



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

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*President*

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**Presidential Directive No. 17-25**

*To establish an Independence Day Committee for the Republic of Palau's  
23rd Independence Day Celebration on October 1, 2017*

**WHEREAS**, on September 23, 1994, President Kuniwo Nakamura executed Executive Proclamation No. 01-94 to establish October 1 as an annual national holiday in recognition that such a historic moment justifies an annual day of national jubilation to signify the importance of regaining our sovereignty and independence; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 1, 1994, President Kuniwo Nakamura executed Executive Proclamation No. 09-94 to proclaim Palau's independence from the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 1, 1994, the Republic of Palau began its journey as a sovereign and independent nation in free association with the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, this year's Independence Day on October 1, 2017, signifies a particularly important year in our nation's history as we celebrate the beginning of our 23rd year as a sovereign, independent, and free self-governing nation; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, hereby direct as follows:

- (1) That there shall be an Independence Day Celebration Committee that shall be responsible for inviting state dignitaries and other off-island guests, organizing, and planning the events and festivities for the Independence Day on October 1, 2017.
- (2) That the following shall be the members of the Independence Day Committee:
  - (A) Co-Chairmen
    - (I) Faustina Rehuher-Marugg, Minister of State
    - (II) Elbuchel Sadang, Minister of Finance



(III) Baklai Temengil, Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs

(IV) Charles Obichang, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Industries, and  
Commerce

(B) Supporting Members:

(I) Governors Association

(II) Organization of State Speakers

(III) Palau Visitors Authority

(IV) Palau Chamber of Commerce

(V) Emais Roberts, Minister of Health

(VI) Umiich Sengebau, Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and  
Tourism

(VII) Sinton Soalablai, Minister of Education

(3) The members of the Committee may utilize national government employees in support of the Committee's objectives, so long as the use of such employees does not compromise the employee's work productivity and regular duties in their job position in the national government.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2017 in the Republic of Palau.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

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