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10 year old Polowat boy alone at sea rescued after more than a month adrift



By **Bill Jaynes**
 The Kaselehlie Press

April 15, 2020

Gensan, Philippines—On April 9, Philippine fishermen rescued 10 year old Melson Dillidy of Polowat, Chuuk who was adrift alone in Philippine waters.

According to a report from an investigator of Frabelle Fishing Corporation, in bad weather on April 3 the crew members of a light boat serving the DEA-TRICE-01 owned by Sto. Nino Fishing noticed a small boat without an onboard engine and a young boy aboard. The small vessel immediately rescued the boy and transferred him to the larger vessel on April 9.

He was in bad shape. Online accounts of the incident say that he had been adrift since February 29 when he departed Polowat with an adult companion, but KPress could not verify that information. His adult companion was not aboard when the boy was rescued.

See "Rescued Adrift" on page 4

Three convicted of human trafficking, sexual exploitation and related crimes against a 14 year old girl in Pohnpei

By **Bill Jaynes**
 The Kaselehlie Press

April 20, 2020

Pohnpei—The Pohnpei Supreme Court has set a sentencing hearing of April 27 at 2:00 for three people convicted of human trafficking and sexual exploitation of a then 14 year old girl. On March 20, the Court convicted Johnny Rantung, Mariana Silwer and Resner Manuel of all of the crimes they were accused of having committed. Prosecutors have asked the Court to hand down the maximum sentence to each of the convicted parties given that they did not express remorse for the crimes that they committed against the girl and also to serve as a deterrent to other would be offenders.

In April of last year, Pohnpei prosecutors filed criminal charges against seven people for exploitation of young women aged 14, 15, and 18. The convictions that are set for sentencing on April 27 are for the 14 year old girl who was sexually exploited. The other cases are ongoing.

The Criminal Information documents filed at that time indicated that in late March, the 14 year old victim was coerced to have sex with one or more men over the course of several days. Prosecutors proved at Court that Rantung and Silwer collected money for those acts of sexual service.

The Court found Rantung and Silwer guilty of Criminal Solicitation, Pandering, Prostitution, Trafficking in Persons, Sexual Servitude of a Minor, Criminal Liability for Conduct of a Minor, and Criminal Coercion.

It found Wantero guilty of Sexual Abuse.

Prosecutors recommended to the court that it sentence Rantun and Silwer to 40 years imprisonment with all but 10 years suspended with a total of \$1000 in fines and a mandatory restitution to the victim of \$8000 with Rantun and Silwer each to provide \$4000 for that restitution. Prosecutors recommended to the Court that Wantero be sentenced to five years imprisonment with all but two and a half years suspended along with a \$1000 fine.

Pohnpei prosecutors thanked Kolonia School educators Vanessa Bermanis and Stenson Kalio for reporting the criminal activity against their student.

"The government wants to emphasize these appreciations to keep heads up for the public to report any illegal activities of Human Trafficking in our State of Pohnpei," said Jackson Joseph, Chief Prosecutor of the Attorney General of Pohnpei State.

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FSM claims that Pohnpei action to quarantine National Police officers is unconstitutional

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

April 20, 2020

FSM—On April 15, the FSM Government has filed a petition at the FSM Supreme Court for a writ of habeas corpus on behalf of 17 FSM National Police Officers and crew members currently being quarantined aboard the FSS Micronesia at the FSM Maritime Wing dock. The Pohnpei Department of Public Safety, in an effort to enforce the State’s own declaration of emergency which requires quarantine of all arriving passengers on its shores, is using Pohnpei State Police officers to keep the crew members aboard the vessel.

A writ of habeas corpus is used to bring a prisoner or other detainee before the court to determine if the person’s

imprisonment or detention is lawful. The FSM Department of Justice claims it is not lawful and that the State is violating the FSM Constitution by unlawful taking and obstruction of a power expressly delegated to the National Government. They claim that the State’s action has decreased the power of the FSM government to patrol national waters by 1/3.

The State is expected to argue that the FSS Micronesia is free to load provisions and to depart the Pohnpei dock but that as long as it is in Pohnpei’s jurisdiction, Pohnpei is free to enforce its emergency declaration by requiring the crew members to be quarantined.

The FSM’s filing on behalf of the crew members says that on March 25, 2020, the FSS Micronesia was ordered to sail from the State of Pohnpei to the State of Chuuk to patrol and enforce border security of FSM waters in and around the islands of the State of Chuuk. It arrived in Weno, Chuuk on March 27 and departed for the outer islands and patrolled the western islands. It returned to Weno to replenish its provisions. While in Weno, they received new orders to sail directly to Oroluk Atoll, and outer island of Pohnpei for an emergency medical evacuation of two patients in immediate need of medical treatment. The vessel arrived in Pohnpei on April 10 with the two patients and an attendant. Pohnpei State Fire and Emergency Response Unit ambulance transported those people to the Pohnpei State Hospital where they were placed in isolation.

The civil action provides affidavits of

each crew member of the FSS Micronesia showing that they had not visited any COVID-19 affected areas nor had contact with any vessel at sea during the duration of their tour. On April 11, they were instructed that they would not be able to leave the vessel until they had been cleared by the State’s Coronavirus Task Force. The FSM’s claim is that they crew members had not been informed that they would need to undergo quarantine on arrival in Pohnpei.

The State is expected to argue that Pohnpei’s quarantine requirements were not secret and have been well publicized so that FSM officials should have known what to expect. Further, at the time of the detention, the FSM National Government had folded Pohnpei’s Emergency Declaration into its own after consultation with all of the FSM State Governors and the quarantine was therefore a national policy as well as a state policy.

Though on Friday, Congress revoked the President’s earlier emergency declarations, it essentially re-established in a new declaration the same terms that had previously been in place with some differences. The new FSM emergency declaration established by Congress allows for interstate travel as long as the travel did not take place on an international carrier such as United Airlines. Under the new declaration could among the States on domestic carriers such as Caroline Islands Air or the field trip ships.

However, Pohnpei’s Emergency Declaration has not changed. It still

requires that all incoming passengers must be quarantined for 14 days if not cleared at an earlier time by the experts of the Coronavirus Taskforce. That is a Pohnpei directive applicable in its own sovereign area.

Both the FSM and the Pohnpei State Constitutions say that a declaration of emergency may impair a civil right only to the extent actually necessary to preserve peace, health, or safety. The FSM’s civil action obliquely refers to a suggested argument that Pohnpei State has not fulfilled its obligation to explore options other than removing the crew members’ civil rights by detaining them without benefit of a court appearance within the first 24 hours.

The hearing is scheduled for later this week.

Not at issue in the FSM’s civil action on behalf of the crew members of the FSS Micronesia is the difference between the FSM Constitution and the Pohnpei Constitution in terms of declarations of emergencies. Under the Constitution, the FSM President is authorized to declare an emergency “if required to preserve public peace, health, or safety, at a time of extreme emergency caused by civil disturbance, natural disaster, or immediate threat of war, or insurrection.” The Pohnpei Constitution authorizes the Governor to issue a declaration of emergency for the same reasons but also adds “epidemic” as one of the reasons the Governor could take that step. The FSM Constitution does not mention “epidemic” or any other reason for establishing an emergency declaration.

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Pohnpei State Government receives COVID-19 testing kits

US Embassy to the FSM

April 19, 2020

Pohnpei—Pohnpei State officials received COVID-19 testing kits from the US Government, kits that will allow health officials conduct in country testing instead of shipping samples to Guam or Honolulu. The Honorable Governor Reed B. Oliver along with Pohnpei State Director of Health & Social Affairs Mr. Wincener David and Pohnpei State Chief of Staff Ms. Suzanne Lowe Gallen received the kits

from Ambassador Cantor. “I thank the U.S. government for supplying our state with the testing kits, we greatly appreciate your support ” said Governor Oliver.

Kosrae, Yap and Chuuk will also receive testing kits very soon. These kits are funded by the U.S. Government through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The U.S. Mission looks forward to strengthening our partnership and serving the people of the FSM.



Operations Coordinator SMSgt Jody Robey, Defense Attache; LtCol Erin Richter, Defense Attache; Ambassador Carmen G. Cantor; Pohnpei State Governor Reed B. Oliver; Director Wincener David, Pohnpei State Department of Health and Social Affairs and Pohnpei State Chief of Staff Suzanne Lowe Gallen.

Swearing-in ceremony for Election Commissioner and Director of Resources and Development

On Wednesday, April 15, 2020, Governor Oliver swore in two members of his cabinet: Mr. Hubert Yamada was sworn in as the Director of Resources and Development and Mr. Heinrich Stevenson was sworn in as the new Election Commissioner.



Election Commissioner Mr. Heinrich Stevenson was recently the Public Affairs Officer at the Governor’s Office. The Election Commissioner is responsible for supervising and administering voter registration, publishing the Pohnpei State general register and supervising and conducting elections for the State of Pohnpei. The next elections in Pohnpei will be the Madolenihmw special election for one seat in the 10th Pohnpei State Legislature, currently scheduled for July 7, 2020 (subject to ongoing the ongoing health emergency crisis).

Director of Resources and Development

(R&D) Mr. Hubert Yamada was recently the Assistant Secretary for Energy at the FSM Department of Resources and Development. At the State level, the Department of R&D is responsible for managing and supporting the development of the State’s economy and utilization of our natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Congratulations and welcome aboard to Mr. Yamada and Mr. Stevenson!

Swearing-in ceremony for the Commissioner of the Pohnpei Transportation Authority (PTA)

On Friday, April 17, 2020, Governor Oliver swore in Mr. Welson Panuel as the Commissioner of the Pohnpei Transportation Authority. As a component unit of the Pohnpei State Government, the primary purpose of PTA is to promote, develop and improve transportation facilities and services within Pohnpei. The services include the construction of circumferential roads for the island, secondary farm roads for the municipal governments and performance of other construction maintenance on a user charge basis. PTA is currently working on ongoing road repairs and assisting with COVID-19 response



efforts by clearing the Medical Monitoring Area (MMA), former Pwohmaria Beach Resort. Congratulations and welcome aboard to Mr. Panuel!

Swearing-in ceremony for the Director of Public Safety

On Thursday, April 16, 2020, Governor Oliver swore in Mr. Patrick Carl as the Director of Public Safety. Director Carl was formerly the Chief of Fire and Emergency Services and acting Director of Public Safety.



The Department of Public Safety is responsible for the safeguarding and protection of the lives and property of the people of Pohnpei, keeping the peace and assuring compliance with all applicable laws. The Department includes the Division of Police and Security, the Division of Correction and

Rehabilitation, the Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. Congratulations and welcome aboard to Mr. Carl!

...Rescued Adrift

Continued from front page

The fishing company investigator reported that the boy was not in good condition due to hunger but the crew of the fishing vessel fed him until he recovered.

The vessel arrived at the Gensan Fish Port on April 13 and turned the boy over to the Philippine Coast Guard but the boy refused, choosing instead to stay aboard the fishing boat with the Captain and some of the crew.



Melson was able to write his name and the names of his parents, Larry and Maren Dillidy.

Though Senator Robson Romolow has been in contact with the boy who at press time was awaiting repatriation to his island, he did not immediately respond to our requests for information of that engagement.

FSM Connectivity Project

Faster, more reliable internet changes how we interact with one another, do business, access research and even receive entertainment online. The FSM Connectivity Project, which includes both the FSM Telecommunications Cable Corporation (FSMTCC) and the Telecommunication Regulations Authority (TRA) is initiating this change, as part of Government's efforts to improve telecommunications services in FSM.

Faster internet is being introduced to FSM via undersea fiber optic cables that already connect Pohnpei, Chuuk and now Yap to the rest of the world. Kosrae is due to be connected to this fiber optic network by 2021. Fiber optic cable is capable of carrying the fastest internet speeds currently available. Funding for this project has been generously provided, in the form of a grant, from the World Bank. Another key aspect of the Connectivity Project is the introduction of competition into FSM's telecommunication sector. FSM has historically had only one service provider for telecommunications, so allowing other providers into the market should introduce new services, competitive pricing and improved customer service. Customers throughout FSM should benefit from this new competitive spirit in the market.

According to President David Panuelo, in a documentary produced through the Connectivity Project, "Government is fully on board this process of opening up the market to invite outside operators. As President of the country, I support this 100%."

The FSM Telecommunications Cable

Corporation (FSMTCC) is the company responsible for establishing and maintaining the fiber optic cables, both the current undersea cables and, in the near future, those on land in FSM's four states. The cables are owned by FSMTCC for the Government of FSM. FSMTCC is a private entity with an independent board of directors.

The Telecommunication Regulations Authority (TRA) is the new regulator for the telecommunications market. They are responsible for identifying and monitoring any new service providers that want to enter FSM's telecommunication market. They ensure that the public's interests are taken into account and ensure that all providers abide by strict new guidelines. Apart from bringing undersea fiber optic cable to each state, FSMTCC is planning to introduce fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) to each of the main islands. FTTH will provide family homes, businesses, educational- and healthcare institutions and government departments with a much faster, more reliable internet connection, opening the door to a wide range of online services. Outer islands will not be left out. Satellite-based solar powered VSAT systems are being planned, that will introduce broadband speed internet and telephony service to nearly every island in FSM with 100 inhabitants or more.

Access to high speed internet is seen as a way to boost FSM's economy, make tourism more accessible, enable students to do more online research and enhance the public's experience with e-banking, e-government and many other services.

U.S. lead negotiators named for the upcoming U.S. and FSM Compact renegotiations

Embassy of the United States of America Kolonia

Ambassador Carmen G. Cantor announced to His Excellency FSM President David. W. Panuelo that Ambassador Karen B. Stewart and Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs Douglas Domenech as the U.S. lead negotiators for the upcoming U.S. and FSM Compact renegotiations for the expiring financial provisions of the Amended Compact.

President Panuelo expressed his appreciation to Ambassador on the delivery of the medical supplies as well the COVID-19 test kits that were recently received. "You are very welcome, and we are in this together, we are working very arduously to make sure that we provide the much needed assistance" said Ambassador Cantor.

See "Compact" on page 6



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Micronesia Red Cross Society (MRSC) conducts operational response against COVID-19

Alvie B. Cabañez
Kaselehlie Press Volunteer Contributor

On April 04-08, 2020, the Micronesia Red Cross Society (MRSC) along with a number of dedicated youth volunteers conducted preventive procedure activity at the Municipality of Nett.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recorded 1, 848, 439 confirmed cases in 213 countries, areas or territories with cases, as of April 14, 2020, wherein 117, 217 were confirmed deaths.

The Novel-Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic disease is unprecedented in recent history and is spreading rapidly. It is not only a public crisis, but also a humanitarian crisis in the making. "The Department of Health and Social Affairs and the FSM COVID-19 Task Force, along with the respective State Departments of Health and State COVID-19 Task Forces, have shown exemplary professionalism and a patriotic sense of duty in carrying out their solemn mission to protect the health and wellbeing of our Nation's citizens and residents, "message of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) President, His Excellency, David W. Panuelo, published on The Kaselehlie Press, Vol. 20, Issue No. 8.

"We partnered with the Department of Health Services- Division of Public Health, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and WHO, to join Nett District Government (NDG) COVID-19 Task Force to do house to house in Nett communities, "said Mr. Marson Rosario, Communication and Dissemination Officer, MRSC. "The volunteers put the most effort that makes it possible for us to complete the awareness activity," he continued.

The volunteers underwent a half-day Trainor's Training at Seabreeze Hotel last April 01, 2020 to prepare them for the outreach. It was organized by the Department of Health Services- Division of Public Health funded by UNICEF. "Once the declaration was out from the governor, the Department of Health also shifted its focus. So, all programs should be part of the response for the COVID-19, "said Mrs. Stephanie F. Kapiriel, Coordinator, Pohnpei State Comprehensive Cancer Control Program. "I was assigned as a Community Outreach Program Supervisor, supervising the COVID-19 awareness prevention activity," she continued.

In each household, the volunteers shared and demonstrated the 7 Steps to Prevent the Spread of the Virus, preventive procedures. The NDG distributed hygiene improvement and protective materials like soap, bucket, posters and flyers.

"They would look confused at first, but after a few slides, they would start asking questions. They were trying to understand what we're trying to convey," said Donovan Esiel, MRSC volunteer. "At some places, people were nice. They offer us food and water, and they showed us hospitality," added Mia Iehsi, MRSC volunteer.

The NDG COVID-19 Task Force initiated the outreach activity. "We tried to organize the Task Force within Nett District under the leadership of our District Administrator, Mr. Nelsin S. Iriarte," said Mr. Daniel Edgar, Director, Department of Resources and Development, and the Chairman, NDG COVID-19 Task Force. "We did a great job last week. More than 900 households were covered for the first phase of the outreach," he continued.

The MRSC is set to have a meeting with Public Health in order to identify the next municipality to conduct the preventive awareness activity.



...Compact

Continued from page 4

Ambassador Cantor acknowledged President Panuelo's prompt action in designating FSMs Chief Negotiator Leo A. Falcam. "We look forward to reengaging with the FSM even though COVID-19 has delayed this process, given the importance of the matter, we look forward to working with you" said Ambassador Cantor.

Ambassador Karen B. Stewart served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands in July 2016- January 2020 and had previously served as Ambassador in Laos and Belarus. President Panuelo acknowledged the selection of Ambassador Stewart, who he met with briefly in the Marshall Islands with Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie. "What a good surprise that we are getting Ambassador Stewart, someone that understands the region very well, which is a very important factor in these discussions" said President Panuelo.

President Panuelo also recognized Assistant Secretary Douglas Domenech as a person that has worked closely with the Joint Committee on Compact Review and Planning (JCRP), which is an

office that was established committee of national executive and legislative branches and state representatives to prepare for the expiration of certain economic and financial provisions of the Amended Compact.

Also present in the meeting were Secretary Kandhi A. Elieisar, FSM Department of Foreign Affairs; Special Advisor to the President for Political and Foreign Affairs Mr. Lorin Robert; Chief of Staff Leo Falcam Jr; Public Information Officer Mr. Richard Clark and Ms. Lynn Pangelinan, Political and Economic Specialist, U.S. Embassy Kolonia.



21st FSM Congress extends President Panuelo's public health emergency declaration until May 31st, 2020; Nation-wide Social distancing measures to be developed & take effect within 30 days

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—At 12:01pm on April 17th, 2020, the 21st Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) formally adopted Congressional Resolution 21-138. Constructed upon a profound level of collaboration and cooperation between the Legislative and Executive Branches of the FSM National Government, the Resolution strengthens the Nation's focus in combatting the COVID-19 Pandemic. For most citizens, how this will affect your life in the short-term is that, within 30 days, the Nation will implement FSM-wide social distancing measures; in the medium-term, the travel restrictions have been extended to May 31st, 2020. While this release intends to broadly explore some of the key provisions of the Resolution, citizens interested in reviewing the Resolution itself may find it here: https://gov.fm/files/CR_No_21-138_Further_Amending_the_Presidents_Public_Health_Emergency_Declaration_APRIL_17_2020_RECEIVED_BY_OOP.pdf

In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the FSM, with the given authority inherent in the Constitution, President Panuelo will take action as appropriate.

The travel restrictions remain in place, with some specific exceptions.

Regarding inbound travel to the FSM on international commercial carriers, persons traveling from COVID-19 affected jurisdictions are still unable to disembark in the FSM; however, rare exceptions "may be granted on a case-by-case basis", the Resolution says, for "certified health experts, technicians, and workers assigned to assist the FSM with respect to COVID-19," as well as returning medical referral patients. The FSM COVID-19 Task Force must provide favorable advice, assessment, and recommendation for each individual, in consultation with the State Task Forces.

Regarding outbound travel, all FSM citizens remain "banned from travelling to any country, state, or territory with confirmed cases of COVID-19." Exceptions may be granted for FSM citizens who are legal

residents of an affected area, or for urgent medical treatment, so long as the FSM COVID-19 Task Force, in direct consultation with the relevant State Task Force, provides favorable advice, assessment, and recommendation for that individual. Other citizens, nationals, and residents remain advised against traveling outside of the FSM, as they may not be able to return or may be subject to quarantine procedures upon said return. The next scheduled international flight to/from the FSM isn't until May 11th.

Regarding internal travel within the FSM States, travel by air or sea between and within the FSM States is permitted, as long as there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19. In other words, an FSM citizen in Chuuk may NOT board an international air carrier to travel to Kosrae—but travel via a domestic air carrier, such as Caroline Islands Air, would be permitted.

The Congressional Resolution supports the President's stated objective for mandated Nation-wide safety and precautionary measures. Citizens should expect that, within 30 days from today, President Panuelo, in coordination with the FSM States of Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae, will state "the terms of the social distancing requirements and any other safety precautions that shall be mandated...for the entire Nation." Within the coming days the President will meet with the Governors to discuss these precautionary requirements and a timeline for mandatory implementation.

The provisions regarding commercial shipping remain unaltered; the Nation's lifeline remains unaffected, and citizens can expect continued and regular shipments of food, fuel, mail, and other necessary supplies from abroad, though commercial sea vessels are still required to abide by all protocols and precautionary measures set by the FSM National Government, including no human-to-human contact.

The President's April 3rd decree on fisheries transshipments occurring at sea has been incorporated into the Resolution and is largely identical to its previous form, although the

Resolution advises that domestic fishing vessels may call port in the FSM States for repair, maintenance, and provisioning purposes, so long as they remain in the Anchorage area. Further the National Oceanic Marine Resource Authority (NORMA), on a case-by-case basis, and in planning and coordination with the National and State Task Forces, may grant approval for required repairs and maintenance to be completed at a State's dock, provided that a written plan is submitted at least 72 hours prior to the requested repairs and that the plan includes no human-to-human contact.

"For the interest of our citizens who are not lawyers and have no experience with legal language," President Panuelo said in a statement, "Congress has stated that they will work with me and my Cabinet, and that the National Government and State Governments collaborate so as to remain unified in our approach and measures to remain vigilant and protective of our citizens and residents. We are doing so in a way that seeks to preserve our Nation's integrity."

"The travel restrictions, for most people and in most circumstances, don't change," the President continued. "What IS going to impact your life from this Resolution is that I will be calling for a meeting with our Nation's Governors, my very dear friends the Honorable Henry S. Falan, Governor of Yap, the Honorable Johnson S. Elimo, Governor of Chuuk, the Honorable Reed B. Oliver, Governor of Pohnpei, and the Honorable Carson K. Sigrah, Governor of Kosrae, to discuss

how our Nation will move forward, in a unified manner, regarding what social distancing and health precaution measures must be taken. This WILL result in temporary restraints on SOME civil liberties, such as the freedom of movement. The responsibility the Governors and I have is to find a temporary but potentially long-term solution that is respectful of your human rights as an individual while also being respectful of the reality that the COVID-19 coronavirus spreads

when people come into contact with each other. While these limitations will be inconvenient, they will be necessary until such time that the COVID-19 Pandemic has been effectively contained."

"I would like to say again how deeply proud I am to serve you all, as your public servant, in close collaboration and coordination with our Congress and State Governments. After our productive meeting with the Congressional Committee to Wait on the President on Monday, many Members of Congress—including the Honorable Esmond B. Moses, Vice Speaker, and the Honorable Ferny S. Perman, Chair of the Congressional Committee on Health & Social Affairs—met and worked together with my Cabinet and senior staff. This Congressional Resolution 21-138 is a reflection of our Nation's unity and Government's continued commitment to serve you, our fellow citizens."



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KINISOU CHAPUR, KALAHNGAN, THANK YOU & GOD BLESS.

President Panuelo prepares for Congress' consideration, the FSM COVID-19 Economic Stimulus Package

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—Highlighting the Nation's anticipated ten percent (10%) economic decline as juxtaposed to a broader global recession resulting from the COVID-19 global health emergency, on April 7th, 2020, His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), announced the FSM COVID-19 Economic Stimulus Package. The Stimulus Package has an initial financing need of fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000). Over the next several weeks, the President, his Cabinet, and Congress will work together with the Nation's friends, allies, and development partners to fund the package which intends to, among other means of assistance, directly replace lost wages for those who have been laid off as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic's unprecedented scale and reach.

The first phase of the FSM Economic Stimulus Package, as agreed with the 21st FSM Congress, will focus on helping the tourism sector businesses who have suffered the most immediate impact from the COVID-19 Pandemic. This will be in the form of salary subsidies, to keep as many people in this sector working as possible,

as well as to compensate businesses that continue to operate while experiencing a significant decline in income.

"This literally means cash in hand," President Panuelo said in a statement. "For the FSM State of Yap for example, the tourism sector represents hundreds of jobs providing for thousands of people; the Economic Stimulus Package intends to subsidize their salaries so that citizens can worry less about where tomorrow's meal is coming from, and more about how to protect their family from COVID-19."

Other components of the first phase—as proposed—include tax, social security, and debt relief to qualified businesses. The Executive Branch is seeking to formalize these proposals into legislation during the 5th Special Session of the 21st FSM Congress, to be held remotely from April 13th, 2020 to April 17th.

"I have every confidence that our Leadership in Congress will enthusiastically review these proposed measures, and that the outcome from Executive & Legislative partnership will ultimately benefit the Nation and its citizens," the President said. "We are all committed to the continued peace, unity,

liberty, and economic prosperity of our Federation."

The second phase of the FSM Economic Stimulus Package will extend financial support to sectors beyond tourism that may become increasingly affected by the global downturn. It is the intention of the Executive Branch that the private sector receive not only equitable (i.e. fair) assistance from the National Government, but further that the private sector will enjoy renewed confidence in the forthcoming months as their needs are identified, voiced, and attended to.

The FSM COVID-19 Stimulus Package is intended to work in concert with the separate twenty million-dollar (\$20,000,000) Health Action Plan, which focuses on health sector infrastructural capacity among other areas. The FSM National Government continues to work closely with its friends, allies, and development partners to protect the Nation from COVID-19 and to provide relief to affected individuals and organizations.

On April 3rd, 2020, the Honorable Eugene Amor, Secretary of the Department of



Finance & Administration, signed on behalf of the FSM an agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor for the FSM's entrance into the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program. This program will be in addition to the FSM COVID-19 Economic Stimulus Package.

Under the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program, anyone who has lost their job due to the COVID-19 Pandemic—including those who are self-employed via owning their own business—is eligible to receive some form of financial assistance for up to 39 weeks. Further details on this program will be provided as the FSM National Government and the U.S. Government formalize the relevant procedures.



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Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia Statements of Condition December 31, 2019 and 2018

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Cash and due from banks | \$8,843,083 | \$4,636,596 |
| Federal funds sold | 3,130,000 | 5,250,000 |
| Interest-bearing deposits in banks | 31,487,057 | 35,340,982 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 43,460,140 | 45,227,578 |
| Interest-bearing deposits in banks | 20,772,000 | 17,696,000 |
| Securities available for sale | 53,879,555 | 49,735,918 |
| Loans, net of allowance for loan losses | 50,540,856 | 48,706,592 |
| Accrued Interest receivable | 469,894 | 533,397 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | 398,296 | 402,564 |
| Premises and equipment, net | 1,981,498 | 1,989,481 |
| Total Assets | \$171,502,239 | \$164,291,530 |
| <u>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</u> | | |
| Liabilities: | | |
| Deposits: | | |
| Noninterest-bearing | 51,181,138 | 36,545,792 |
| Interest-bearing | 93,019,202 | 102,845,960 |
| Total deposits | 144,200,340 | 139,391,752 |
| Accrued interest payable | 11,547 | 14,997 |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities | 1,253,418 | 1,122,045 |
| Total liabilities | 145,465,305 | 140,528,794 |
| Commitments and contingencies | | |
| Stockholders' equity: | | |
| Common Stock, \$5 par value, 1,000,000 shares authorized; 934,348 shares issued and outstanding | 4,671,740 | 4,671,740 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 4,663,576 | 4,663,576 |
| Retained earnings | 16,106,422 | 14,720,401 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | 595,196 | (292,981) |
| Total stockholders' equity | 26,036,934 | 23,762,736 |
| Total Liabilities & Stockholder's Equity | \$171,502,239 | \$164,291,530 |

Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia Statements of Income Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018

| | <u>2019</u> | <u>2018</u> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Interest income: | | |
| Loans | \$4,620,448 | \$4,602,138 |
| Interest-bearing deposits | 1,168,845 | 1,354,310 |
| Investment securities | 1,203,650 | 760,181 |
| Federal funds sold | 60,582 | 129,754 |
| Total interest income | 7,053,525 | 6,846,383 |
| Interest expense: | | |
| Savings | 252,909 | 230,424 |
| Other time deposits | 89,285 | 63,755 |
| Total interest expense | 342,194 | 294,179 |
| Net interest income | 6,711,331 | 6,552,204 |
| Provision for loan losses | 240,000 | 240,000 |
| Net interest income after loan losses | 6,471,331 | 6,312,204 |
| Non-interest income: | | |
| Loan fee income | 320,254 | 246,635 |
| Service charges on deposit accounts | 165,361 | 163,583 |
| Other | 394,266 | 368,693 |
| Total Non-interest Income | 879,881 | 778,911 |
| Non-interest expense: | | |
| Salaries and wages | 1,877,120 | 1,793,232 |
| Occupancy | 379,023 | 379,806 |
| Professional fees | 320,937 | 276,265 |
| Employee benefits | 318,411 | 345,791 |
| Data processing | 294,213 | 284,694 |
| Electronic banking | 224,376 | 184,081 |
| Gross Receipts and use taxes | 221,521 | 226,009 |
| Furniture and equipment | 196,894 | 206,389 |
| Telephone | 174,837 | 175,618 |
| Correspondent bank fees | 137,366 | 144,444 |
| Travel | 108,940 | 113,232 |
| Stationary and supplies | 105,529 | 74,423 |
| Insurance | 103,809 | 90,434 |
| Director and shareholder | 90,123 | 79,819 |
| Business development | 23,167 | 35,503 |
| Postage | 21,774 | 14,266 |
| FDIC deposit insurance | 20,964 | 47,480 |
| Credit and collection | 18,260 | 22,641 |
| Teller and operating losses | 8,813 | 20,634 |
| Miscellaneous | 39,057 | 22,623 |
| Total Non-Interest Expense | 4,685,134 | 4,537,384 |
| Net Income | 2,666,078 | 2,553,731 |
| Other comprehensive Income (loss): | | |
| Net unrealized gain (loss) on investment securities | 888,177 | (35,694) |
| Comprehensive income | 3,554,255 | 2,518,037 |



Governor Sigrah confirms to President Panuelo, Kosrae State's intention to prohibit the disembarkation of passengers from international commercial air carriers

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—On April 8th, 2020, His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), received a communication from the Honorable Carson K. Sigrah, Governor of the FSM State of Kosrae, confirming Kosrae's intention to "disallow any disembarkation" in Kosrae State from passengers on international commercial carriers. Kosrae has informed the FSM National Government that its quarantine facility is still under construction.

The Panuelo-George Administration and Governor Sigrah, in addition to Governors Falan, Elimo, and Oliver of Yap, Chuuk, and Pohnpei respectively, agree that it is in the collective interest of the Nation to prohibit disembarkation from passengers on international commercial carriers until further notice. Disembarkation of crew, such as for the purpose of aircraft maintenance, is allowed so long as said crew do not leave their operations area.

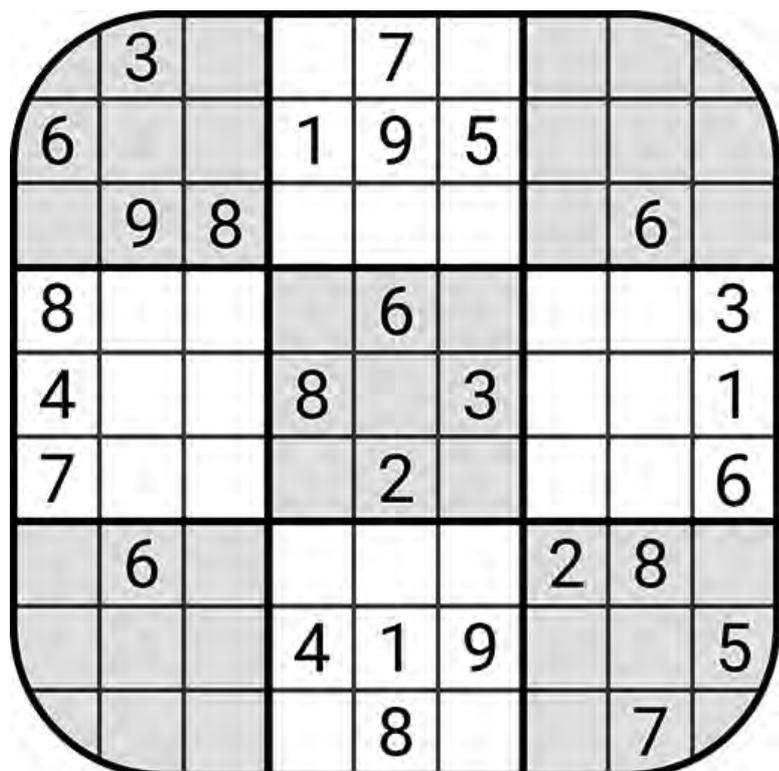
"I ask," Governor Sigrah wrote in his letter to President Panuelo, "That we jointly disallow any passenger disembarkation in Kosrae State...."

President Panuelo has agreed to this request; no passengers, from any jurisdiction—international or from within the FSM—are to disembark in Kosrae State, or ANY FSM State, if they are

traveling on an international commercial air carrier.

Although the FSM States of Yap, Chuuk, and Pohnpei have formally declared their intentions to prohibit the disembarkation of passengers from international commercial carriers, and President Panuelo has repeatedly and publicly pronounced his unwavering support to uphold these requests, the FSM State of Kosrae, per its March 17th Declaration of a State of Emergency, did not specifically prohibit the disembarkation of passengers if they were "citizens, nationals and residents." This was not previously an issue on the premise that Kosrae had been temporarily divorced from international carrier air service, but as flights are scheduled to land in Kosrae on April 13th and April 14th the President had requested that Kosrae State formally advise whether it wished to allow the disembarkation of passengers or not.

As of April 8th, 2020, the FSM National Government respects the wishes of all four FSM States to prohibit the disembarkation of passengers from international commercial carriers; the National Government maintains its mandate of a 14-day quarantine for any arriving passengers in the event an FSM State chooses to relinquish its travel ban. Outbound travel from the FSM to COVID-19 affected jurisdictions remains prohibited for all FSM citizens, with limited exceptions.



FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
DEVELOPMENT BANK P.O. Box M
Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941

Opening Date: April 13, 2020
Closing Date: May 13, 2020

POSITION RE-ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 2020-001A

It is the policy of the FSM Development bank that FSM citizens be given first priority for employment consideration, with other Micronesians, U.S. citizens, and other nationals utilized in positions for which no qualified citizens are available.

POSITION: Branch Manager
LOCATION: FSM Development Bank, Chuuk Branch
Weno, Chuuk FSM
SALARY: \$21,361.60 minimum per annum,
Higher Salary may be Considered Depending
on Qualification

GENERAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (Illustrative only):

- Supervises the Branch staff and oversees the daily operation of the Branch office.
- Ensures that the Branch office provides effective financial services to the public as prescribed by the bank's mandate, policy and stated objectives.
- Ensures that all inquiries and applications for loans receive a prompt response.
- Ensures that evaluations of loan applications are effectively and efficiently processed using the Bank's credit criteria and evaluation reports and supporting documents are dispatched to the Loan Division of the Headquarters without delay.
- Provides guidance and orientation to ensure that employees of the Branch are knowledgeable regarding the Bank's services, policies, procedures and regulations to the extent that they may effectively and efficiently serve the bank's customers and general public.
- Provides effective monitoring and evaluation of all branch projects to ensure that they are performing accordingly and to provide periodic reports to the Headquarters office.
- Represents the bank at official functions, activities, and forums within the State and provides periodic reports to the President regarding developments in the State with appropriate recommendations for policy changes.
- Ensures that all reports, reviews, correspondence, statistics, and other information originating from the Branch Office is accurate and timely.
- Effects loan disbursements and supervises the use of the bank's funds.
- Pursues collection of loan payments including late and delinquent loan payments.
- Assists clients who have difficulties meeting payment schedules by suggesting alternative payment arrangements within the established policies and procedures of the bank.
- Reports progress regarding such loans to the Corporate Office and implement instructions accordingly.
- Prepares branch annual plans (MBO) and budget estimates for the Branch according to policies and procedures, and manage approved budgets accordingly.
- Advises clients regarding services of the Branch to promote new business and local enterprise. Conducts research and documents potential local projects to be financed by the Bank, and advises the Corporate Office accordingly
- Continuously evaluates the performance of the Branch and the operating environment and make recommendations to the Corporate Office as to ways that the performance may be improved.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS:

Bachelor's degree in business, economics, finance or other related field of study from an accredited college or university plus two (2) to four (4) years of related work experience and training, or equivalent combination of education and experience.

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

All applications, curriculum vitae, and at least three letters of reference shall be completed and submitted to: FSMDB Corporate Office in Kolonia, Pohnpei, or any of the FSMDB Branch offices in Chuuk, Kosrae and Yap State. You may mail to: FSM Development Bank HQ, P.O. Box M, Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941; or fax to 320-2842 or by email to: loverh@fsmdb.fm, on or before **May 13, 2020**.

People's Republic of China donates medical supplies and \$100,000 to the FSM

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—On April 14th, 2020, the Honorable Livingston A. Taulung, Secretary of the Federated States of Micronesia's (FSM) Department of Health & Social Affairs and Chair of the COVID-19 Task Force, received His Excellency Huang Zheng, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China (China) in a handover ceremony wherein the Ambassador presented, on behalf of the people and Government of China, medical supplies and a cash donation of one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to assist the FSM in combatting the COVID-19 Pandemic. Ambassador Huang noted that he is working hard to acquire a second shipment of medical supplies, to include ventilators, for the FSM.

The handover ceremony began with a statement from Ambassador Huang, followed by a statement from Secretary Taulung.

"Today is a reflection of the joint pursuit of the great idea of building a community with a shared future—because we are all connected," Ambassador Huang said. "It

is our strong belief that the most basic human right is the right to existence. Both the Chinese Government and the Chinese people stand in solidarity with the FSM Government and people in this global fight against this global challenge."

"We have a saying that when you drink water, never forget the well-digger," Ambassador Huang continued. "We always remember those brothers and sisters who have helped China when China is in need of friends. When this disease, COVID-19, first broke out in China, we received precious support from the FSM Government and people, including the letters of support from [His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the FSM, and the Honorable Wesley W. Simina, Speaker of the 21st FSM Congress]... China will always be a true friend indeed of the FSM; you can count on us for support."

Secretary Taulung, in his remarks, said "Mr. Ambassador, on behalf of President Panuelo and the FSM National Government, we want to express our utmost appreciation, not only for the supplies and the monetary contribution to our efforts in preventing and mitigating the COVID-19 threat, but

for the continued Great Friendship between the FSM and China, where the respect of human rights and the respect for each other is paramount."

"Thank you very much for the offer [of introducing Chinese medical experts over videoconferences with the FSM's health officials and staff]; I'll put that as one of my priorities," Secretary Taulung continued. "We need to learn from your expertise, and I think we'll consider that a way forward."

Following the handover ceremony, President Panuelo made the following statement to the people and Government of China.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank His Excellency Xi Jinping, President of China, His Excellency Li Keqiang, Premier of China, His Excellency Huang Zheng, Ambassador of China, my good friend the Honorable Yang Chuantang, Special Envoy to the FSM and Vice Chair of the

Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and all the wonderful people of China, for their Great Friendship with

the people and Government of the FSM," President Panuelo said. "In our more than 30 years of diplomatic relations, China has consistently demonstrated its sincere interest to collaborate with the FSM, and with the global community, to improve the standard of living. Whether it's physical infrastructure such as the Chuuk State Government Complex or the forthcoming FSM National Convention Center, tackling food security such as through the Pohnpei Pilot Farm, or humanitarian aid such as these medical supplies and kind donation of financial support, the fact that China helps our Nation and our citizens so diligently and so earnestly is truly humbling and inspiring."

"The coronavirus, like climate change," the President continued, "is a threat that can only be successfully countered and eliminated if we all sincerely work together, with the interests of the people at the forefront of all decision-making. I applaud China for taking both COVID-19 and climate change seriously, and thank China for its assistance to our Nation. Thank you, China, for your Great Friendship and for your ongoing support to the people and Government of the FSM."

GEF Small Grants Programme

Federated States of Micronesia

P.O. Box 2466

Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941

Ph: (691) 320-4192 Fax: (691) 320-1276

E-mail: simpson.abraham@undp.org

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

OPENING DATE: April 22, 2020

CLOSING DATE: May 13, 2020 POSITION:

State Focal Person GEF SGP (FSM)

LOCATIONS: Kosrae, Chuuk and Yap States

STATUS: Part-time basis

REPORTS TO: National Coordinator (NC) GEF Small Grants

Programme (FSM)

SUMMARY: To work in-State with the National Coordinator in program development and project management and to be the primary contact with Non-Government Organizations and Community Based Organizations (NGOs and CBOs) in-State.

DUTIES

1.0 Program Management

1.1 Assist in developing the Country Programme Strategy (CPS) through a participatory process in consultation and with the assistance of the NC;

1.2 Assist in monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the CPS;

1.3 Prepare and submit annual reports, quarterly progress reports and other periodic reports to the NC as appropriate;

1.4 Ensure that all program records are well managed and kept updated;

1.5 Assist the NSC and NC to develop and implement a public awareness and education plan on the GEF SGP;

1.6 Assist NC in identifying co-financers for projects; and

1.7 Organize and facilitate State level workshops as needed.

2.0 Project Management

2.1 Assist in informing and educating NGOs/CBOs about the GEF SGP and in training them to make projects 'GEFABLE';

2.2 Assist in providing information to NGOs/CBOs in their preparation of project

proposals;

2.3 Ensure project concepts and proposals are taken through the proposal approval process in a timely manner, especially in the conveying of comments and decisions on proposals from the NSC to project applicants;

2.4 Undertake or coordinate site visits, as requested by NC, for project selection, monitoring and evaluation and to communicate findings to the NC;

2.5 Advise grantees on project implementation and management.

3.0 Administration

3.1 Assist NC organize all meetings of the NSC at respective States; and

3.2 Perform the secretarial role to the NSC (i.e., prepare correspondence of the NSC; prepare agendas in consultation with the NC or as requested by the NC; take minutes and circulate; keep records etc).

4.0 General

4.1 Perform any other duties relating to the overall management of the in-State program as required by and negotiated with the NC.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Qualifications: At least a BA Degree in either Environmental Studies or an allied discipline; Geography; or Community Development or at least 5 years experience in the environment sector.

Experience: Working with NGOs and CBOs in various capacities.

Skills: Project management; communications skills; writer and speaker of the English Language; can use computer for e-mail, word processing and spreadsheet program;

Other: Honest; strong desire to go out and assist communities; highly motivated; good interpersonal skills with team spirit; respect for self and others; goal driven and highly credible.

Note: Please send a letter of interest, your CV and two letters of reference to the Office of the FSM GEF Small Grants Programme, at J&T Sonden Bldg on Kaselehlie Street, or by email to simpson.abraham@undp.org

For more information please call 320-4192 or by email @ P.O. Box 2466, Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941.

The FSM COVID-19 Response Framework: A Summary

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—On April 6th, 2020, the FSM COVID-19 Task Force disseminated and opened for comment the FSM COVID-19 Response Framework, the Nation’s contingency plan for the arrival of the COVID-19 coronavirus. His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), has been briefed on the Response Framework by the FSM COVID-19 Task Force and has endorsed it for transmittal to the 21st FSM Congress and the State Governments of Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae. Although the primary intended audience for this living (i.e. continuously updated) document are the Nation’s healthcare professionals, this release intends to broadly review the plan’s objectives and how it measures success, as well as some of the requests for financial support to the Nation’s friends, allies, and development partners to augment the FSM’s health sector capacity. Citizens interested in reviewing the FSM COVID-19 Response Framework themselves may find it here: https://gov.fm/files/FSM_COVID-19_Response_Framework.pdf

As a “Whole of Government” response, the FSM COVID-19 Response Framework intends to guide the FSM in mitigating the impact from COVID-19 by providing a standardized framework for the National and State Governments in their collective and coordinated response to the Pandemic, including outlining the strategies necessary to manage a flexible, scalable, and proportionate health system response, with appropriate and timely interventions. The Framework operates on the assumptions that everyone is susceptible to COVID-19 infection, that those with co-morbidities (e.g. diabetes) may have more severe outcomes following infection, that no treatments or vaccines are currently available, and that social distancing measures are effective in slowing the virus’ transmission.

The Framework presently includes a twenty-million-dollar (\$20,000,000) budget, the overwhelming majority of which is based in the States of Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae for the purpose of healthcare infrastructure and equipment, supplies and medications, and training. The FSM National Government’s Executive Branch is actively collaborating with the 21st FSM Congress and the Nation’s friends, allies, and development partners, such as the United States of America, the People’s Republic of China, Japan, Australia, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the

World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and more, to bring in the necessary financial support.

As of April 8th, 2020, the FSM remains free of any confirmed cases of COVID-19; by extension, the current mission goals are to prevent, and delay, the introduction of the coronavirus, and prepare for its eventual introduction into the Nation.

In the event of 1-10 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the FSM, the mission goals evolve to identifying mitigating local transmission, and preventing and delaying additional introduction of the virus into the Nation.

In the event of 10-100 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the FSM, the mission goals change to maximizing the use of limited resources, slowing transmission in the community, caring for COVID-19 affected patients, preventing infections from occurring in healthcare settings, maintaining services for other urgent health conditions, and preventing the spread of the virus to neighboring States and outer or neighboring islands.

In the event of 100 or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the FSM, the mission goals shift to focusing on the management of severe cases, reprioritizing resources away from quarantine activities, mandating social distancing, and continuing to prevent the spread of the virus to other States and islands within the Nation.

Due to the Nation’s relatively extreme proportion of at-risk citizens, a significant component of the Framework is the

COVID-19 Vulnerable Population Mitigation Plan. The stated goal in the Framework is to protect the health of high-risk individuals, with its subsequent first objective being to reduce the exposure of individuals with non-communicable diseases (NCDs), the elderly, the mentally ill, and persons with disabilities. Beyond decentralizing clinical services, establishing remote consultation options, and provisioning 2-3 months of maintenance medications, which are ongoing activities, in the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case the Government will seek to develop and mobilize partnerships with private sector entities and volunteer groups to serve as delivery mechanisms for NCD services.

The second objective is to reduce the vulnerability of individuals with NCDs or co-morbidities. This largely includes lifestyle advice and education on basic personal protection, including the oft-repeated requests from the Government that all citizens frequently wash their hands, avoid large gatherings, keep at least 2 meters (or approximately 6 feet), and avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth.

The third objective is to identify and resolve the challenges encountered in implementing the mitigation plan. This includes constant monitoring and evaluation of all COVID-19 related activities.

The FSM National Government will continue to closely collaborate with the Nation’s States, including relevant updates to the FSM COVID-19 Response Framework as said updates become necessary.

Matson Community Support in Guam and Micronesia Totaled \$280,000 in 2019

April 20, 2020

GUAM -- Matson contributed a total of \$3.7 million in cash and in-kind donations to 960 charitable organizations and nonprofit programs in the communities it serves during 2019, including \$247,000 in support for 53 organizations in Guam and Micronesia.

Cash contributions to Guam organizations, including funds directed by employees through the company’s matching gift programs, totaled more than \$163,000 in 2019, while the value of donated services and equipment added up to more than \$83,000.

In addition, 25 different nonprofit organizations participated in Matson’s Adahi I Tano’ environmental program in 2019, and each ‘took care of the land’ while Matson took care of related disposal expenses. Adahi I Tano’ contributed an additional \$25,000 to the Guam community.

“As a lifeline service provider for more than a century, Matson is deeply invested in the welfare of the communities we serve,” said Matt Cox, Chairman and CEO. “This year, with the unprecedented effects of the pandemic being felt by families everywhere, Matson is focusing its resources on addressing our communities’ most pressing needs.”

Some of Matson’s larger cash contributions in the region last year included the final \$10,000 on a five-year \$50,000 commitment paid to University of Guam, Guam Community College, Palau Community College, College of Micronesia and Northern Marianas College, providing scholarships at each of these institutions in recognition of Matson’s 20 years of service to Guam/CNMI. Other donations of \$10,000 went to the Guam National Olympic Committee and the Coast Guard Marianas Chief Petty Officer Association, providing assistance during the Federal government shut-down. Matson also gave \$5,000 each to the USO Guam and Joeten & Daidai Foundation and \$3,000 each to the American Red Cross Guam to support disaster preparedness programs and to Special Olympics Guam in support of its year-round programs and annual games event.

Bernie Valencia, vice president and general manager for Guam and Micronesia said, “Matson considers itself a lifeline to Guam, Saipan and Micronesia, and we take that responsibility seriously. In addition to being a dependable supply chain provider, Matson is committed to supporting local organizations, which we believe helps to improve the quality of life for all of us.”

Unlike 2018, when well over \$125,000 of in-kind support was dedicated to disaster relief in the wake of typhoons, in 2019, Matson’s in-kind contributions benefited recreation (Guam National Tennis Federation, roughly \$30,000) and education (Yap Catholic High School, close to \$20,000). Matson also donated \$18,000 of shipping for medical equipment and library books from Hawaii to Saipan, Chuuk and Majuro.



Cabinet Members of the FSM & Pohnpei State Governments watch as President Panuelo & Governor Oliver shake hands, affirming the close working relationship between the National & State Governments



- Chuuk State, Federated States of Micronesia based position
- Join the principal development organisation in the region

The Pacific Community (SPC) invites applications for the position of GCCA + SUPA – FSM National Coordinator within its Geosciences, Energy and Maritime division at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Chuuk State.

Description

The Pacific Community (SPC) is the principal scientific and technical organisation in the Pacific region, supporting development since 1947. We are an international development organisation owned and governed by our 26 country and territory members. In pursuit of sustainable development to benefit Pacific people, our unique organisation works across more than 25 sectors. We are known for our knowledge and innovation in such areas as fisheries science, public health surveillance, geoscience, and conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

The Geoscience Energy and Maritime Division provides advice, technical assistance, research and training support to Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs). There are three (3) areas of scientific programming:

1. Oceans and Maritime
2. Geo-resources and Energy
3. Disaster and Climate Resilience

The role – The Global Climate Change Alliance + Scaling Up Pacific Adaptation – FSM National Coordinator – will coordinate the implementation of all project activities and undertake all reporting on GCCA+ SUPA project activities in Chuuk State, FSM. He/she will provide any required assistance to the Environment Protection Agency, Chuuk State.

The key responsibilities of the role include the following:

1. Coordinate the implementation of all project activities and undertake all reporting on GCCA+ SUPA project activities in Chuuk State, FSM.
2. Provide any required assistance to the Environment Protection Agency in Chuuk

For a more detailed account of the key responsibilities, please refer to the online job description.

1. Qualifications

- Tertiary degree in a relevant field such as business administration, commerce, environmental resource management, environmental engineering, climate change.

2. Essential experience and skills

- At least 3 years' experience in project coordination and delivery in climate change or a related field and demonstrated experience with complex project activities.
- Knowledge of FSM's policies, strategies, institutions, and regulations.
- Sound coordination, administrative, networking, and collaborative skills.
- Advanced computer skills in applications such as Microsoft Word and Excel.
- Excellent oral and written communications skills and demonstrated ability to articulate and communicate complex issues and positions to a range of stakeholder, senior administrators and community beneficiaries alike.

Applicants must be FSM Nationals, and be currently residing in the country, or hold the proper work permit for salaried employment there.

Closing date: 17 May 2020 – 11:00 pm Chuuk time

Job Reference: AL000279

Applicants can apply online at: <http://careers.spc.int/> or submit necessary application documents mentioned below to: Mr Brad Mori, EPA Director, Weno, Chuuk State, FSM at Brad_Mori@hotmail.com or +691 330-4158/9.

For your application to be considered, you must provide us with:

- an updated resume with contact details for three professional referees
- a cover letter detailing your skills, experience and interest in this position
- responses to all screening questions

Please answer all of the screening questions, if you do not answer these questions your application will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed at shortlisting stage. Screening questions:

1. Please describe a project in which you have been involved when you had to consult with many different stakeholders and obtain their views on proposed project activities. How did you organize the consultation and was it successful?
2. Discuss three aspects of project coordination that you consider most important.
3. Delivering on-the-ground climate change adaptation measures, that address water security issues in communities in Chuuk State, FSM, brings many challenges. Based on your experience, identify the two most important challenges and how you would go about addressing them.

Opinion Editorial

Ambassador Carmen G. Cantor- Talks U.S. COVID-19 assistance

April 17, 2020

The story of U.S. leadership in the global battle against Covid-19 is a story of days, months, and decades. Every day, new U.S. technical and material assistance arrives in hospitals and labs around the world. These efforts, in turn, build on a decades-long foundation of American expertise, generosity, and planning.



The United States provides aid because we believe it's the right thing to do. We also do it because pandemics don't respect national borders. If we can help countries contain outbreaks, we'll save lives abroad and at home in the U.S. That generosity and pragmatism explains why the United States was one of the first countries to help to the Chinese people as soon as outbreak reports emerged from Wuhan. In early January, the United States government offered immediate technical assistance to the Chinese Centers for Disease Control. We also pledged \$100 million in assistance to many countries to fight what would become a pandemic.

Our response now far surpasses that initial pledge. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, the U.S. government has committed nearly \$500 million in worldwide assistance to date. This funding will improve public health education, protect healthcare facilities, and increase laboratory, disease-surveillance, and rapid-response capacity in more than 60 of the world's most at risk countries.

As of April 13, the U.S. government provided over \$31 million in funding to support the COVID-19 response in Pacific Island countries, including over \$27.4 million from a variety of federal agencies (Department of Interior (DOI), Center for Disease Control (CDC), Health and Human Services (HHS) to the Freely Associated States (FAS): Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Our aid helps people in critical circumstances. For instance, the United States government donated 33 pallets of medical supplies to the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) government, to be distributed among the four states. We also provided, through CDC, more than \$420,000 for supplies and equipment; a grant of over \$800,000, through the Department of Interior, to the Pacific Islands Health Officers' Association (PIHOA) for GeneXpert machines and test kits for the Freely Associated States and U.S. territories; \$300,000 through the U.S.

Agency for International Development (USAID) for the Disaster Preparedness for Effective Response (PREPARE) program with the International Organization for Migration (IOM); and reprogrammed \$7 million of unallocated Amended Compact Sector Grants funds for the FSM in support of COVID-19 response. The U.S. Mission team continues to participate in weekly calls with CDC and our neighboring Pacific Island countries. The U.S. government including FSM-based U.S. Embassy Kolonia, DOI, Department of Defense (DOD) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) representatives continue to partner with FSM.

America's unsurpassed contributions are also felt through the many international organizations fighting COVID-19 on the frontlines. We are proud when these international organizations deliver food, medicines, and other aid around the world. Largely, thanks to the generosity of the American people, and in partnership with donor nations, partner organizations such as the IOM through USAID continue to implement water, sanitation and hygiene communication activities in the FSM. Our U.S. Navy Seabees (Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FIVE) currently deployed in the FSM continue to assist in building hand-washing stations and other sanitation facilities in Pohnpei and Yap. The Seabees have also been working alongside the Pohnpei Veterans Association, who have volunteered to assist in the building of the Pohnpei State quarantine facilities.

We applaud the government of the Federated States of Micronesia for taking stringent measures to protect the nation from the pandemic. These measures included travel bans, ban on social gatherings, closing of schools throughout the islands and establishing COVID-19 taskforce teams in the respective states. We continue to work closely with FSM authorities to boost their response efforts. U.S. Embassy Kolonia is proud and honored to play a role in FSM's COVID-19 prevention and response measures, actively participating in FSM National COVID-19 Task Force and advising at other levels of government.

As we have time and time again, the United States will aid others during their time of greatest need. The COVID-19 pandemic is no different. We will continue to help countries build resilient health care systems that can prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks. Just as the U.S. continues to contribute to a healthier, more peaceful and prosperous world, so will we lead in defeating our shared pandemic enemy and rising stronger in its wake. We are all in this together.

KPress Perspective

Uncertainty/fear breeds where information is scarce or withheld

Make no doubt about it. The effects of COVID-19 are already in the FSM. Maybe not yet in the spiny little virus itself but certainly in varying degrees, the threat of it has landed in the FSM, and landed hard. There is a level of daily uncertainty that is unique to only a few remaining countries in the world that have not yet identified the presence of the virus in their lands.

Is it here? We don't know. Is it possible for it to get here no matter what we do? We don't know. Is it safe for groups like churches and even governments to meet together? We're told no but the government does it every day and all but a few churches are still doing it and so I guess we don't really know. What will it look like in the minutes and days following the first announcement that one of our residents has contracted the virus if that time comes? How will life change? We don't know. Congress says that the executive branch is to develop a social distancing plan within 30 days from last Friday. What the heck does

that mean? We don't know and not knowing is freaking us out.

Uncertainty is fear. FSM has known fear before. No nation that has ever been occupied by a foreign nation or seen battles on its shores and in its lagoons can say its people have not known fear. What exactly will the threat be today? What battles will take place here today? Will I survive? What should I know that I don't know that might help me?

Strictly speaking, uncertainty is not synonymous with fear but it may as well be. We have fears of known threats; threats about which we're certain. Bombs are falling. I can hear them fall. But the uncertainty of whether or not one will land on you and obliterate your life is the basis of the fear.

Every parent knows that removing uncertainty from a child who is almost certain there is a bogeyman hiding in his closet is the way to eliminate fear for that child. That parent will turn on

the light and scour every dark corner to show the child there is no bogeyman. Information eases fear.

What parent in their right mind, knowing there actually IS a bogeyman in a child's bedroom would keep that information from the child? Not a one.

Uncertainty generates fear. Information is the medicine that cures uncertainty and fearful people will turn to any source to get it whether the information is accurate or not. It only matters that they think it is. Any info will do. Some of the fearful will hear only part of a story and fill in the rest of the details from their imaginations. That fact will never change and is only made more difficult with the Internet so readily accessible to so many. It's human nature. It was destined to be this way.

But as difficult as the internet has made the sharing of incorrect and even dangerous information is when a government withholds information because of their own uncertainty (fear) that the people they are called on to serve will be able to handle it, it only makes matters worse. Suddenly, in addition to being scared they are then mistrustful as well. To be sure, they are watching. If a person is admitted to any of the isolation wards of any of our hospitals, the public notices. They are scared. They're not stupid.

The COVID-19 crisis is not the time for the government to have secrets. People who are forewarned are forearmed. Now is not the time for governments to exclaim as did the recalcitrant and

brutal Colonel Jessup in the movie, "A Few Good Men", "You can't handle the truth!!"

If there is a Person Under Investigation for the possibility that they have contracted the novel coronavirus we need to know now rather than later. Governments are not doing the community any favors when they wait three days to make that announcement. Perhaps that will stop happening when the test kits that have begun to arrive are put to use, but the public isn't certain that will be the case based on evidence so far.

While many people in the FSM certainly are fearful, not all are. Sakau bars are happening in Pohnpei. Gatherings are happening in all of the States. That is another outcome of the lack of information—the conviction that "no news" is "good news" and with it, a false sense of security when diligence is still necessary.

All of the FSM's governments are new to this. I am certain that not one government official is doing anything that would intentionally hurt the public—the common man. A little bit more and better on information sharing during this crisis would, I'm sure, be appreciated by all of us, even the fearful, even if the information is scary. To do otherwise is to say that you do not trust the public you are charged to serve.

*Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor
The Kaselehlie Press*

BID PROPOSAL REQUEST

Pohnpei Port Authority, Division of Marketing is soliciting bid proposals from any qualify and interested individual or businesses in providing SAFETY SUPPLIES OR PERSONNEL PROTECTIVE GEARS in relation to the COVID-19 virus protective and safety requirements.

1. Face mask ear loop procedure
2. Three-layer disposable face mask
3. Criterion N200 Nitril gloves small
4. Criterion N200 Nitril gloves latex-free non-sterile blue
5. Hand sanitizer
6. Disinfectant wipes.

All proposals shall have detailed Cost Estimate and specification based from the above data. All proposals shall be received at Pohnpei Port Authority's main office no later than 3:00 p.m. on April 21, 2020.

All proposals should or shall address to:

Mr. Pius Roby (General Manager)
Pohnpei Port Authority
Box 1150, Kolonia, Pohnpei State
Federated State of Micronesia # 96941
Phone No: 320-2793/2683
Email address: pisu.robby@mail.fm

All proposals must receive no later than the above designated time and address and for more information, please contact our Marketing manager Mr. Luciano Abraham at phone number 320-2793/2683 or by emailing luciano.abraham@ppa.fm

Pohnpei Port Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received in connection with this proposing announcement





College of Micronesia-FSM

Follow us online:



www.comfsm.fm

Presidential Search Announcement

The College of Micronesia-FSM, an institution accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, is seeking a visionary, dynamic, and inspirational leader who can make a difference at the college and in the communities it serves. The larger community is the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), a nation of 607 islands scattered across approximately a million square miles of the western Pacific Ocean. Each of four states of the federation – Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae – has its own unique language, culture, and needs. The college has a key role in the development of the Federated States of Micronesia. Like the nation, the college is geographically extensive. The national campus located in Palikir, Pohnpei, and the FSM Fisheries and Maritime Institute located in Yap state serve students from all four states, while the four state campuses, one in each state, primarily serve the residents of that state.

For specific information on the job profile and the college, see www.comfsm.fm/search/

Challenges and Opportunities

The college currently faces a series of challenges; the president will have the opportunity to make a difference in the following areas:

1. Determine and implement strategies to secure future funding of the college including ways to increase student enrollment and retention;
2. Work effectively with the Board, faculty, staff, and students;
3. Maintain accreditation by offering high quality educational programs and services provided by outstanding faculty and staff aligned with the needs of the FSM;
4. Enhance student access to learning;
5. Cultivate a culture of genuine communication, inclusiveness, participatory governance, and respect for cultural diversity with a shared focus on student success; and
6. Enhance overall standing of COM-FSM and advocate for the college in all arenas.

Position Profile

The President is appointed by the Board of Regents to serve as the chief executive officer of the College of Micronesia-FSM (COM-FSM) and as the official advisor to and executive agent of the Board of Regents. The President is a non-voting ex officio member of the Board and attends all Board meetings. The President, as educational and administrative head of the college, devotes her/his full time to exercising a general superintendence over all affairs of the institution and brings such matters to the attention of the Board as are appropriate to keep the Board fully informed in discharging its policy-making responsibilities. The President, on behalf of the Regents, performs all acts and executes all documents to make effective the actions of the Board.

1. Has primary responsibility for the quality of the institution including planning, development, organizing, selecting and developing personnel, and assessing institutional effectiveness with the primary focus on student success;
2. Secures sufficient funding for the college by enhancing relationships with the FSM and State governments, increasing student enrollment, securing funding for implementation of the college's master infrastructure development plan, obtaining grants, and growing the endowment fund;
3. Establishes a collegial process that sets the college's values, goals, and priorities;
4. Appreciates cultural diversity and supports an inclusive college community;
5. Ensures the college sets institutional performance standards for student achievement;
6. Ensures that evaluation and planning rely on high quality research and analysis of external and internal conditions;
7. Ensures that educational planning is integrated with resource planning and allocation to support student achievement and learning;
8. Ensures that the college's annual budget allocates resources to support learning and achievement;
9. Establishes procedures to evaluate overall institutional planning and implementation efforts to achieve the mission of the college;
10. Recruits, develops, supports, and retains quality faculty and staff;
11. Plans, oversees, and evaluates an administrative structure organized and staffed to reflect the college's purposes, size, and complexity;
12. Delegates authority to administrators and others consistent with their responsibilities, as appropriate;
13. Provides primary leadership for accreditation, ensuring that the college meets or exceeds ACCJC Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies at all times;
14. Assures the implementation of statutes, regulations, and Board of Regents policies and assures that college practices are consistent with the college's mission and policies, including effective control of budget and expenditures;
15. Maintains a highly visible leadership role, working and communicating effectively with the communities served by the college including the Board of Regents, faculty, staff, students, and stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness and standing of the college;
16. Perform such other additional duties as the Board may require.

Required Qualifications

Applicant must have the educational credentials from a regionally accredited institution and executive leadership experience necessary to earn the respect and trust of the college, its associates abroad, and the public and private sectors in the Federated States of Micronesia. Foreign credentials must be equated to meet US standards using World Education Services at <http://www.wes.org>. A master's degree is the minimum qualification. Significant prior executive leadership responsibility, considerable experience in an institution of comparable size and complexity, proficiency in addressing the challenges faced by COM-FSM are required. Higher education teaching experience preferred.

Application Procedure

To ensure full consideration in the COM-FSM presidential search, candidates must submit the following documents:

1. A letter of interest addressing how the candidate's professional qualification and experience match the challenges and position profile (not to exceed three pages);
2. COM-FSM application form www.comfsm.fm/jobs/HRdocs/employment08.pdf;
3. A current resume which includes personal email address and cellular phone number;
4. Official transcripts for all degrees earned;
5. A minimum of five professional reference letters.

Due to a 3mb size restriction on incoming mails, candidates are required to upload application documents to Dropbox or Google Drive and share with presidentsearch@comfsm.fm. Alternatively, documents can be mailed to:

Presidential Search Committee College of Micronesia-FSM
PO Box 159
Pohnpei FM 96941

U.S Postal Service domestic rates apply in the Federated States of Micronesia.

All applications must be received by May 30th 2020, midnight Pohnpei/Kosrae time, 11pm Chuuk/Yap time.

Confidential inquires may be made to presidentsearch@comfsm.fm - a confidential call may be arranged upon request.

| National Campus | Chuuk Campus | FSM-FMI | Kosrae Campus | Pohnpei Campus | Yap Campus |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| P.O. Box 159 | P.O. Box 879 | P.O. Box 1056 | P.O. Box 37 | P.O. Box 614 | P.O. Box 286 |
| Kolonia Pohnpei, FM 96941 | Chuuk, FM 96942 | Colonia Yap, FM 96943 | Tofol Kosrae, FM 96944 | Kolonia Pohnpei, FM 96941 | Colonia Yap, FM 96943 |
| Phone: (691)320-2480 | Phone: (691)330-2689 | Phone: (691)350-5244 | Phone: (691)370-3191 | Phone: (691)320-3795 | Phone: (691)350-2296/5149 |
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