



CABINET MEETING
Office of the President
 Ngerulmud | 9:20 am – 10:30 am
 Monday, July 24, 2017

In Attendance:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. 2. Vice President Raynold B. Oilouch 3. Minister Faustina Rehuher-Marugg 4. Minister Umiich Sengebau 5. Minister Emais Roberts 6. Minister Sinton Soalablai 7. Director Brian Melairei 8. Exec. Director Keobel Sakuma 9. Press Secretary Olkeriil Kazuo | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. EQPB Exec. Director Roxanne Blesam 11. NDBP President Claire Harvey 12. Norvert Villanueva, NBDP Business Loan Officer 13. Austin Gaylord, Legal Counsel to the President 14. Nick Ngwal, Special Ass. on Maritime Affairs 15. Kaleb Udui, Jr., Senior Economic Advisor 16. Nace Soalablai, Legislative Liaison Officer |
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Prepared by Rolynda Jonathan, Office of the President

AGENDA	DISCUSSION
Status Update of NDBP’s Agriculture & Aquaculture Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDBP is looking into a potential \$300,000 state government rabbitfish project. Said project will require legislative approval before proceeding. NDBP provided all necessary information to assist the client. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advertisement and outreach programs commenced. NDBP has begun advertising both loan programs in local newspapers and has restarted outreach programs to states. - NDBP has applied for a grant from the U.S. to help Ngiwal State pay for their environmental assessment application for a mangrove agriculture farming project to farmers. • President Remengesau urges NDBP to exhaust every available option in order to reach out to all states for potential clients. NDBP is further requested to bring the entire application process to each respective state eliminating the challenge facing interested individuals who are unable to visit the NDBP office because of lack of transportation, intimidation and other reasons.
Update from EQBP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EQPB reports a new hotel development, Turtle Hotel with a 20-room capacity, proposed next to the Echang Church in Echang is offending the small community who’ve expressed concerns of social impacts and sewage capacity. A public hearing is being proposed to discuss issues and concerns from the community as well as share further details of the project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - President Remengesau recommends suggesting for the company to address the sewer capacity in Echang. Exec. Director Blesam reports the company is willing. - The company completed and submitted its required environmental report to EQBP. A petition from community concerning the development was submitted to EQPB in regards. - The proposed public hearing will also give the company an opportunity to share positive benefits of this new development that the community is unaware of. • EQPB is preparing to provide information detailing over-the-water leases in Koror as per request from the Rubekul Belau. Exec. Director Blesam reports this is public information and there’s no issues regarding this request. • EQPB is looking into the issue concerning the Sanderson project and lease awarded to Kerai in Airai.



	<p>Communication have been made to Airai State in regards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Thursday, July 20th, the EQPB Board of Directors held a meeting to discuss a fine of the PITI vessel that was recently grounded in Ngeruangel, Kayangel. The environmental impact to the reef is excessive. EQPB reports this is not the first time PITI vessel grounded the reef. The fine is high, however at this time, EQBP have yet to issue the order to the company. In addition to the fine, the state government can also claim compensation for damages. The area in which the vessel ran aground is a conservation site. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The President recommends and encourages EQPB to hand down the maximum fine. • EQPB has received approval and clearance to import over 7,000 car batteries collected to a company in Korea. EQBP is working with the shipping company to begin the process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At this time, EQPB is only collecting batteries for vehicles, not small batteries for everyday use. EQPB will look find out if there's a market for them. - Minister Roberts suggest implementing tax similar to the beverage bottle tax and establishing redemption for recycling.
<p>Ministry Briefings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Justice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On Friday, July 21st, a group of law enforcement officers began increased and strengthened efforts to enforce laws concerning underage drinking and others relating to minors. Reports received by Vice President Oilouch indicates 15 minors were apprehended in bars, cited and brought to the station pending Parental pick up. Car accidents that occurred over the weekend are alcohol-related. Over the weekend, Vice President also reports an individual who sustained injury in Tobi of a reported branch that fell on top of him. - Traffic Conditions: Currently, traffic conditions in Ngerbechedesau is congested. During the meeting with the Vice President, Minister Obichang, PPUC and contractors it was determined to utilize Ngerias to diverted traffic in the morning and afternoon rush hour. • Ministry of Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister Soalablai thanks all Ministers for their attendance of both the opening and closing ceremonies and reports the 30th Pacific Education Conference (PEC) was successful. Palau's lunch program was highlighted in most workshops and side events during the duration of the Conference. Presentations made by Palauan educators mostly covered climate change. Grading of physical education and health subjects in terms of character building was also discussed. The program concluded with a Rock Island trip on Friday, July 21st. MOE is working on preparing report of the \$50,000 funding authorized by the OEK. Saipan, CNMI was selected to host the next PEC in 2019. - 6 American Samoa participants thanked the President, his office and MOE for their assistance in clearance their immigration entrance. The participants initially were unable to enter Palau from Guam without passports. Senator English who overheard participants at the Honolulu Airport immediately contacted Keobel for his assistance. • Ministry of Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dengue Update: As of this morning, 48 positive cases have been reported. 37 cases are concentrated in Koror, 3 reported in Airai, 2 in Peleliu and 1 in Ngatpang. So far, there's no serious cases. Most infected individuals are in stable conditions and can recover quickly from home. The National Dengue Taskforce is preparing to host another national clean-up on Saturday, July 29th ahead of the beginning of the school year. - Korean Medical Mission: From August July 25-28, Korean Medical Mission will be stationed in Ngarchelong's dispensary providing dental and medical services. The second team is due to arrive in August. Minister Roberts' assures visiting MOH carefully reviews the credentials of these visiting doctors and dentists and issues their medical license to practice in Palau ahead of their mission. - MOH is also partnering up with the Ministry of State and EQPB on radiation monitoring and



	<p>further matters relating to x-rays, training and staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of State <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Technical Team are prepared to hold a meeting today regarding the U.S. Defense Cooperation Proposal, where the U.S. is offering to install maritime surveillance systems that will enhance Palau's capacity. The President notes Palau is interested in seeking partnership for Coast Guard presence. The Team will continue to review the proposal and brief everyone accordingly as they move forward. - Minister Rehuher-Marugg is also scheduled to meet with the Governor of Melekeok, Reklai and the National Safety Office to discuss matter concerning the stack pile of UXOs. - Minister Rehuher-Marugg is scheduled to depart this evening to Noumea in attendance of SPC conference. 	
<p>Miscellaneous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moratorium on Banks: Kaleb reports receiving communication last week from the FIC concerning a moratorium on bank license. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - President Remengesau emphasizes Palau is not stopping opportunities and therefore, there shouldn't be any announcement that would make Palau appear unfriendly to banks. • Landfill Mosquito Clean-Up: Ministry of PIIC as reported by Director Melairei is working in joint effort with the Division of Environmental Health. Director Melairei announced the landfill will not house old vehicles because of lack of space. • Tire Shredding Facility: New equipment have arrived pending Port and Customs clearance. • One-Stop Shop Building: Director Melairei confirms engineers have packaged a scope of work together – the building is designed to incorporate all boards and commissions, agencies currently occupying the finance complex, MOJ administration on licensing and testing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - President Remengesau requests Director Melairei to include large and small conference rooms. 	<p style="text-align: center;">ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>FIC on Banking</i></p> <p>a) <i>The President instructs Kaleb Udui to meet with the FIC as soon possible</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mudslide in Ngebuked</i></p> <p>b) <i>The President instructs Director Melairei to clean-up mudslide in Ngebuked as soon as possible. The mud is draining to the ocean, etc.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Meeting with Ngarchelong on Service Lateral Connection</i></p> <p>c) <i>The President instructs Director Melairei to meet with Ngarchelong leadership and community to clear up any misunderstanding regarding the pipe connection and laterals.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Guam Cultural Center Design</i></p> <p>d) <i>The President instructs Director Melairei to review the design plan for the Center in Guam.</i></p>
<p>Reminders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Ministers are request to note the following meetings in their calendars and ensure attendance: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joint Leadership Meeting with the Council of Chiefs: 10:00 am, Wednesday, July 26th at Desomel Restaurant, Palasia Hotel 2. Joint Leadership Meeting with the 10th OEK: 7:00 pm, Wednesday, July 26th at Penthouse Hotel Conference Room 3. Joint Leadership Meeting with the Governors' Association and State Speakers: 12:00 pm, 	



Thursday, July 27th at Ming's Restaurant, Palasia Hotel

- All Ministers are requested to note upcoming programs and/or events:
 4. National Clean-Up Day, Saturday, July 29th
 5. Korean Medical Mission in Ngarchelong, Tuesday, July 25 to Friday, July 28th
- The next Cabinet Meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am, Friday, July 28th. All Bureau Directors are requested to attend. Beginning on Friday, July 28th, all Bureau Directors will prepare and present to the President and his Cabinet objectives accomplished in past 7 months, progress of ongoing programs and target for the remaining year. MNRET will open up the presentation beginning on Friday, July 28th.
- There's no Cabinet Meeting scheduled for Monday, July 31, 2017 as President Remengesau will be traveling on official trip. The Office of the President will notify all Ministers accordingly should this change.

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