Tobwaan Kiribati Party (TKP)

TANETI MAAMAU

OUR PROMISE
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2. **Foreword**

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I greet you all!

Tobwaan Kiribati Party is happy to share with you its Manifesto that contains the aspirations of party members, that includes new initiatives that focuses on change, such as:

Child support, free education to forms 4 to 6, salary to the Mayors and Councillors, assistance to Women and the Youth, Support to the Churches, land owners, Seafarers, to the civil servants and SOE staff and many more.

This is a true change that will bring to the people true stewardship, that will bring to the people increased wealth, health and peace.

My gratitude to all those who have contributed time and effort in the preparation of this document.

My best wishes to readers and as prepare for the election on 9 March 2016.

Health, Peace and Prosperity!

Taneti Maamau.
3. **Core Values**

Tobwaan Kiribati Party aspires to bring with its Government change that will see growth and better lifestyle. Change must start from members of the Party through the core values that they portray.

- Tobwaan Kiribati Party will always do what is right, that is the truth and **stewardship of the highest integrity**.
- It will maintain the highest level of good governance and **transparency**.

4. **Motto**

Tobwaan Kiribati Party will base its stewardship on its total dedication to the people fulfill the promises it made to the people contained in its manifestor. This foundation will serve as a constant reminder in the performance of its duties to the people in that we will not just talk but do what we promise to do.

- **We Serve We Deliver**
- Tobwaan Kiribati Party is ready to serve Kiribati to grow in wealth, health and peace.

5. **Objectives**

Tobwaan Kiribati Party believes that as it serves the people it must have objectives that must be fulfilled during it tenure. These are some of these objectives.

- **We must hold esteem the Constitution**
- The peoples’ will must come first
- **We must hold at the highest the will, the right and self determination of the people of Kiribati**
- **We will serve and protect Kiribati**
The Kiribati people will be healthy
We will make Kiribati a peaceful and healthy place
We will maintain the culture and root of the I-Kiribati people.

6. Accountability and Transparency
Tobwaan Kiribati believes that leaders must perform their duties with the highest level of commitment and integrity for the people. In order to fulfill this commitment, laws must be put in place for the leaders to follow by the leaders.

- All forms of corruption and abuse of public properties must be stopped.
- A Leadership Code must be put in place.
- All reports pertaining to the performance of Government functions must be made on a timely basis.
- The voice of the people must play a vital part as part of the decision to help with the administration and oversight of the wealth of Kiribati.
7. **Economy**

Tobwaan Kiribati Party will nurture and promote a healthy living style to the people of Kiribati through safeguarding and the caretaking of the wealth of Kiribati for the growing population.

Freight Levy Fund
- A review will be reviewed with a view to include in the Freight Levy Fund arrangements cargos earmarked for Line and Phonex Islands.
- Freight Levy will be improved for all cargoes shipped and items specified in each category.
- The allocation for the Freigh Levy Fund will be reviewed and improved.

Cargo Handling
- Rates used for cargo handling must be standardized.

Establishment of Tax Free Zones
- Areas will be identified and established as tax free zones to attract foreign investors.

Investment Projects
- Projects that promote production from locally available materials and from imported items will be supported.
Excellent Management Information System
  o Work will be undertaken to improve the collection, the production, the storing and release of data and news using the latest technology that is safe and efficient.

Financial Institution Bill
  o An oversight bill will be introduced for all bodies involved in the management of Government finances.

Commercial Bank
  o A study will be carried out to assess the introduction of another commercial bank.

RERF Fund
  o Management and use of the RERF fund will be improved

Country’s Wealth
  o Wealth of Kiribati will be increased to better provide for the needs of the people of Kiribati.
  o Work on the harvest of the deep sea wealth will be fast tracked.
  o The use of the VAT will be studied with the objective that it does not bring additional burden to the people of Kiribati.

Development Funds
  o Additional development fund will be identified and improvement work on the management of the development fund will be carried out.

The Recurrent Budget
  o Propose use of the recurrent budget will be strengthened as stated in the financial regulation.
8. **Revenues**

In order for Government to operate smoothly, Tobwaan Kiribati Party promised to increase its revenue base by taking the following steps.

- Management of the RERF fund will be improved through the optimal use and management to see that it receives positive returns.
- **Revenue from fishing licenses will be increased.**
- A bunkering vessel will be purchased and to be used to distribute fuel to the vessels that sail in our waters.
- Harvest of deep see wealth will be expedited.
- **Tourism projects will be expedited.**
- Budget leakages will be eliminated.
- Development on the solar salt on Kiritimati Island is to be revitalized.
- Returns from the PIPA trust will be increased.
- Returns from SOEs will increased.
- Revenue making projects will be started on the uninhabited islands in the Line and Phoenix Groups.
- **Revenue from Tourism will be improved.**
9. **Public Sector**

Tobwaan Kiribati Party wants in place a Government system that is healthy and is able to serve the public servants and the people of Kiribati.

**National Conditions of Service**
- A review of the conditions of service for the civil servants and staff of the state owned enterprises will be carried so as to ensure that all workers are able to reach their potential and self fulfillment through the employment and labour laws.

**In-service Training**
- Decisions will be improved on to prevent non payment of salaries to those staff undergoing studies and to allow couples to undertake their studies concurrently where appropriate.

**Minimum Wage/Living Wage**
- A minimum wage will be established and to be used by all businesses that will put to a stop the exploitation of the people.

**Overseas Travels**
- All overseas travels will be monitored to encourage officials to travel only when and where appropriate.
Leave Passage
- Leave passage will be improved and remain payable to the civil servants of the Line and Phoenix Islands and this is to be inserted in the National Conditions of Service just to allow the workers passages to Tarawa.

Retirement Age
- The compulsory retirement age will increase from fifty to fifty five.

Youth Employment Scheme
- Funds will be made available to pay for the youth as they enter the employment sector.

10. Education
Tobwaan Kiribati Party believes that education is the key to success and freedom and undertake to provide its support starting at a very early age to encourage education through to the secondary and tertiary levels for all ages. Tobwaan Kiribati Party also undertakes to encourage and improve the abilities of the teachers.

Kindergarten and preschools
- Wages and training will be provided for the preschool teachers
School Fees
- Government will pay school fees for forms 4 to 6

Teachers
- Salaries for teachers in Church schools will be provided
- Allowances will be paid for to all teachers who are entitled to receive such allowances.

Continuation to Tertiary Education
- Financial support will be available to all students granted entrance to tertiary institutes.

School Loans
- School loan system will be improved where from parents for students who do not pass can borrow money from to pay for their children’s fees.

Elite Students
- Elite students will be encouraged to continue their education at internationally recognized Universities.

Homes and Residences for Teachers
- All houses, residences and equipments for teachers will be well maintained.

Student Teacher Ratio
- The ratio of PTR 1:25 will be used in primary and secondary schools.

Support to the Schools
- Schools supplies for students will be provided by Government as well as appropriate transportation to the school and back to their homes.
- Special needs of students attending the Junior Secondary Schools
will be catered for.

Primary Schools
  o The number of primary schools will be increased in areas where it’s needed.

School Committees
  o Sitting allowances will be paid to members of the School Committees.

11. Health
Tobwaan Kiribati Party wishes to maintain the health and strength of the general public through the improvement of hospitals, provision of medicine and ration and through the overall improved service to the patients.

Improvement of Hospitals
  o Hospitals will be scaled up on Betio, Nawerere were, and Kiritimati, and the hospital on Tabiteuea Meang will be fully supplied to improve the overall service to the patients.
  o Clinics will be refurbished using permanent materials where they are needed.
Ration to Patients
- Ration will be available to patients at hospitals on Betio, Nawerewere, Tabiteuea Meang and Kiritimati.
- Overall hygiene will be improved.
- The number of doctors will be increased to meet the global population doctor ratio.
- Emergency Services and Intensive Care Units will be improved.
- Assistance will be provided to assist females with life threatening illnesses.
- Staff customer service will be improved.

12. Fisheries and Marine Resources
Tobwaan Kiribati Party believes that fishing and marine resources are Kiribati’s main asset and accordingly must be managed and developed well in order to increase our wealth and revenue sustain our livelihood.

TUC and BTC
- A body will be established to market catch from the local fishermen that will benefit the fishermen lower the price of fish to the consumer.
- Fish will be bought from the fishermen in a similar manner that the copra is bought from the copra cutter.
Outer Islands
  o Fishing materials and methods of fishing will be introduced so as to improve on the revenue for the fisherman.

Kiribati Fishing Company
  o Improvement will be made on Kiribati share from the KFL.

Oversight and Security
  o Laws and rules for protecting the wealth of our oceans will be strengthened.
  o Fishing methods and fishing gears detrimental to the oceans resources must be stopped.
  o Relationships with countries in the Pacific and abroad that will assist with the enhancing the harvest of the oceans wealth will be strengthened.

13. **Agriculture**

Tobwan Kiribati Party that the Kiribati people must consume fruits, edible plant leafes, root crops grown in Kiribati and growing of these food items must be encouraged as a source of revenue for the farmers and Government will provide assistance to reduce the cost for these food crops.
Farmers
- Support will be provided to the farmers
- A subsidy will be provided for food crops.
- Assistance will be provided to the farmers to see that they are able to make good returns similar to what the copra cutter is receiving.
- Funding assistance will be provided to the homes to assist with procuring farming tools.
- Farming activities will be encouraged and in particular for those households involved in farming.

Land
- Land will be used to its full potential
- Land purchased in Fiji will be used for developments that will benefit the people of Kiribati.

Trade in Kiribati Food Items
- Trade in local food crops will be encouraged between the islands and Tarawa, Line and Phoenix Islands and the Rabi Island.
- Markets will be established that will encourage the trade in food crops.
- A fair will be held that encourages trade in food crops.

Consumption of Local Food
- The consumption of local Kiribati foods will be encouraged.
14. **Line and Phoenix Group**

Tobwaan Kiribati Party will proceed with plans to expedite the development of the economy in isolated islands and bring needed assistance to these islands.

Resettlement in the Line and Phoenix Islands
- The resettlement on Kiritimati, Tabuaeran and Teraina will be reviewed.

Inclusion of the Line and Phoenix Islands in the National Flag
- Islands of the Line and Phoenix Group are to be inserted in the Kiribati flag.

Communication
- Communication infrastructure will be improved for the Line and Phoenix Group.

Use of Uninhabited Islands
- Uninhabited Islands may be leased to developers.
15. **Information and Communications**

Tobwaan Kiribati Party attaches a great deal of importance to the dissemination of information to the people of Kiribati and the world.

- Telephone use will be made available to all islands and in particular to those islands where there is no phone service.
- Use of e-government will be expedited.
- Use of a national internet security system will be put in place.
- Expertise for the IT personnel for all Government Ministries will be improved.
- A Information and Research Unit will be established that will assist with the formation of policy on communication as stated in the Manifesto.
- Office of Te Beretitenti will be tasked to receive complaints from the general public and to expeditiously resolve them as empowered by legislation.

16. **Infrastructure**

Tobwaan Kiribati Party noted the importance of public infrastructure useful of the development of the country need to be built. Tobwaan Kiribati Party sees as a priority the building and improvement of these infrastructure to enable economic growth in Kiribati.
Transport
- The Kiribati Shipping Services Limited will be provided with assistance.
- Shipping schedule will be coordinated and adhered to.
- Transportation will be provided for the people of the Line and Phoenix Islands.
- Laws and regulations will be strengthened to ensure the welfare of the passengers is upheld.
- An international plane will be procured.

Wharfs
- Equipment for the building and maintenance of wharfs are procured.
- Maintenance for wharfs requiring repair will be carried out.
- Wharfs will be built where they are needed.

Roads on Tarawa and Outer Islands
- Equipment will be purchased for the maintenance of roads.
- Roads will be built to a standard that is compatible to the durability of the tar sealed roads.
Access roads to all homes will be built.

Airports

- All airport surfaces will be tar sealed.
- Airports will be built on islands where they are needed.
- International airports will be built on other islands besides Tarawa.

Bridges and Causeways

- Bridges and causeways will be improved at places where they are needed.

Shipyard

- The shipyard will be revitalized.

Passages

- The building of passages will be first and foremost where they are needed.
- Maintenance of the passages will be ongoing.

17. Private Sector

Tobwaan Kiribati Party recognizes the private sector as the engine of growth and must be supported to help grow the economy and bring prosperity to the people of Kiribati.
Encouragement for the Private Sector
  o Laws and regulations will be made that will encourage the private sector to carry out their business.

Small Businesses
  o Small businesses will be supported and encouraged.

Responsibility of the Private Sector
  o The private sector’s responsibility to the public will be legislated so that they take responsibility for the provision of services to the public.

Support and Empowerment to DBK
  o DBK will be provided with funds to help develop the private sector.
  o DBK services will be improved on to better serve the private sector.

18. Church Grant
Tobwaan Kiribati Party will maintain the support grant to the Churches given the important role that the Churches play in the development,
peace that adds to the welfare of the people.

The Church Grant Will Increase
   o The Church Grant will increase and with no strings attached.

Donations from the Private Sector
   o Donations from the Private Sector will be encouraged

19. Cost of Living
Tobwaan Kiribati Party believes that the gap higher and lowers ends of the general population is increasing and a level to some poverty is felt by the general public. Tobwaan Kiribati Party will do what it can to reduce this gap in order for the general public to realize the improvement in welfare and lifestyle.

Salary Increase
   o Salary for the civil servants will be increased including salaries of state owned enterprises.

Special Constables
   o Salaries and allowances for Special Constables will increase.
Water and Electricity
- Solar energy will be provided to places where it’s needed.
- Clean water will be provided to all villages.
- Desalination machines will be provided to places as appropriate.

Kiribati Provident Fund
- Staff contributions to the KPF will increase.
- Government will assist with contributions for the seafarers and seasonal workers who work outside of the country.

Price Control
- Price control will be maintained on the basic household goods such as rice, suga, and flour.

Assistance to the Elderly
- Assistance to the elderly will be improved and properly legislated.

Assistance to the Physically Impaired
- Assistance will be provided to the physically impaired, those who are unable to fend for themselves.
Support to the Children
  o Assistance will be provided to support the children.

Maintenance
  o Prices for materials used in the maintenance of buildings is to be standardized.

Copra Price
  o The price of copra will increase to $2 per kilogram.

Resolving Outstanding Matters
  o Assistance to resolve outstanding financial matters with the general public will be provided.

Toilets to Homes
  o Toilets will be maintained to keep the general toilet area clean.

20. Sports
Tobwaan Kiribati Party recognizes the importance of sports and development of different talents of the athletes to help maintain good health, wisdom and peace.
Sports Facilities and Equipments
  o Sporting facilities will be improved and built for the different types of sports.

Encouragement to Young Population
  o Sporting talents will be supported from an early age.

National Competition
  o The national competition will be held every two years with assistance from Government.

International Competitions
  o International competitions will be hosted in Kiribati.

Recognition of National Federations by their International Bodies
  o Government will assist with the recognition of National Sports Federations by their International bodies for those federations who have yet to receive this recognition as in the case of KIFA.

Elite Training Centers
  o Training centers will be built for the elite athletes for the different sports they excel in.
o Athletes who receive medals in international competitions will be rewarded.

Incentives for the Private Sector
  o The Private Sector will be provided with incentives to encourage their assistance in the development of sports.

Coaching Throughout Kiribati
  o Coaches from the different sports will be sent to all islands to conduct training sessions.

Competing Internationally
  o Government will provide assistance for the participation of athletes in international competition.

Sports for the Physically Impaired
  o The Physically Impaired will be included in the sporting activities.

21. **Land Lease**

Tobwaan Kiribati Party recognizes the importance of land upon which Government office buildings stand that facilitate the provision of services to the general public. As important is the land used by the Private Sector and without this land, there would be no economic activity. The importance of the land owner cannot be overemphasized as with the land owner we are able to progress.

Tobwaan Kiribati Party strongly believes that consultation with the land owners must take place and to take on board their needs that can be accommodated.
Improvement on the Lease
  o Lease of land both residential and commercial and lease for land used for development by the private sector will be raised with a view of closing the gap between the lease on Tarawa and remaining islands.

Provident Fund for Land Owners
  o A study will be carried out on the establishment of a provident fund for land owners whose land is being leased.

Schedule of Lease Payments
  o The schedule of lease payment will be improved on.

22. **Foreign Relations**
Tobwaan Kiribati Party will maintain relationships with countries and international organizations it has ties with and establish ties with those countries and international organizations that we will be able to collaborate with for the assist with our economic growth.

Setting up of Missions in Decision Making Centers
  o Missions will be established in international decision making centers in Europe, Asia where Kiribati needs more visibility.
Setting up of Missions for Countries and International Organizations
- Countries and Organisations will be encouraged to establish missions on Kiribati.

23. **Local Government to Assist With Government Functions**
Tobwaan Kiribati Party noted the important role that local Government have and their ability to provide essential services Government services to the people and commits to empower the local Governments to better perform their functions in their respective islands.

**Cooperation with Government**
- Consultations will be held to encourage the cooperation between island councils to carry out Government functions to include the Line and Phoenix Group.

**Local Governments Empowerment**
- Local Governments will be empowered to bring progress to the different islands
- Mayors and Councils will be paid salaries and the staff salaries will be revisited and better aligned with Government salaries.
- Allowances for Magistrates will be raised.

**Grants to Councils**
- Grants will be increased than currently used.
- Equipment for the maintenance of the road will be procured.

24. **Employment**
Tobwaan Kiribati Party that a lot of people are able to work but there is not enough employment. The Party noted that there is not enough jobs nationally so it will endure to create jobs locally and abroad and
provide training that will enable the people to enter into foreign job markets.

**Overseas Employment**
- Relationship will be strengthened that will assist in securing more jobs for the people of Kiribati in international job markets.

**Salaries for Seafarers**
- Tobwaan Kiribati Party will use its resources to raise wages of the seafarers.

**Work in Kiribati**
- Developments will be supported that will see the creation of new jobs that will employ and improve the lifestyle of the people.

"We Serve, We Deliver"