



For Immediate Release
Serial No. PR-17-072
December 19, 2017
Office of the President

President Remengesau and the Palau Leadership Welcomes PSS KEDAM

With the rain pouring as a sign of blessing, President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. and the Palau Leadership welcomed the new patrol vessel PSS KEDAM, its newly trained Palauan crew and their Japanese counterparts on Tuesday, December 19th.

Vice President and Minister of Justice Raynold B. Oilouch who spoke on behalf of the President during the welcoming ceremony held at the Marine Law Building in Malakal expressed appreciation to the members of the leadership for welcoming the vessel's crew back home.

A total of fifteen trained Palauan Marine Law officers captained PSS KEDAM from Kure (Kegoya), Japan that departed on December 8th to Palau. Members of the Palauan crew who were Captain Mayce Ngirmeriil, Executive Officer Jim Shiro Kloulechad, Chief Engineer Moses Nestor, Engineer Kamrul Zaman, Navigator Duke Joseph and Officers Gerwin Ngemelas Temong, Zachary Ngiraului Remengesau, Franley Omark Chokai, Allen Lauren Ngiralmu, Ronald Beltau Yashiro, Wyzer Meyar Seklii, Gerald Ringang, Jr., Lenin Lmatk Louis, Harley S. Remoket and Carlos R. Ngirturong. The crew was accompanied by their Japanese counterparts, including Master Hatakeyama Kaoru, Commanding Officer Ryuzaki Misao, Second Officer Matsubara Yoshihiro, Kita Shojiro, Sakurai Motonori, and Doi Shiro.

In addition to the members of Palau's leadership, family and friends of the crew, Ambassador Toshiyuki Yamada of Japan to Palau and special guests representing the Japan Association of Marine Safety, Fisheries Engineering Co., Ltd., Kegoya Dock Co., Ltd., and NBK Corporation attended the ceremony to welcome the vessel's crew and the arrival of KEDAM.

The largest national police vessel to date, the PSS KEDAM is a 40-meter patrol vessel donated by the Nippon Foundation. It is capable of carrying a crew of up to twenty and equipped with the latest state of the art navigation and surveillance systems. The vessel will greatly support Palau's marine surveillance and monitoring.

An official handover ceremony is scheduled to take place in February 2018.