



CABINET MEETING

Office of the President

Meyuns Satellite Office | 9:08 am – 10:33 am

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

In Attendance:

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| 1. President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. | 12. Press Secretary Olkeriil Kazuo |
| 2. Vice President Raynold B. Oilouch | 13. MOS Chief Lydia Ngirablosch |
| 3. Minister Elbuchel Sadang | 14. Director Eunice Akiwo |
| 4. Minister Umiich Sengebau | 15. Myers Techitong, PNCC |
| 5. Minister Sinton Soalablai | 16. Nace Soalablai, Spc. Asst. on Legislative |
| 6. Minister Baklai Temengil-Chilton | 17. Peter Polloi, Spc. Adv. MPIIC |
| 7. Director Antonette Merur | 18. Fermin Meriang, Spc. Asst. on Media |
| 8. Director Brian Melairei | 19. Torual Gibbons, PPUC PRO |
| 9. Chief Secilil Eldebechel | 20. Legal Counsel Austin Gaylord |
| 10. Deputy Chief Rebluud Kesolei | 21. Legal Counsel Daniel Kloppe |
| 11. Nick Ngwal, Spc. Adv. on Maritime | |

Prepared by Rolynda Jonathan, Office of the President

AGENDA	DISCUSSION
Ministry Briefings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Finance: (1) FY2019 Budget: Minister Sadang reports of no changes made to the Executive Branch budget request with the exception of the funding to the Palau Embassy in Taiwan. \$160,000 budget increases made for each House of the OEK, including \$250,000 for office renovation and increases to the State Block Grants. Total increase amounts to about \$1.6 million. Wrong language is reportedly incorporated in the bill in relation to the Compact funding source. Minister Sadang to work with OEK Ways and Means Committee Chairmen. (2) Labor Day Program: Labor Day activities were organized on Friday, Aug. 31 in partnership with PVA at the Ernguul Park. 21 employers and government agencies were on hand to meet with over 100 persons who participated in the program and seeking for employment. (3) Employee Appreciation Program: All Ministers are reminded of the approaching Employee Appreciation Program in November and to prepare in regards. (4) Fixed Asset: Efforts are underway to develop a Maintenance Plan for government vehicles, including required vehicle registration. • Ministry of Health: (1) September Month of Activities: The month of September is Cancer Awareness Month and National Preparedness Month. Activities are laid out throughout the entire month. (2) Visiting Specialists: ENT and Behavioral Health medical services to take place by Tripler Medical Center. (3) NHI Medical Exam Coverage: The Committee continues to work on the anticipated launch of the medical exam service coverage through NHI on Oct. 1. The Committee is scheduled to meet this week to iron out final details of the program. (4) Pacific Basin Medical Association: The Association is scheduled to hold its next meeting in Palau from Oct. 17-19. (5) WHO Western Region Representative Election: Minister Roberts is due to attend the 66th Session of the World Health Organization Regional Committee for the Western Region from Oct. 8-12th in the Philippines. The session will include the election of the next WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific. Out of four candidates, only one candidate visited Palau. Dr. Takeshi Kasai, a Japan nominee, visited and toured health dispensaries and our efforts on the kebeas eradication project to learn more about local health programs and priorities. • Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs: (1) Displaced Ad Hoc Taskforce: Minister Temengil-Chilton reports the Ad Hoc report, proposed legislation and list of recommendations with supporting documents are due to be submitted to the President today,

Sept. 4. **(2) Kebeas Efforts:** Meeting held two weeks ago in Peleliu in partnership with MOH on kebeas eradication. Joe Tiobech of BOA to work with Peleliu Governor on site visit. **(3) Vans Donated to Old Age Center:** Two new 7-seater vans have been donated to the Old Age Center along with a total of 8 wheelchairs. **(4) Senate Hearing on Aging Commission:** Senate hearing on Aging Commission bill with the MCCA and the Old Age Center at the request of Senator Kuartei was postponed. The bill focuses on elderly care and aging policy. **(5) Old Age Center Roof Repair:** NDBP and Bureau of Public Works are assisting the Old Age Center with materials and manpower in repairing leaking roof at the Center. Repair work began on Friday, Aug. 31. Minister Temengil-Chilton reports of daily dance program at the Center from 1:30-2:30 pm, including aerobic course on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at the PNOC Gym. **(6) Belau Association of NGOs:** The Belau Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (BANGO) established last week. Villaney Remengesau was elected President. West Care is the association's secretariat. **(7) Special Committee on Housing:** The Committee met last week and are scheduled to undergo individual meetings with Governors. The President instructs for meetings to begin with State progressing forward in the area of housing development such as Ngarchelong State, and to develop a list of applicants, income level, eligibility for low-income housing and higher to be understand needs.

- **Ministry of Education: (1) Partnership with Indonesia:** Minister Soalablai reports of recent visit by Indonesian officials. Proposal made for a memorandum of understanding agreement for both MOE and Indonesia to exchange educational-related information and practices. Proposal is under review and consideration. **(2) The Post-Graduate Scholarship Program:** Minister Soalablai and Minister Roberts instructed to follow up on the status of the bill with Senator Rudimch.
- **Ministry of Natural Resources, Industries and Commerce: (1) 2nd National Environmental Symposium:** Minister Sengebau instructed to work with legal counsels to introduce legislations and/or regulations, as appropriate, based findings and outcomes. Outcomes to be incorporated to the upcoming Mechesil Belau communique as well. **(2) GEF 6 Project:** An Environmental Planner is set to work with State Governments and their respective Public Land Authorities to develop process and procedures for housing development and other developments in their States. **(3) Kebeas Scientific Study:** Taiwan Scientist is currently visiting Palau to get samples of kebeas for further examination of potential health benefits. Minister Sengebau is scheduled to meet with him.
- **Ministry of Justice: (1) Meeting Arrangement with PPUC:** Vice President instructed to arrange a meeting with Director Melairei, PPUC and contractor to address issue of traffic congestion and road restoration work. **(2) Proposed Taskforce on Traffic Congestion:** Recommendation made to create a taskforce to explore options to address ongoing issue of traffic congestion. **(3) Independence Day Program:** Vice President and Minister Temengil-Chilton requests attendance of upcoming press conference or future press conferences in September to report on activities and programs scheduled for the upcoming 24th Independence Day. **(4) MOU with KSG:** The MOJ is scheduled to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Koror State Government on Sept. 7 to establish cooperation for joint patrol and surveillance of the Republic. **(5) MOA with the Philippines:** A proposed memorandum of agreement with the Philippines is currently under review and consideration by the AG's office and legal counsels. The proposed MOA focuses on labor matters. The group is set to meet on Weds, Sept. 5 in regards. **(6) MDA/ADA Update:** Lands are set to be made available to the United States on Oct. 1 for the maritime and aerial domain awareness project in exchange for compensation to landowners for the use of lands. **(7) Full JCM Confirmed:** The full Joint Committee Meeting (JCM) with the U.S. has been confirmed to take place in Honolulu, Hawaii on Nov. 7.

<p>Agency Briefings and Other Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNCC Update: Myers reports of BSCC’s 9 months anniversary celebration of which additional bandwidth was extended. PNCC to roll out increased bandwidth to users via HomeNet and WiFi in celebration. PNCC is also working on an Independence Day Promo. Minister Sadang shares BSCC reports of increased subscriber means lower costs and anticipates paying loan in less than 8 years in trends versus initial 15 years. • Restoration of Roads: Director Melairei instructed to work with the Vice President, PPUC and contractor to address traffic congestion and address road restoration efforts, and to explore possibility of conducting road restoration work at night. Additionally, Director Melairei is instructed to move forward with bidding process on the project to overlay as well as look into addressing Compact Road in Ngeremlengui. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Status of National Jail: Director Melairei reports of scheduled meeting with PNQ on Wed, Sept. 5 regarding the 2nd phase of the project. Meeting to discuss the scope of the project and timeline for completion before 2020. - Status of the One-Stop Shop: Director Melairei reports the permitting obtained on Friday, Aug. 31 for construction of the temporary structure to house staff. Staff is anticipated to be relocated before the end of the year with the demolition of exiting building to begin in Jan. 2018. Meeting scheduled on Thurs., Sept. 6 to go through a virtual tour of the design. Virtual tour proposed for presentation before the leadership at the next leadership meeting. 2-year KSPLA lease agreement was submitted to Minister Sadang on land use for the temporary structure. The agreement was forwarded to the AG’s office for further review. • Airport Update: Additional meeting with partners to be held towards the end of Sept. FAA officials are due to visit Palau on Sept. 13 for a one day meeting. New JATCO Vice President to visit Palau on Oct. 5. Sojitz and JATCO have meet with Korean-based airlines companies for possible partnership in serving additional flights. Peter Polloi instructed to follow up on the latest update concerning Skymark from Ambassador Matsutaro and report to the President immediately. • Palau Livestock Association: The Association is recommended to develop an official correspondence to the President outlining objectives, plans and area requiring assistance to commence discussion of a way forward to better assist animal production and piggery farmers and buyers. • Renewable Energy Update: Nick reports of concerns expressed by GridMarket of land documentation in Nekken and the Airport, including EQPB and Historical Office. Chief Eldebechel and Nick are instructed to work with legal counsels to address concerns related to the lands, as well as communicate to PPLA regarding the use of the lands for the project. • Legal Counsels: Austin instructed to move forward with PNMS bill in anticipation of proposed leadership meeting next week, and to follow with Director Hayes Moses of reports of Palau flagged ship.
<p>Reminders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Ministers are reminded to “think outside the box” and to “follow up” on all initiatives. • All Ministers are reminded of the following events: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Press Conference, to be hosted by Vice President Oilouch, Minister Temengil-Chilton and Director Melairei: 10:00 AM, Weds, Sept. 5 @ the President’s Satellite Office

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