



Te Kommunique

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS & IMMIGRATION

July - September
NEWSLETTER

46th Kiribati National Day



ACCELERATING PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT; A time for all I-Kiribati to reflect on our history, celebrate our national identity and sovereignty, and look forward to the future. Across the islands, the day is celebrated with formal flag-raising ceremonies, presidential speeches, vibrant cultural performances, and community-wide festivities.

Kiribati National Day Celebrated in New Delhi



A Gathering of Unity and Pride

The Kiribati National Day was proudly commemorated in New Delhi, India, on 12th July 2025, in a heartfelt gathering that brought together Kiribati patients and their attendants currently receiving medical treatment at Fortis Hospital. The occasion served not only as a celebration of Kiribati's independence and cultural identity but also as a meaningful opportunity to connect and uplift the spirits of citizens far from home.

(POC) Presentation of Credentials to Kiribati Head of State



On the 24th of July 2025, His Excellency Mr. Kanbar Hossein-Bor, British High Commissioner to the Republic of Kiribati formally presented his Letters of Credence to His Excellency Te Beretitenti Taneti Maamau.



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(POC) Presentation of Credentials to Kiribati Head of State



On the **25th of July 2025**, His Excellency Mr. Edgar Tomas Q. Auxillian, Philippines Ambassador to the Republic of Kiribati formally presented his Letters of Credence to His Excellency Te Beretitenti Taneti Maamau.

UN Women Representative Presentation of Credentials

Singapore's Ambassador to The Pacific Islands Forum Official Visit to Kiribati



On **Monday, 4th August 2025**, Ms. Alison Miriam Davidian, UN Women Representative for the Fiji Multi-Country Office, presented her letters of appointment to the Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration, Mr. Uering Iteraera.



Mrs Seet-Cheng with Secretary Uering Iteraera for Foreign Affairs and Immigration



Mr and Mrs Seet-Cheng and Delegation with Director Teata Terubea for Asia Pacific Division

On the **28th July 2025**, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Immigration warmly welcomed Her Excellency Mrs Mary Seet-Cheng, Singapore's Ambassador to the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, on her official visit to Kiribati. Her Excellency's visit concluded on the **31st July 2025**, with farewells at Bonriki International Airport.



Seminar on Shipping Business and Maritime Management for Pacific Island Countries and the Indian Ocean Region



On the 8th of August 2025, Deputy Director **Annette Leonila Tokataake** and Desk Officer **Turia Tekirua** along with colleagues from the Ministry of Information, Communications and Transport, Ms **Kiritaake Teannaki** and Mr **Jang Eria** attended the **Seminar on Shipping Business and Maritime Management for Pacific Island Countries and the Indian Ocean Region** in Fuzhou, China.

Seminar on Chinese Modernization and Global Shared Development for Developing countries



The Multilateral Affairs Division was represented by **Tioti Batua** along with Colleagues from the Public Service Office **Ruitiari** and **Raewa** at an important international seminar held in **Beijing, China**. From **September 11th to 24th**, Mr. Batua participated in the **Seminar on Chinese Modernization and Global Development for Developing Countries**, gaining valuable insights relevant to our nation's development strategies.

Training for New Standardization on New Vehicle (Belt and Road Initiative)



From September 10th to 23rd, 2025, Ms. **Bwabwai Marewenibeia** participated in the "Training Seminar on New Vehicle Standardization (Belt and Road Initiatives)" held in **Chengdu and Chongqing, China**. The seminar was organized by the **Chengdu Institute of Standardization and the International Standardization Talent Training and Communication Base**.



The Seminar on Standardization of the New Vehicle for the Belt and Road brought together **experts, policymakers, and industry representatives** from **different Countries** to exchange ideas, share experiences, and strengthen mutual understanding on the path toward **harmonized vehicle standards**.



MFAI UPDATES

July - September

Fact-Finding for Establishing a Kiribati Diplomatic Mission In New Zealand



A fact-finding mission was conducted from August 11 to August 15, 2025, to advance the establishment of a new Kiribati Diplomatic Mission in New Zealand. The mission included meetings with MFAT officials (including the Secretary) and Hakili Matagi. The visit was initiated with traditional protocol, featuring a Mihi Whakatau and a welcoming ceremony held at the Marae.

left: Kiribati Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration Secretary Mr. Uering Iteraera. Right: New Zealand Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Chief Executive of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade Mr. Bede Corry



H.E. Feue Tipu, High Commissioner for Tuvalu; H.E. Jimmy Nipo, High Commissioner for Vanuatu; Mrs. Eileen Pickering, First Secretary from the Fiji High Commission; and various staff members from MFAT (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade)



Kiribati Participates in the 4th PNA Leaders' Summit in Tuvalu



Leaders of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) comprising FSM, Kiribati, RMI, Nauru, Palau, PNG, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, and Tokelau, met in Funafuti, Tuvalu, from 1–5 September 2025 for their 4th PNA Leaders' Summit under the theme “Our Shared Path to Sustainable Development and Full Control of Tuna Fisheries.” The meeting focused on strategies to maximize economic benefits from the region’s tuna resources, which, though the world’s largest and healthiest, continue to yield limited returns for PNA countries.

The Government of Kiribati through Ministry of Fisheries and Ocean Resources, the Office of Te Beretitenti, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration expressed appreciation to the Tuvalu Fisheries Authority and the people of Tuvalu for their warm hospitality and excellent organization of a successful summit.

The 54 th Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' and Related Meetings, Honiara



The 54th Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' Meeting (PIFLM54) was held in Honiara, Solomon Islands, from 8 to 12 September 2025, under the theme “Iumi Together: Act Now for an Integrated Blue Pacific Continent.” The meeting brought together leaders from across the Pacific to discuss urgent regional priorities, including climate change, sustainable development, digital transformation, and regional security.



MFAI UPDATES

July - September

The 54 th Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' and Related Meetings, Honiara

The week opened with the **Smaller Island States (SIS) Leaders' Meeting**, during which His Excellency Wesley Simina, President of the Federated States of Micronesia, handed over the SIS Chairmanship to His Excellency Taneti Maamau, President of the Republic of Kiribati. In accepting the role, President Maamau reaffirmed the commitment of SIS members to work collectively in advancing their shared priorities particularly on **climate resilience, sustainable financing, and stronger representation in regional and global forums**



ILO Director Presents Letters of Appointment



On Tuesday, 23rd September 2025, Mr. **Martin Wandera**, Director of the International Labour Office (ILO) for Pacific Island Countries, formally presented his **Letters of Appointment** to the **Officer in Charge** of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration Ms. **Roiti Kirata**

MFAI Cybersecurity In- house training



On **Monday, September 16th**, the IT Department successfully delivered a comprehensive **Cybersecurity In-house Training session** to staff. This training was specifically designed for new employees to quickly enhance their foundational knowledge and equip them with the essential skills and best practices necessary to identify, prevent, and protect themselves and the organization from modern cyber threats and attacks. Key focus areas included password management, recognizing phishing attempts and secure data handling.



UNGA80: Kiribati demonstrates leadership at the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

NEW YORK, 24-26 September 2025, The Government of the Republic of Kiribati showcased decisive leadership at UNGA80, advancing national priorities on resilience, sustainable development, health, youth, oceans, and regional solidarity. Led by **H.E. Te Beretitenti Taneti Maamau**, the delegation engaged in the General Debate and high-level meetings convened by the President of the General Assembly and the UN Secretary-General.



In his national statement, Te Beretitenti reaffirmed Kiribati's commitment to multilateralism and called for a United Nations that delivers tangible results for small island developing states (SIDS) backing the Secretary-General's UN80 reform agenda, fairer access to finance through a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index, and concrete outcomes at the Financing for Development conference. He underscored Kiribati's peace and security posture including support for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and a nuclear-free ocean alongside governance reforms strengthening services across outer islands

The high-level delegation comprised the **Honourable Vice President Dr Teuea Toatu**, the **Honourable Minister for Health and Medical Services (MHMS) Booti Nauan**, and the **Honourable Minister for Women, Youth, Sports and Social Affairs (MWYSSA) Ruth Kwasing**.

Across all engagements, Kiribati called for accessible, predictable financing that matches SIDS realities and drives a wealthier, healthier, and more peaceful future for all I-Kiribati. E oti ana botumwaaka te I-Kiribati - Kiribati delivered on its mission.



Wednesday 24th September 2025 - 9:00 AM - Honourable Vice President Teuea Toatu attended and delivered his remarks at the Biennial Summit on Sustainable, Inclusive, and Resilient Global Economy held at the ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations Headquarters in New York

Wednesday 24th September 2025 5:00 PM - H.E. Te Beretitenti Taneti Maamau delivered his national statement at the United Nations High-Level General Debate at the General Assembly Hall of the United Nations in New York.



Wednesday 24th September 2025 - 6:30 PM - H.E. Te Beretitenti Taneti Maamau attended the **PSIDS Leaders Fonotaga**, held at the Austria Mission in New York.



UNGA80: Kiribati demonstrates leadership at the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.



Thursday 25th September 2025 - 7:30 AM - H.E. Te Beretitenti Taneti Maamau attended the AOSIS Leaders Breakfast held at the Copinette in New York.



Thursday 25th September 2025 - 9:00 AM - Honourable Minister Ruth Kwasing, Minister of MWYSSA attended the Opening segment of the High-Level Meeting convened by the President of the General Assembly to commemorate the Thirtieth Anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth.



Thursday 25th September 2025 - 10:00 AM - The Honourable Minister Booti Nauan, Minister of MHMS attended the High-Level Meeting on NCDs and Mental Health convened at the UN Headquarters, New York.

Thursday 25th September 2025 - 6:00 PM - The Honourable Vice President and Minister Teuea Toatu, Minister of MFED attended the AOSIS Reception held by the Mission of Palau at the UNHQ.



Thursday 25th September 2025 - 2:00 PM - The Government of the Republic of Kiribati convened a high-level side-event entitled “Ana Karitua te I-Kiribati: Building Resilience and Advancing Sustainable Development in a Rapidly Warming World” on the margins of the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA80). The event took place at Level 28, 685 Third Avenue, New York and was attended by over 40 Government Officials including the Prime Minister of Tonga.



UNGA80: Kiribati demonstrates leadership at the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Friday 26th September 2025 - 9:00 AM - **H.E Te Beretitenti Taneti Maamau** accompanied by the **Honourable Minister Booti Nauan, Minister of MHMS**, attended the **PIF-SG Meeting** held at the **UN Headquarters**.

Friday 26th September 2025 - 10:00 AM - **The Honourable Minister Ruth Kwansing, Minister of MWYSSA**, attended the **Plenary Session on the International Day for Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons**.

Friday 26th September 2025 - 10:00 AM - **The Honourable Vice President and Minister Teuea Toatu, Minister of MFED**, attended the **Ministerial Meeting of the Groups of LDCs** held at the **ECOSOC Chamber, UN Headquarters**.



Friday 26th September 2025 - 11:00 AM - **H.E Te Beretitenti** had a **bilateral meeting** with **Hon. Winston Peters, Prime Minister of New Zealand** at the **New Zealand Official Residence in New York**.

Friday 26th September 2025 - 3:55 PM - **H.E Te Beretitenti Taneti Maamau** had a **bilateral meeting** with the **Antonio Guterres, the UN Secretary General** at the **UN Headquarters**



Geneva,

Switzerland: The Official Opening of The Kiribati Diplomatic Mission

On 29th September 2025, the Republic of Kiribati marked a **historic diplomatic milestone** with the **official opening of its Permanent Mission to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva.**



The inauguration ceremony was officiated by **His Excellency Te Beretitenti Taneti Maamau**, followed by a dinner reception, in the presence of distinguished guests, dignitaries, and international partners, reaffirming Kiribati's commitment to active multilateral engagement and global cooperation.



Unveiling of the Plaque and Ribbon Cutting by His Excellency Te Beretitenti Taneti Maamau



In his **keynote address**, **President Maamau** emphasized the **significance of this new diplomatic mission for the country**:

“Resilience and adaptation lie at the heart of our response. Through this Mission, Kiribati will engage with the many organizations headquartered in Geneva from those advancing human rights and humanitarian action, to those leading work on trade, health, labor, and the environment to champion initiatives that strengthen our communities, safeguard our environment, and empower our people to thrive despite adversity.”



Geneva, Switzerland: The Official Opening of The Kiribati Diplomatic Mission



The event was attended by **representatives from fellow Pacific Island Missions in Geneva, including Australia, New Zealand, the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the Government of Switzerland.** Their presence underscored the strong bonds of regional solidarity and shared global priorities among small island states and their partners.

Also present were **high-level officials from the United Nations, UN agencies, and members of the I-Kiribati diaspora in Switzerland.** The gathering reflected broad international support for Kiribati's enhanced presence in Geneva and its active role in multilateral forums, including the **World Health Organization (WHO), the Human Rights Council (HRC), the International Labour Organization (ILO),** and other key institutions based in Geneva.

Kiribati's Permanent Mission will play a critical role in **advancing the country's foreign policy objectives, especially in areas such as climate change, sustainable development, health, and human rights to name a few, while strengthening partnerships with the international community.**

The Government of Kiribati expresses its sincere gratitude to the Swiss Confederation, partner countries, and international organizations that have supported the establishment of the Mission.





MFAI BUZZ CORNER

July - September

New Registry Office



Left to Right: Berenia Baenete, Bwebweriki Eterom and OM Tuue Teitei

New Passport and Immigration Visa Office



The Team are excited to operate in a new environment, providing improved facilities for processing passports and visa needs. This move is part of MFAI's commitment to accelerating progress and efficiency

Asia Pacific Division in new uniform



Left to Right: Director Teata Terubea, Deputy Director Annette Tokataake, Turia Tekirua, Oema Riteri, Iunia Teruta



REFLECTIONS FROM MFAI STAFF

July - September



Ms Kasey Elliot
Desk Officer Multilateral
Affairs Division

“The formal establishment of Kiribati's diplomatic Mission in Geneva, Switzerland, was a successful completion of one of the Multilateral Affairs Division's 100-day priorities. I had the distinct honour and privilege of participating in this historic event. The unveiling of the plaque marking this occasion represents a significant national milestone, and the new Mission symbolizes Kiribati's growing engagement in multilateral diplomacy and its strengthened commitment to advancing national interests globally.”



Mr Tebwerea Taitai
Assistant Secretary

“I have strengthened my leadership and coordination skills within the Administration Division, managing staff matters, supporting key Ministry priorities, and improving communication and problem-solving abilities. Despite the challenges, this period has enhanced my professional growth, deepened my understanding of government operations, and reinforced my commitment to delivering efficient and effective public service.”



Te Mauri Te Raoi Te Tabomoa

Thank you for reading!



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