



**Republic of Palau**  
*Office of the President*

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**PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 17-220**

*Declaring November 13-19, 2017 as World Antibiotic Awareness Week*

*“Reduce Antibiotic Use. Combat Antimicrobial Resistance”*

**WHEREAS**, antibiotics are a precious resource; and

**WHEREAS**, this year's Western Pacific Regional theme is “Reduce Antibiotic Use. Combat Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)” which builds on the global message of “Seek advice from a qualified healthcare professional before taking antibiotics”; and

**WHEREAS**, reducing use of antibiotics and combating antimicrobial resistance not only ensures you and your family get the best treatment, responsible use of antibiotics will also help reduce the threat of antimicrobial resistance; and

**WHEREAS**, the objectives of the World Antibiotic Awareness Week aim to make antimicrobial resistance a globally recognized health issue, raise awareness on the need to preserve the power of antibiotics through appropriate use, increase the recognition that individuals, health and agriculture professionals, and governments must all play a role in tackling resistance to antibiotics, and encourage behavior change and convey the message that simple actions can make a difference; and

**WHEREAS**, taking antibiotics when they are not needed accelerates the development of antimicrobial resistance, one of the biggest threats to global health; and

**WHEREAS**, preventing infection can reduce the use of antibiotics, and limit the spread of antimicrobial resistance; and

**WHEREAS**, good basic hygiene and vaccination are the most effective ways to reduce the risk of infection and the need for antibiotics; and

**WHEREAS**, on average, 1 in every 10 patients is affected by health care-associated infections (HAIs). Antimicrobial-resistant HAIs can significantly increase the likelihood of death; and



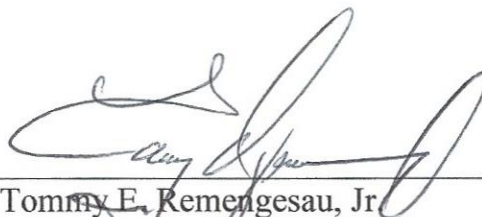
**WHEREAS**, our time with effective antibiotics is running out as the effectiveness of antibiotics is now reducing at a rate like never before; hence, the need to always seek the advice of a healthcare professional before taking antibiotics; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ministry of Health, the World Health Organization (WHO), alongside the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health are leading a global campaign and developing a range of materials which call on government representatives, health and agriculture professionals, and individuals to take action against antimicrobial resistance; and

**WHEREAS**, the WHO is encouraging all Member States and health partners to join this campaign and help raise awareness on this issue;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the Republic of Palau, hereby proclaim November 13-19, 2017 as “World Antibiotic Awareness Week” for the Republic of Palau. In doing so, I call on all of the People of Palau to observe November 13-19 as National Antibiotic Awareness Week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

**SO PROCLAIMED**, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2017 in Ngerulmud, Republic of Palau.



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Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.  
President of the Republic of Palau