



China Sends for Pacific Students—Last Week in the Pacific

Summary of PRC Activity

Chinese embassies in five Pacific Island countries held scholarship award and pre-departure ceremonies for students heading to China in September. In Naoero, Ambassador Lyu Jin hosted Minister Charmaine Scotty and other officials for dinner—nine days before Scotty joined Naoero's delegation to the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting in Palau. Lyu also met Australia's new High Commissioner to Naoero and inspected the China-aided sports center.

This Week's Big Themes:

Scholarship Season

Five of China's nine Pacific embassies held scholarship award and pre-departure ceremonies in the past week, marking the annual wave of Pacific Island students heading to Chinese universities.

In Vanuatu, Ambassador Li Minggang and Education Minister Simil Johnson addressed 60 guests; in Tonga, Ambassador Liu Weimin, Princess Salote Pilolevu Tuita, and Education Minister Mo'ale 'Otunuku honored 60 scholarship recipients and 21 students preparing to depart. In Port Moresby on 25 August, Ambassador Yang Xiaoguang hosted roughly 60 guests; Ambassador Cai Weiming awarded scholarships to

Ambassador's Corner

On 27 August, Ambassador Li Minggang met with Vanuatu's Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the embassy's quarterly bilateral consultation.

Li's counterparts included Director General Rantes, Foreign Affairs Director Basil, and External Trade Director Pakoa.

Li called for both sides to support each other on “core interests and major concerns”—Beijing's shorthand for its most sensitive political flashpoints.

Vanuatu's officials reaffirmed the country's “friends to all, enemies to none” diplomatic posture, pledged adherence to the one-China principle, and said Vanuatu would draw lessons from China's development model. The last commitment, to learn from “Chinese-style modernization,” goes beyond diplomatic courtesy and into governance alignment.

**The PRC Pacific Embassies Monitor provides systematic, open-source tracking of Beijing's public diplomatic activities across the nine Pacific Island Countries hosting Chinese missions. The monitor captures official embassy social media and website posts, supplemented by local sources, to offer a weekly structured intelligence report that bridges critical information gaps on regional engagement*

more than 40 Solomon Islanders the same day. In Naoero on 27 August, Ambassador Lyu Jin recognized six graduates and two new enrollees alongside Deputy Speaker and Deputy Minister for Education Isabella Dageago.

Alumni associations and friendship organizations joined several ceremonies. In Vanuatu, members of the China-Vanuatu Alumni Association addressed scholarship recipients. In Tonga, the Tonga-China Friendship Association's high school scholarships shared the program with Chinese government awards.

The PNG ceremony stood apart. Recipients included both Chinese Government Scholarships and military scholarship holders, with officials from the Department of Defence, the Department of Prime Minister, and the Department of Higher Education in attendance. Yang briefed the room on achievements of the Chinese people “under the leadership of the Communist Party of China”—turning a scholarship ceremony into a CCP promotion event before an audience of PNG defence and government officials.

Supporting Events

- **Vanuatu:** [Pre-Departure Briefing for Scholarship Recipients](#)
- **Tonga:** [Pre-Departure and Scholarship Award Ceremony](#)
- **PNG:** [Pre-Departure Reception for Students to China](#)
- **Solomon Islands:** [Scholarship Award Ceremony](#)
- **Naoero:** [Lyu Jin Meets Graduates and New Enrollees](#)
- **PNG:** [Chinese Language Course Closing Ceremony](#)

Lyu Jin's Week in Naoero

On the evening of 21 August, Ambassador Lyu Jin hosted a dinner for Minister for Women & Social Development Affairs Charmaine Scotty in her capacity as Acting President while President Adeang was abroad. Also present were Minister for Naoero Utilities Corporation Shadlog Bernicke, Minister for Sports Jesse Jeremiah, and Deputy Minister for Multicultural Affairs Ranin Akua.



PRC Ambassador to Naoero Lyu Jin with Australian High Commissioner Lisa White (Source: [PRC Embassy in Naoero Facebook](#))

The timing matters. The 55th Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting (PIFLM) opened in Koror on 30 August, with Scotty [serving](#) as a member of Naoero's delegation

Lyu also met Lisa White, Australia's new High Commissioner to Naoero. The embassy described China and Australia as "Naoero's two largest development partners" capable of cooperating on Naoero's economic resilience—using a courtesy call on Australia's new representative to assert Chinese parity with Canberra on development.

The same day, Lyu inspected the China-aided Naoero Sports Center and delivered rice and goods to workers on site. The Chinese-language readout carried details the English-language version omitted: Lyu called the project a "project of the century" that implements commitments made at the leadership level, and directed project management and construction firms to "raise their political standing"—a common phrase used by the Chinese Communist Party, indicating that the project goes beyond the commercial realm and is understood as political tasking.

Supporting Events

- **Naoero:** [Lyu Jin Hosts Acting President Scotty](#)
- **Naoero:** [Lyu Jin Meets Australian High Commissioner](#)
- **Naoero:** [Lyu Jin Inspects Sports Center Construction](#)