



CABINET MEETING
Office of the President
 Ngerulmud | 9:06 – 10:30 am
 Monday, October 23, 2017

In Attendance:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. 2. Vice President Raynold Oilouch 3. Minister Elbuchel Sadang 4. Minister Charles Obichang 5. Minister Faustina Rehuher-Marugg 6. Minister Baklai Temengil-Chilton 7. Minister Sinton Soalablai 8. Director Brian Melairei 9. Director Antonette Merur 10. Deputy Chief of Staff Rebluud Kesolei 11. Exec. Director Keobel Sakuma | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Press Secretary Olkeriil Kazuo 13. PNCC AGM Leo-Ben Teriong 14. Bradley Kumangai, PNCC Board Member 15. MOS COS Jeffrey Antol 16. Nace Soalablai, Legislative Officer 17. Grants Coordinator Judy Dean 18. PPUC PIO Isebong Rengulbai 19. Norvert Villanueva, NDBP 20. Austin Gaylord, Legal Counsel 21. Daniel Klopper, Legal Counsel 22. Jerry Nabeyama, PNMS Coordinator |
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Prepared by Rolynda Jonathan, Office of the President

AGENDA	DISCUSSION
PNCC Briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An announcement will be made soon to the public regarding cellphone replacement. A criteria will be set in place for replacement phones. Anyone with a cellphone, 2G or smartphone, who cannot access mobile services as a result of the system upgrade, will be eligible to receive a replacement phone. PNCC states there are no income criteria. The President strongly requests for PNCC to consider an income criteria. Internet Security: PNCC has firewall installed to censor pornography, however the company still faces challenges. The President expresses the importance of prohibiting underage access to online pornography and violence, and requests for the PNCC Board to work together to propose a language, if a policy changes is needed to regulate internet access to protect Palau's youth.
NDBP Update of Agriculture/Aquaculture Loan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NDBP reported a sum of \$972,677 approved loans as of Friday, October 20th. A value of \$35,100 in loans are currently pending final acceptance from the borrower before final approval. The bank continues to conduct outreach programs to entice more applicants. 10 outreach programs have been conducted so far with 119 prospects. Two loans have been approved as a result of the outreach and 5 prospects are under loan process. The Bank anticipates reaching the \$1 million mark by mid-November. The President suggests the Bank consider making the loan available farmers with damaged farms.
PPUC Update of Water and Sewer Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Improvement Project: Installation of transmission lines is complete. Installation of distribution lines in Idid, Meketii and Ngerbeched is approximately 97% complete. Ongoing work in Rois' Ngemelachel is 90% complete with connection to new water lines remaining. Road overlaying ongoing from Olngebangel to Topside area.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sewer Project: Installation work ongoing, however work is moving slowly as the project requires digging of deeper trench compared to the water project. The project to move forward with the pump station in Long Island following approval. The President requests for PPUC to continue occupying one lane as much as possible to maintain traffic flow. • Sewer Overflow: Director Melairei reports of pump station at Cisco failing. BPW have requested for a report from the PPUC Sewer Department, but have yet to receive the report to date. 		
<p>Other Matters</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="438 558 1203 1898"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel Calendar: The President reminded the Ministers of the importance of sharing their travel calendars. He further requested for Ministers to limit their travel to those of importance and to maximize their time as Minister on island. • Grant Opportunities: The President reminds the Cabinet of the importance of following up on opportunities and accessing grants, including the \$45 million available to the Pacific for coastal fisheries. The Grants Offices is instructed to take a more aggressive approach in communicating with Ministers to access grant opportunities. Minister Sadang to put together a team to write grants, access funding and opportunities available. The President stated the \$1 million renewable energy grant will not be submitted for streetlights, but for a two-fold energy efficiency project, the hospital and replacement of lights for energy efficiency lighting. Director Melairei reports of Annual Clean Energy Grant from Taiwan that he and Director Remengesau are looking into. • Assessment of Tropical Storms: The President requested for assessment to be conducted in the outlying states and others areas impacted by the recent storms and identify the level of need. Some report indicates Dil Belau was heavily damaged by ocean surge. • El Nino Update: The Palau officially remains on El Nino watch, however the National Weather Service reports El Nino probability has reduced to 40%, although the probability of El Nina has increased. The National Emergency Committee is set to meet at the end of the month to consider lifting Palau. • Kebeas Update: Minister Sengebau reports open purchase order has been made to procure supplies. MNRET is working with Bureau of Public Work personnel in eradicating kebeas. • Dengue Update: For the month of October 2017, 5 cases of dengue fever has been confirmed. MOH continues outreach and awareness campaigns. Doctors continue to be placed at dispensaries as a prevention tool. From October 2016 to date, a total of 484 cases have been reported. 32 applicants have applied for the Health Assistant Training Program. 29 are currently on board to take part in the 6-month training program. </td> <td data-bbox="1203 558 1544 1898"> <p style="text-align: center;">ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>November Travel Calendar</i></p> <p>a) <i>All Ministers are instructed to provide their travel calendars to the Office of the President as soon as possible.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Proposal to EU</p> <p>b) <i>Grants Coordinator Dean instructed to provide a copy of EU proposal to the President for direct submittal to EU Commissioner.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Clean-Up of Mudslides</p> <p>c) <i>Director Melairei instructed to clear mudslides in the Compact Road.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kebeas Report</p> <p>d) <i>The President instructs for regular reporting of the progress of eradicating kebeas every Monday and to include photos.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">'Our Ocean' Committee</p> <p>e) <i>Minister Sengebau and Minister Rehuher-Marugg instructed to draft of committee in coordination with the PIFS.</i></p> </td> </tr> </table>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel Calendar: The President reminded the Ministers of the importance of sharing their travel calendars. 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<p>Reminders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Ministers are requested to note the following events in their calendars: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tuesday, October 24: United Nations Day 2. Wednesday, October 25: Civic Hall Ribbon Cutting 3. Friday, October 27 – Saturday, October 28: Oceans Day 4. Saturday, October 28: 2017 Olechotel Belau Fair in Ngarchelong • All Ministers are reminded to “follow up” and “think outside the box” on all initiatives. • Minister Rehuher-Marugg and all Ministers are reminded to be conscious of elections and world events. 	

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