PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 20-280

Declaring the Week of April 17-23 as National Earth Week for the Republic of Palau in Observance of Earth Day 2020

“Climate Action: Community Solutions to Protect Our Nest of Life”
“Ng Mekerang a Urered a Rebeluu a Dosebelii a Lukel a Klengar”

WHEREAS, Earth Day, recognized on April 22nd around the world, is an annual reminder of the constant need for environmental activism, stewardship commitments, and sustainability efforts; and

WHEREAS, commemorating Earth Day is also a way to highlight the urgent need to conserve the Earth’s resources, protect our planetary environment, and institute actions to combat climate change; and

WHEREAS, climate change represents the biggest challenge to the future of humanity and the life support systems that make our world habitable; and

WHEREAS, Palau’s national commitments to the 2015 Paris Agreement must be increased by the end of 2020; and

WHEREAS, unless every country in the world steps up—and steps up with urgency and ambition—we are consigning the current and future generations to a dangerous future; and

WHEREAS, in response, Palau is dedicating a week in observance of Earth Day 2020 with the theme of “Climate Action: Community Solutions to Protect Our Nest of Life” (Ng Mekerang a Urered a Rebeluu a Dosebelii a Lukel a Klengar) to provide the information and inspiration needed to fundamentally change human behavior and attitudes towards the protection of the environment; and

WHEREAS, it is important to seize the enormous opportunities of a zero-carbon future through renewable energy, technologies to increase efficiency, and other measures; and

WHEREAS, it is more important than ever before that all citizens, institutions, and communities demonstrate our shared demand for bold, transformative change, and actions for a cleaner, safer, healthier, and sustainable Palau that protects and supports all of us; and
WHEREAS, our efforts during National Earth Week are critical to fulfilling our commitments to United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals No.13 (Climate Action), No.14 (Develop Life below Water, Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources) and No. 15 (Protect, Restore and Promote Sustainable Use of Terrestrial Ecosystems); and

WHEREAS, the world needs all Palauans, their actions, and their calls for more global action to tackle our climate crisis for Earth Day 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, and in the interest of protecting the health of the Palauan people and our environment, hereby declare the week April 17-23, 2020 as National Earth Week.

SO PROCLAIMED this 15th day of April, 2020 at the National Capitol in Ngerulmud, Republic of Palau.

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President of the Republic of Palau