

= Nauru at the 2008 Summer Olympics =

Nauru competed at the 2008 Summer Olympics , that were celebrated in Beijing , China , from August 8 to August 24 , 2008 . Nauru was represented by the Nauru Olympic Committee , and was the only nation out of 204 participating nations and territories that sent only a single athlete , and was one of 117 that won no medals at the Games . The sole athlete to represent the nation was Itte Detenamo , who participated in the weightlifting , and was the flag bearer in both the opening and closing ceremonies . This was the same number of athletes as at the 1996 Olympics , when Marcus Stephen ( who later became President of Nauru ) represented the country in the same sport , but was a decrease from the nation 's last appearance at the Games when three athletes were sent to Athens . Nauru earned a berth for the weightlifting event in the Oceania and South Pacific Olympic Weightlifting Championships in 2008 and a chance to send participants in swimming and athletics events , but chose to send only a weightlifter . Itte Detenamo competed in the Group B of heavyweight class , fifteenth and last event of the weightlifting . He did not earn a medal , but finished with a personal best .

= = Delegation = =

The delegation of the Nauru for the 2008 Summer Olympics consisted of four men . The first , Itte Detenamo , was the sole athlete and competed in the weightlifting competition . Also in the delegation as a manager of Itte was Yukio Peter ? 2004 Olympian ? who holds the record for the best placing in any Olympics by any Nauruan , eighth in the lightweight category ( 69 kg ) of the weightlifting event in the 2004 Summer Olympics . Delegation was also accompanied by Vinson Detenamo , father of Itte and the then and first President of the Nauru Olympic Committee . As the former sport minister of Nauru , Vinson had helped in the establishment of Nauru Olympic Committee in 1991 during his term in the Ministry of Sport . The final member of the delegation was Lou Keke as Nauru 's Olympic chef de mission .

= = Qualification = =

Nauru earned a qualification place in weightlifting in the International Weightlifting Federation 's continental Olympic qualification event ? Oceania and South Pacific Olympic Weightlifting Championships ? held in Auckland , New Zealand from March 27 to 30 , 2008 . At the event only those National Olympic Committees ( NOCs ) of Oceania which had not gained berths for 2008 Olympics in the 2006 and 2007 World Weightlifting Championships got chance to win qualification places . Itte Detenamo was selected over Yukio Peter to fill the earned quota . Nauru could have sent participants in swimming and athletics also , but chose not to as there was no national governing body of swimming and the nation lacked basic infrastructure and competitive athletes in order to complete in athletics .

Nauru 's representation of sole athlete in the 2008 Games was the same number of athletes as at the 1996 Olympics , when Marcus Stephen ? incumbent President of Nauru , President of the Nauru Olympic Committee and Oceania Weightlifting Federation ? represented the country in the same sport . Marcus had previously competed for Western Samoa in the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona as Nauru was not recognized by the International Olympic Committee as a National Olympic Committee until 1994 . The attendance at the 2008 games was a decrease from the nation 's previous appearance at the Games when three athletes were sent to Athens .

= = Weightlifting = =

Itte Detenamo represented Nauru in the super heavyweight class of weightlifting . It was his second Olympics appearance ; he was ranked previously 14th in the same weight category at the 2004 Athens Olympics . The whole competition took place on August 19 , but was divided in two parts due to the number of competitors . Group B weightlifters competed at 15 : 30 CST , and Group A , at

19 : 00 CST . The event was the fifteenth and last weightlifting event to conclude . Itte competed in group B of the event ; his highest successfully lifted weight in snatch was 175 kg , out of 165 , 170 and 175 kg , and in clean and jerk his best was 210 kg , out of 205 and 210 kg , he also tried a failed attempt for 215 kg . Itte finished in 10th place in the final standings with a total of 385 kg , setting a personal best .