Madam Chair,

Ia ora na / mo yeko / good afternoon to all.

I am pleased to submit Nauru’s National Report in making progress by far since becoming a member of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) under UNESCO.

On the 4th of September 2015, Nauru government signed an IOC membership contract which officially registered Nauru a member of the IOC.

Under the contract, it stipulates that the Secretary for National Emergency Services is recognized as the National and Focal Contact person. Once the Meteorology Services is established and up and functioning, the Focal Point roles will be handed to the Meteorology office and the contact person remains with NDRM manager.

As most of us here knows that Nauru is probably one of the last pacific country to join the IOC.

Though Nauru recently, becoming a member of the IOC, in 2011 Nauru NDRM Office invited 2 consultants from SPC to assist NDRMO to develop Nauru Tsunami Plan. We are grateful to have Noa Tokavou and Rajendra Prasad in Nauru to develop the Tsunami Plan. However, the Tsunami Plan is still in its final draft phase. This coming April NES department has rescheduled Mr Tokavou and Mr Prasad to visit Nauru again to complete and finalize the Tsunami Plan.

**Progressing forward:**

On May the 11th of 2015, the Government approves a resolution to create a new Ministry; the new Ministry is called the National Emergency Services (NES) under the portfolio of the President.

The new Ministry is an upgrade status of NDRM office to take up greater roles and responsibilities to improve on national planning, preparedness, response and recovery.

Under the new Ministry are 4 sections and namely; the Rescue & Fire Services, Ambo & Emergency, Life Guard and the National Meteorology Services.

The NES department has secured a project under EU-EDF10 for Building Safety and Resilient in the Pacific (BSRP). The project is to build the National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC) and Meteorology Station.
The building project is a 2 storey building which the Meteorology station is located on the ground floor and on the top floor the NEOC and NES Head Office.

At current we have only one established officer running the meteorology services and he is currently undergoing training with Nadi Meteorology Services under JICA funding. We are grateful for Nadi meteorology office and JICA for the training opportunity.

This year we are proposing for another Meteorology Officer to come on board.

In regards to Meteorology equipments, we are in arrangement with SPREP to assist in providing meteorology equipments under FINPAC funding assistance.

This 27th Meeting for the ICG for the Pacific Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation is my first official attendance, which I am grateful to be here attending and representing Nauru in this important meeting, to share and report of the current progress on NES department or to be more specific the tsunami arrangement for Nauru.

The NES department along with RFS and the Police Force have conducted and established a School Fire & Tsunami evacuation drills. In tsunami drills evacuation, we try to maintain a 20minutes evacuation time clock, no more than 30minutes that, for each School to walk to their respective safe assembly areas, which the safe area is going up to higher ground safe from inundation zone.

The window time to evacuate the entire nation is 3hrs if the tsunami is coming from the New Britain and the New Hebrides trenches. Tsunami to come from Japan or South America is more than 15hrs from time of marine eruption and mass of water to reach across Nauru. By then the energy of the mass water would have been weakened and no destruction to coastal area.

This drill is conducted once a year for all 10 Schools from kindergarten to high school including the Able Disable Centre.

The NES department when receiving tsunami messages from PTWC will make its own calculation of possible threat. For imminent threat NDRM office forward the threat message to the President for his approval and authorization to activate a national evacuation, then dissemination of tsunami message via Digicel, Nauru radio and fire truck sirens.

In closing, I would further, to seek more assistance from IOC/ITIC, for Nauru still lacks many things in regards to hazard monitoring and early warning system tools and more importantly more training on tsunami for Nauru.

To have this system in place will put Nauru in a better position to monitor Earth-Quake’s and Tsunami threats, even though a distance threat, will give the disaster managers a clear information and decision making in regards to tsunami threat.

Tubwa, Madam Chair.