



CABINET MEETING

Office of the President | 9:24 AM – 11:00 AM
Monday, May 7, 2018

In Attendance:

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| 1. President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. | 11. Postmaster General Timothy Sinsak |
| 2. Vice President Raynold B. Oilouch | 12. Deputy Chief Rebluud Kesolei |
| 3. Minister Baklai Temengil-Chilton | 13. PNCC AGM LeoBen Teriong |
| 4. Minister Emais Roberts | 14. PNCC PIO Pamela Anastacio |
| 5. Minister Charles Obichang | 15. Kaleb Udui, Jr., Senior Econ. Advisor |
| 6. Minister Umiich Sengebau | 16. Austin Gaylord, Legal Counsel |
| 7. Minister Faustina Rehuher-Marugg | 17. Daniel Klopper, Legal Counsel |
| 8. Director Brian Melairei | 18. Mike Blesam, EQPB |
| 9. Director Debbie Tkel-Sbal | 19. Lydia Ngirablosch, MOS |
| 10. Exec. Director Nick Ngwal | |

Prepared by Rolynda Jonathan, Office of the President

AGENDA	DISCUSSION
Ministry Briefings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice President Oilouch reports of fire at occurred at a residence in Meyuns, Koror on the evening of Sunday, May 6th. BPS fire department responded. Concerns of fire truck responding to the scene with no water were expressed on social media. Vice President explains that was not the case. That was not the case. There was indeed water in the fire truck. The Vice President met with BPS personnel in regards and is expected to meet again this afternoon to discuss further. MOJ will further clarify the matter to the public. The Vice President reports of a rescue made during the recent fishing derby event. A fishing boat outside of Ngeremlengui requested for assistance and MOJ responded. Water Shortage Update: The Vice President reports of water level reaching 21 feet at Ngerimel Dam. NEC to discuss and consider lifting the water shortage warning and restore 24/7 water distribution operation. The NEC is scheduled for a meeting on Wednesday, May 9. President Remengesau instructs for the Vice President and the NEC to restore full operation today with no public notice to ensure continued water conservation as well as monitor the operation. Inquiry made of the possibilities of capturing the overflowing water at Ngerikiil. Director Melairei is instructed to follow up with PPUC in regards to their plans. Ministry of Justice in partnership with the Ministry of Health is scheduled to meet with Southwest States residents on Tuesday, May 8 to discuss plans for kebeas eradication. MOJ is planning for the upcoming Police Week to be observed next week. Vice President and Minister Obichang to meet with Aimeliik concerning the national landfill site at 10:00 am today. • Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Industries and Commerce: First full-scale water rescue training exercise conducted on Thursday, May 3. Minister Obichang shares evaluators including Mr. Ron Simpson, Mr. Juan Reyes, FAA officials, Guam-Saipan airport officials and private consultants expressed great satisfaction of Palau’s successful rescue training exercise in accordance to its Mass Rescue Operations (MRO) Plan. Minister Obichang shares a mass national exercise have never been conducted in the Micronesia region, including Saipan and Guam due to tension between the different agencies represented. Palau was given a score of 8 out of 10. Scenario used during the exercise of an aircraft carrying about 150 passengers crashing off the coast of Meyuns. Rescue operation was conducted at the Meyuns ramp with victims transported to the ER. Pacific Island Telecom Association Meeting: Among the agenda discussed during the meeting is of island countries establishing partnership to share cost to maintain back up satellite systems. Cyber security matters were also discussed. MPIIC will continue to work closely with PNCC and all service providers in

regards. **Lawsuit on OGA:** On Thursday, May 3, the Court issued its judgment affirming that the government complied with the Open Government Act in sharing of the Airport Terminal Expansion Project.

- **Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs:** Minister Temengil-Chilton reports of Senior Citizen's Day program and thanks everyone for their partnership and participation. CNMI senior citizens joined the events this year. Minister Temengil-Chilton of State-to-State swimming event recently conducted from Aimeliik to Meyuns on Friday, May 4. Similar events are to be organized in the future. MCCA is working with the Palau Legacy Team on 2 applications for the Peace Boat. MCCA in collaboration with the Ministry of Health is on board for its kebeas eradication initiative in Peleliu and Angaur in June. MCCA and MOH to continue wellness promotion and awareness in the meantime. MCCA continues to work with MOE concerning youth summer programs. MCCA to look into incorporating fishing derby and other programs and activities for the summer.
- **Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism:** Minister Sengebau reports of meeting with Palau Livestock Association last week. Discussion including veterinarian (animal doctor), business marketing and a request to utilize land space near the slaughterhouse. Minister Sengebau requested the Association to communicate with Ngchesar Governor and possibly OEK for assistance.
- **Ministry of State:** Minister Rehuher-Marugg reports of working with Austin on the Chinese research vessel application. MOS has informed U.S. Rear Admiral Chatfield of the request. Report made of Financial Institutions Commission (FIC) and Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) to submit report concerning money laundering. Minister Rehuher-Marugg reports of attending the Global Women's Summit in Australia. African Ministers shared efforts of strengthening traditional farming systems during the meeting. Gross National Happiness data discussed.
 - Minister Rehuher-Marugg is instructed to follow up on items offered by Canada's Assistant Deputy Minister Donald Bobiash in particular the diplomacy training for Ambassadors and key diplomacy and protocol personnel.
- **Ministry of Health:** Minister Roberts reports of Dental Clinic re-opening and recent graduation of 27 students from the Health Assistant Training Program. MOH looking into continuing the training. 10 of the graduates are to return to PCC for further education while the remaining graduates to be placed in the MOH workforce. MOH is working on identifying funds within its in-house budget to support continued Training Program. Budget request through the Supplemental Budget did not go through. **Executive Check-Up:** MOH and the Healthcare Fund (HCF) continue to work together to in discussion and approval of package for executive health check-up. Will be implemented once approved. Kebeas Eradication Update: The MOH continues to work with Ministries on their assigned state efforts. Aimeliik State is set to hire 5 permanent personnel to work on eradicating kebeas in their respective states. CAT Team continues to provide assistance on kebeas eradication projects. Minister Roberts reports of attending WHO meeting later this May.
- **Ministry of Education:** Director Tkel-Sbal shares of scheduled 8th Grade Transition Workshop on May 10-11. Promotion and graduation scheduled for May 28-31. May 28 is for outlying states. May 29 for Babeldaob schools. May 30 for central schools and May 31 for Palau High School. Director Tkel-Sbal requests for assistance in addressing annual \$1 million U.S. grant for MOE. The project officers clarified that Palau will continue to receive the annual grant but will fall under the discretion of the U.S. Secretary of Interior in regards to its terms. The grant is earmarked to Palau through the "Every Student Succeeds Act" subjected to the "No Child Left Behind Act". Outstanding student lunched to be scheduled with the President before or after the graduation week.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transnational Crimes involving Yachts: Exec. Director Ngwal reports of discussion relating to transnational crime involving unchecked yachts. President Remengesau shares agreement recently signed by himself, President Christian of FSM and President Heine of RMI establishing the Micronesian Regional Transnational Crime Unit to strengthen efforts in regards. Rolynda instructed to provide copy of the agreement to the Vice President and Attorney General Ernestine Rengiil. • PNCC Progress Update: PNCC reports of addressing previous log-in page issue. PNCC continues to work on Cable TV to Kayangel by the established deadline of June 30 for final connection. Antenna has been installed at Island Mart to address cell service congestion. An additional antenna is under way for installation at Ochob's residence in Topside. Once completed, the connection is anticipated to address service issues in the Ngerbechedesau area. PNCC completed an outreach program in Ngaraard and anticipates continuing to other states. Palau Islands Telecom Association (PITA) Meeting in 2021: PNCC offered and were confirmed for Palau to host the PITA meeting in 2021. PITA comprises of 123 members.
Agency Briefings and Other Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mosquito Concerns: Director Melairei reports of concerns made of mosquito population. Malakal pond is under control. Director Melairei is working with the Landfill to determine mosquito population. • CIP/Infrastructure Project Update: (1) National Jailhouse: Director Melairei reports Phase 2 has been awarded to the sole bidder for the building construction phase of the project. Construction ongoing for underground water tank. The project includes two buildings with separate halls, cafeteria, and chapel. The building is set to be run by solar power. The project is expected to complete by the end of 2019. (2) One-Stop Shop Building: Director Melairei reports the project is in the design phase while Koror State Government's decision for use land for temporary structure is pending. (2) Convention Center: Pending further information from Melekeok State. • Private Airliner Considered for Palau-Japan Route: President Remengesau reports of ongoing discussion for a private airline company to take over the Palau-Japan flight route suspended by Delta Airlines as well as the possibility of hiring Delta Airlines staff in Palau who are now unemployed as a result of their suspension. • Employee Physical Check-Up Initiative: All Ministers are instructed to maintain a list of their employees who have undergone physical check-up and to encourage those who have not to get their physical exams. • Adopt-a-Highway Program: Minister Temengil-Chilton, Minister Roberts, Minister Sengebau and Director Melairei are instructed to meet and discuss a way forward for implementation of the program. The President to adopt Didall (Meyuns Causeway).
Reminders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Ministers are reminded to "follow up" and "think outside the box" on all initiatives. • All Ministers are reminded to take note of the following events discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ad hoc Committee Meeting (Members Only): Monday, May 7 (11AM) - Nurses' Week Celebration: Friday, May 11, 2018 at Mantekang Summerhouse (11AM) - Men's Conference: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 hosted by Ngiwal State • All Ministers will be notified of the schedule for the next Cabinet Meeting once confirmed.

***Meeting minutes are subjected to change and approval**