.2 million for the year. Details of the revenue and expenditure are outlined in the supplementary estimates.

Mr Speaker, I commend the Bill to the House.