



CABINET MEETING
 Office of the President
 Meyuns Satellite Office | 2:42 pm – 3:50 pm
 Tuesday, March 14, 2017

In Attendance:

1. Minister Billy Kuartei
2. Minister Elbuchel Sadang
3. Minister Charles Obichang
4. Minister Sinton Soalablai
5. Minister Baklai Temengil-Chilton
6. Minister Emais Roberts
7. COS Secilil Eldebechel
8. Melvira Kazuma, MNRET Admin. Officer

Prepared by Rolynda Jonathan, Office of the President

AGENDA	DISCUSSION
Youth Day Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Youth Fair and Family Day is scheduled for March 15 at Ernguul Park. The opening ceremony begins at 9:00 am. President Remengesau encourages all Ministers and families to attend the festivities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister Temengil-Chilton reports booths are expected to open by 9:00 am. The program is focused on career development and is organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and the Belau Family School Community Association (BFSCA) and other partner agencies. - Information booths include job placement, WIA, etc. - Public Works is assisting MCCA with set up and clean up. - The entire program will also be broadcasted live on Eco Paradise. - Lunch will be provided for the first 300 people. Vendors will also be selling food and drinks. - 3 buses will also be transporting students, parents and participants from Babeldaob to Ernguul. - Through BFSCA an invitation to join the event was extended to parents. • In addition to the Youth Fair and Family Day other programs are also scheduled throughout the week, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily morning radio talk show hosted by Hadden Seklii at 7:00 am - Airai is scheduled to host a symposium this evening at 7:00 pm. Ngaraard is organizing a program for March 15. Both Koror and Airai are hosting sports tournaments.
Requested Agenda Items for March 20 Cabinet Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of government office space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister Sadang requests as part of the next Cabinet Meeting agenda discussion on the creation of a committee to conduct an assessment and inventory of government office space. There are many offices experiencing limited space compared to others. The assessment must be made to adequately address space issue. Pension Plan office was mentioned as an example of an office with excessive space that is underutilized. • Request made for Grants Coordinator Judy Dean to submit complete list of grants requested, approved or pending including originating fund, scope of work and lead agency. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is suggested for the list to be compiled and shared to all relevant agencies and Ministries. In addition, suggestion was made to clear up process and roles in relation to grants and other forms of fund assistance. - Recommendation made for better communication of original grants request. - All Ministers emphasized need for coordinated efforts with key agencies regarding all grants,



	related projects, etc.
FY2017 Budget Briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Senate has approved the FY2017 budget with some changes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In terms of the Executive Branch, the following changes were made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ \$50,000 increase for Ministry of Education’s Pacific Education Conference ~ \$400,000 for purchase of Medical Referral houses in Manila. Minister Sadang reports the language did not exempt procurement. The language is for the Health and Finance Committees for both houses of the OEK to negotiate and sign for. ~ \$100,000 for the Ministry of Health’s hyperbaric chamber. - Other changes unrelated to the Executive Branch includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ State block grant to Koror State was increased to \$1M, a 50% increase from the original language. All other states remained at 9%. ~ House increased budget by \$200,000 and the Senate by \$150,000. • The budget passed second reading and is expected to pass third reading on Thursday, March 16 for conference. No public hearings will be held.
Update of Assignments from March 6 Cabinet Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Vice President Oilouch, Minister Obichang, Director Melareid and PPUC officials and contractors of water improvement project on traffic conditions is scheduled for Thursday, March 20. • Minister Obichang is scheduled to meet PPUC/PNCC officials to follow up on agreement on the use of electric poles on Tues., March 14 at 4:00 pm. • COS Eldebechel reports follow up has been on MNRET letter to Koror State on the closure of the Jellyfish Lake. Koror State reportedly does not want to close the Jellyfish Lake. The site remains open. Additionally, COS Eldebechel reports a follow up has been made with Grants Coordinator Judy Dean on UAE/Mastar, and communication to PEACE Corps on continuation of program to Palau. • Financial analysis and contractual information for the Palau Ship Registry are nearly complete. Reports have been received by Director Hayes Moses in regards. • Minister Sadang to contact counterparts in the OEK to incorporate funding for BRT Building demolition. • MNRET staff in attendance instructed to follow up with Minister Sengebau of assignments from previous Cabinet Meeting.
Travel and Activity Calendar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation made to submit confirmed travel calendar, events and/or activity calendar to Deputy Press Secretary Rolynda Jonathan for compilation and distribution at the next Cabinet Meeting in addition to Minister Temengil-Chilton’s office for the purpose of producing a full calendar for the remainder of the year. • Minister Sadang’s travel calendar shared at the meeting is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - March 31- April 07, 2017 Forum Economic Ministers Meeting in Suva, Fiji - April 09-11, 2017 Micronesian Conservation Trust Board Meeting in Guam - April 16-20, 2017 Pacific Island Development Bank Board of Governors Annual Mtg. in CNMI - May 1-7, 2017 ADB Annual Meeting in Yokohama, Japan - May 21-24, 2017 Government Finance Officers Meeting in Denver, Colorado • Minister Temengil-Chilton’s travel calendar shared at the meeting is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - March 26 – April 4, 2017 Oceania National Olympic Committee meeting in Fiji - April 19-22, 2017 Japan • Minister Obichang’s travel calendar shared at the meeting is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - April 9-17, 2017 MCS meeting in Kosrae - May 8-12, 2017 Aviation Workshop in Marshall Islands



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - July 21-23, 2017 Port Operator’s Annual Meeting in Marshall Islands • Minister Kuartei’s travel calendar shared at the meeting is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - March 28 – April 2, 2017 PCC Board Director’s meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii • Minister Roberts’ travel calendar shared at the meeting is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - March 28 – April 2, 2017 PCC Board Director’s meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii • Upcoming events includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Belau Games June 23 – July 2, 2017 - Pacific Education Conference July 18-20, 2017
<p>Miscellaneous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streetlights have arrived and been installed. Remaining streetlights that have yet been installed are between PPUC and individual states to make the necessary arrangements. PPUC is the lead agency, and the streetlights are in their possession. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COS Eldebechel reports Governors have inquired from PPUC who claims they are waiting for the lights. Minister Obichang reports streetlights have been installed in states like Ngeremlengui, Peleliu and others. • MCCA is meeting occasionally with Kaleb on economic development and social inclusion. Additionally, Minister Temengil-Chilton reports Palau Community Action Agency (PCCA) is working on organizing training for ENT and elderly care. WIOA has expressed ability to fund program. Minister Temengil-Chilton considers the program as a great initiative for Year of the Family. • PPUC have assessed Ministry of Health’s generator. PPUC advised MOH that the machinery must be replaced. A one-megawatt generator was offered to MOH for purchase at the price of \$1M. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Another assessment was made indicating the generator is in good order though it is underutilized. Minister Roberts’ is not clear of what assessment to follow. - Minister Roberts’ reports MOH originally considered purchasing two 500KW backup generators. - Suggestion made for MOH to utilize generators currently housed in Malakal. The generators were donated during emergency and are not being used. Suggestion made for Minister Obichang to initialize discussion with PPUC. - Hospital roof leakage has been addressed.
<p>Reminders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Ministers are reminded to submit additional agenda items, if any, for the next Cabinet Meeting to COS Eldebechel for inclusion. The proposed agenda must be submitted no later than Friday, March 17. • All Ministers are reminded to submit first 100 days action plans to the Office of the President as soon as possible. • All Ministers are reminded to submit additional requests, if any, for Asian Development Bank (ADB) to Minister Sadang ahead of his meeting with ADB in May 2017. • The next Cabinet Meeting is confirmed for 9:00AM, Monday, March 20, 2017 in Ngerulmud, Melekeok.

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