



REPUBLIC OF NAURU

**Constitution of Nauru (Nauruan Culture  
Amendments) Bill 2013**

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**Serial No. 2 of 2013**

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REPUBLIC OF NAURU

# Constitution of Nauru (Nauruan Culture Amendments) Bill 2013

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Serial No. 2 of 2013

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A Bill for:

An Act to alter The Constitution of Nauru to elevate the recognition of Nauruan culture and for other purposes

*Certified on [ ]*

Enacted by the Parliament of Nauru as follows:

**1 Short title**

This Act may be cited as the *Constitution of Nauru (Nauruan Culture Amendments) Act 2013*.

**2 Commencement**

This Act commences on the day of the general election next following its certification.

**3 Alteration of Constitution of Nauru**

The Schedule alters The Constitution of Nauru.

## SCHEDULE— ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION OF NAURU

### [1] Substitution of Preamble

Preamble

*omit, substitute*

### PREAMBLE

**WHEREAS** Nauru became a sovereign independent Republic on 31 January 1968 under a Constitution prepared by a Constitutional Convention and adopted, enacted and given to the people of Nauru by the people of Nauru on 29 January 1968 to come into force on independence of the Republic;

**And WHEREAS** The Constitution of Nauru was altered by the Constitutional Convention of Nauru under Article 92 at its final meeting on 17 May 1968;

**And WHEREAS** after 40 years, we have reviewed our independence Constitution, and a Constitutional Convention and Parliament representing us have prepared alterations of The Constitution of Nauru in accordance with Article 84;

THE CONSTITUTION IS INTRODUCED AS FOLLOWS:

**WE, THE PEOPLE OF NAURU**, acknowledge God the almighty as the Creator and everlasting Lord and the giver of all good things. We humbly place ourselves under the protection of His good providence and pray for His blessing on our beloved nation, ourselves, our lives and our land. We honour our history and declare our aspirations in this document, and acknowledge that our national motto is 'God's Will First'.

We proudly acknowledge and honour our ancestors, who made this beautiful and isolated island their home and built a friendly society based on amicable agreements. Nauru, our beloved Pacific island home, is the living link between all generations of Nauruans. On this island we have built our own unique society, and we pledge to safeguard and maintain our rightful home, history and future on this island.

Nauru has faced and survived many challenges, including foreign rule and the impact of foreign cultures, the devastation of war, and the destruction of much of the natural beauty of our island. We have been blessed with vast phosphate resources, which we as a people have used with mixed outcomes. In the face of these challenges, our people have proven themselves to be resilient and adaptable.

We deeply respect and acknowledge the great leadership and achievements of our founding forefathers, who struggled for and won our independence, and enabled us to take our place, on equal terms, in the modern family of nations. We extend to other peoples and nations what we seek from them: peace, friendship, mutual understanding and respect for our common humanity and human dignity.

The Nauruan people expect honest and accountable government. We have reviewed our Constitution, striving to ensure that Nauru's future will be bright and that public institutions will serve the people with integrity.

The people of Nauru set out for themselves and for their governing institutions the following principles:

We strive for peace, justice, stability, welfare, progress and prosperity of the people;

Our institutions should serve the people accountably and transparently and observe high ethical standards;

We affirm our commitment to democratic values and affirm that all power belongs to the people acting through their elected representatives and exercised through the institutions established in this Constitution, and that the people should participate in the governance of their affairs;

We uphold respect for human dignity and the human rights of all people and affirm the protection of fundamental and inalienable rights and freedoms under Part II of this Constitution;

We seek to preserve the value of resolving matters of importance by consensus or compromise and recognise the need for courtesy and respect;

We recognise the importance of communities, respect for elders, and the strength and support of the family;