



CABINET MEETING

Office of the President | 10:05 AM – 12:30 PM

Monday, June 18, 2018

In Attendance:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. | 10. COS Secilil Eldebechel | 20. Shelley Remengesau, MOS |
| 2. Vice President Raynold Oilouch | 11. Deputy Chief Rebluud Kesolei | 21. Mike Blesam, EQPB |
| 3. Minister Elbuchel Sadang | 12. Exec. Director Nick Ngwal | 22. PNCC AGM LeoBen Teriong |
| 4. Minister Faustina Rehuher-Marugg | 13. Postmaster General Timothy Sinsak | 23. Norbert Villanueva, NDBP |
| 5. Minister Emais Roberts | 14. Press Secretary Olkeriil Kazuo | 24. Daniel Kloppe, Legal Counsel |
| 6. Minister Baklai Temengil-Chilton | 15. Grants Coordinator Judy Dean | 25. Austin Gaylord, Legal Counsel |
| 7. Minister Umiich Sengebau | 16. Edolem Ikerdeu, NCD Program Coordinator | |
| 8. Minister Charles Obichang | 17. Kaleb Udui, Jr., Sen. Econ. Advisor | |
| 9. Chief Terralynn Nabeyama | 18. Chur Oiph, PNSB Coordinator | |
| 10. Chief Raynold Mechol | 19. Nace Soalablai, Legislative Liaison Officer | |

Prepared by Rolynda Jonathan, Office of the President

AGENDA	DISCUSSION
Ministry Briefings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Justice: Efforts commenced in Echang over the weekend on the Kebeas Eradication Program. Vice President Oilouch reports of attendance of the President’s Day celebration in Portland, including the leadership summit held. Objective of the summit is to strengthen the klechibelau. The last group of fire fighters to receive EMT training commenced on June 18th. All Ministers to meet with the Vice President on June 19th to discuss agenda for the upcoming mid-JCM in Guam. Ceremony held last week for a project to upgrade the Ministry’s data system. The project will help strengthen information sharing within the Ministry. P.S.S KEDAM returned on Saturday from southwest islands following a three-day trip transporting passengers to the islands. P.S.S Remeliik departed to the Philippines for about a one-month for its last repair. P.S.S. KEDAM to depart to Yap, FSM to deliver supplies for the Micronesian Games at the request of Minister Temengil-Chilton. • Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs: Minister Temengil-Chilton reports the Summer Youth Applied Learning Program commenced last week in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and PICRC. The program targets 8th Grade students. Minister Temengil-Chilton has met with PPLA in regards to the Ngarchelong housing matter, which they expressed support. MCCA arranged is working on arrangements for Assistant Secretary Domenech’s visit to Peleliu. Three charter flights have been arranged with PPA Airlines to fly athletes to the Micronesian Games. Athletes are being divided at the request of the airlines for no more than 100 passengers per flight. Minister Temengil-Chilton reports of communication from other governments requesting for assistance in getting their athletes to Yap citing challenges of services from United who are not making available any flights. Minister Temengil-Chilton shares that the valedictorian of the 2018 graduating class of Xavier High School is a female Palauan student, who received a half-scholarship award to attend York University in Toronto, Canada under the Global Leadership Program. Minister Temengil-Chilton requests for inclusion of high honor students from Palau attending Xavier in the annual outstanding students’ dinner. MCCA is working on arrangements for the Junior Anglers Fishing Derby Program in observation of the Constitution Day on July 9th. • Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Industries and Commerce: MPIIC is working with Austin and Director Remengesau in hiring of a new consultant and director for the Bureau of Communications. Minister Obichang reports MPIIC is working with PNCC, Palau WiFi and

Palau Telecom on interconnection. Minister Obichang recently met the FAA International Affairs manager where a joint request was made by Palau, FSM and RMI for data of flights that have flown over the airspace of the three nations and of charges against those flights. Airport Terminal Project partners to arrive on Wednesday, June 20th to present final decision from two contractors, Nishimatsu and Taichi. Minister Obichang reports of issues conveyed by the contractors of the condition of existing airport building.

- **Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism:** Minister Sengebau reports chemical needed for the Kebeas Eradication Project is now available. A one-week Agriculture Summer Camp Program targeting 4th to 6th Grade commenced this week.
- **Ministry of Education:** MOE reports of meeting with Aimeliik Governor and Sandra Pierantozzi concerning the Aimeliik Elementary School broaching on her private land. MOE looking into discussion with Aimeliik of relocating the State Government Office out of the school grounds. Minister Soalablai seeks for support in identifying solutions for excess use of employee sick leave. MOE to require employee to get a second opinion concerning use of sick leave. Vice President suggests addressing the matter government wide. Minister Sadang to issue memorandum in regards. Minister Soalablai instructed to arrange a separate meeting with the President and the PNSB Board. The Board is seeking for support of the Emery Wenty's nomination pending in the OEK.
- **Ministry of Health:** Minister Roberts reports of recent site visit from Community Health Center from the U.S. Assessment of dispensaries ongoing. One of two medical student interns from Republic of China has formerly resigned from the program. Orthopedic surgeon's tenure in Palau ends in July. MOH is working on identifying a replacement. Minister Roberts is instructed to send a diplomatic note to Israel to express appreciation and express hopes for replacement. Minister Roberts requested for assistance from the Embassy of the Republic of China's Taiwan for a scientific assessment into kebeas. HCF currently reviewing medical exam program. 2017 NCF Fund yet to be appropriated or authorized by the OEK. Minister Roberts instructed to meet with OEK in regards. MOH to renovate current CDU Office following relocation to their new building as a temporary Step Down Unit. Minister Roberts instructed to look into policies for the Step Down Unit to ensure patients do not take advantage of the service. Men's Health Conference set on August 14. Walkathon sponsored by Team Ngardmau on June 23. Fishing derby is scheduled on July 28. Plans are underway for a back to school concert on August 4 back to school concert. Minister Roberts seeking for MOS staff Keith Sugiyama based in the Philippines as a part-time medical coordinator.
 - **Worksite Wellness Program Update:** MOH and MOF-BPSS in collaboration developed the Worksite Wellness Program. Edolem reports the Program's objective is to promote healthy environment and supporting employees to make healthy lifestyle choices. The project outlines health programs, policies, and support and benefits for employees in the Executive Branch. The project anticipates increasing knowledge of their health, adopting healthy habits, increasing physical activity and undergoing annual medical check-ups. The Committee is scheduled to meet with five representatives from each Ministry who be trained of the program and to identify programs each Ministry would like to implement within their Ministries. The program anticipates to commence in July and to be monitored. Chief Eldebechel, Deputy Chief Kesolei and Press Secretary Kazuo are instructed to meet with Edolem and develop recommendations to the President for a directive or executive order needed for the program and others, including the eliminating plastic bottles in government meetings.
- **Ministry of State:** Minister Rehuher-Marugg reports of summer internship program with Palau undergraduate students from University of Guam and ROC-Taiwan school. MOS to distribute copies of the UNDP Strategic Planning 2018-2022 and UNDP Summary 2013-

	<p>2017 to all Ministries. Minister Rehuher-Marugg shares report from JICA concerning the treatment of JICA volunteers in the workplace. The matter could be from a single event, no specific information was shared by JICA. All Ministries with JICA volunteers instructed to work with their staff. Vice President Oilouch is to lead Palau’s delegation to Nauru in attendance of the 2018 Pacific Islands Forum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Finance: Minister Sadang recommends formalizing the Worksite Wellness Program and to award the Ministry with a good overall health during the Employee Appreciation Program. Minister Sadang reports of upcoming Law Enforcement Tournament from June 21-24. ADB agreed to assistance Palau to access the Green Climate Fund on its renewable energy efforts. ADB also agreed to fund land use planning of state governments and to fund the Master Plan. Minister Sadang met with Speaker of the House on a resolution to urge to the President to create a team in regards. Additionally, ADB has agreed to look into the possibility for providing a low interest loan to Palau to pay off the RUS loan. Minister Sadang reports World Bank agreed cover 50% of the new PNCC manager’s salary. President Remengesau instructs Minister Sadang and PNCC to meet concerning offer from ADB for RUS loan and World Bank’s offer to cover 50% of the new GM’s salary. Minister Sadang to extend 15-days to address fixed assets discrepancies and to develop a plan moving forward.
<p>Agency Briefings and Other Matters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNCC Progress Update: PNCC reports implementing a free WiFi service at the airport in collaboration with MPIIC and PVA. Cable TV project in Kayangel ongoing. Expansion of cellular service ongoing. PNCC looking into installing a cell tower in Koksai. PNCC working with FSM Telecommunication Company for bandwidth in Yap for Palau athletes. PNCC representative to travel with athletes in regards. PNCC reports HomeNet connectivity is limited to each customer as issues has been resolved. • NDBP Progress Update: NDBP reports \$15,000 approved this June 2018 for a total of \$1.6 million has been approved for agriculture and aquaculture projects. • EQPB Update: EQPB reports the Board has approved and issued the permit for streetlight project. Airport Expansion Project under review. National Landfill Project completed with permit issued. • PNSB Update: PNSB reports during School Year 2017-2018 received 294 applicants. 237 were awarded. Two top reasons why students does not receive scholarship awards is due to (1) low GPA or (2) insufficient credits. Total awarded under the SY 2017-2018 is about \$3 million. \$2 million is from OEK appropriations, \$1 million foreign workers remitted by Finance. Average award is about \$13,000. The five priority fields of law, medicine, engineering, education and special education can receive up to \$50,000. Board added two additional fields, agriculture and aquaculture. From 2005 to date, most Palauan students receiving scholarships are under the Undergraduate Program. The Summer Internship Program for junior and senior University students is ongoing. The SY 2017-2018 received 30 students. The Board reports the challenges of Palauan students in Cuba applying for scholarship programs through PNSB is of the translation of education documents from Spanish to English and of transfer of funds. • Kona, Hawaii Update: Palau continues to serve as chair and President of GLISPA. GLISPA accepted new membership during meeting with the Biodiversity Funders Group in Kona. Biodiversity funding group expressed excitement of ocean, biodiversity and pledge assistance to PNMS and Micronesian Challenge. MOU was signed between GLISPA, Polynesia Voyaging Society (PVS) and Hawaii Green Growth.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant Signing with DOI: President announces the signing of a \$323,333.00 technical assistance from the U.S. Department of Interior to the Ministry of Finance to digitize and upgrade recordkeeping in the Ministry. Minister Sadang reports the project is in line with the one-stop shop initiative. Minister Rehuher-Marugg applauds MOF’s efforts and further suggests for efforts to be made to digitize all government records in the Ministries. • Mid-JCM in Guam: Vice President to lead Palau’s delegation to the mid-JCM in Guam from July 26-27, 2018. • Passage of the Procurement Act in the OEK: The bill contains rider to the Micronesian Games and delay of PPUC tariff implementation to October 1, 2018. President to sign the bill to law on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 at the Press Conference. Minister Temengil-Chilton and Minister Sadang are requested to attend. • Mr. Isim Inducted to U.S. Coast Guard: The President reports of Mr. Saxon Isim who has been inducted to join the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. He will be second Palauan to attend the Academy following Mr. Nick Swords. • Summer Youth Program: Minister Sadang and Minister Obichang instructed to look funding within the Road Maintenance Fund to mobilize youth to participate in the Year of Good Health kebeas program, tree planting or road painting efforts with Public Works this summer. Minister Sengebau instructed to identify plants for tree planting efforts. • One-on-One Meetings: COS Eldebechel, Deputy Chief Kesolei and Press Secretary Kazuo to work with all Ministers to schedule one-on-one meetings with President Remengesau. Minister Soalablai to depart this evening on official business. • Constitutional Day: Minister Temengil-Chilton and Minister Rehuher-Marugg instructed to make arrangements to celebrate the Republic’s Constitution celebration on July 9th. • International Day of Yoga: Press Secretary Kazuo instructed to make arrangements for a program to observe and celebrate the International Day of Yoga on Thursday, June 21. • UNDP Delegation Visit: UNDP Assistant Secretary General Haoliang Xu scheduled to visit Palau from July 5-7, 2018. The President reiterates Palau’s desires for UNDP to establish a regional office in the North Pacific. UNDP Assistant Secretary to meet the President at 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM on July 6th followed by meeting with all Ministers. Minister Sengebau instructed to arrange and host Rock Island tour with the Assistant Secretary General.
<p>Reminders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Ministers are reminded of the following upcoming events; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Belau-Constitution Day: Monday, July 9 - Education Convention: July 24-26 - Environmental Symposium: July 2018 - Men’s Conference: August 14 • All Ministers are reminded to “think outside the box” and “follow up” on all initiatives.

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