

Eighth Addendum to
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 116

Amending the Organization of the Ministry of State
(Executive Order No. 98)

WHEREAS, since the establishment of the Constitutional Government of the Republic of Palau on January 1, 1981, the basic framework for the structure of the Executive Branch of the National Government was set forth by Public Law No. 7-8-8 (2 PNC 101-114) and consisted of five (5) major departments; namely Ministries of State, Justice, National Resources, Social Services and Administration; and

WHEREAS, specific bureaus, divisions, programs, activities and the related functions, responsibilities and duties of the five (5) ministries were formally established on September 29, 1982, upon promulgation of Executive Order No. 09, and subsequent amendments thereafter; and

WHEREAS, said Executive Branch of the National Government was further reorganized on July 27, 1990, by Public Law No. 3-30 which increased the major departments to eight (8); namely Ministries of State, Justice, Resources and Development, Commerce and Trade, Health, Education, and Community and Cultural Affairs; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the mandates of RPPL No. 3-30, Executive Order No. 98, promulgated on January 7, 1991, reorganized and established bureaus, divisions, programs, activities and assigned related functions and responsibilities thereto; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 116 was issued on January 14, 1993 which further established and reorganized bureaus, divisions and programs together with their respective functions, duties and responsibilities within various ministries; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 116 created a Bureau of Lands and Surveys to provide land surveying, mapping, land information and other technical assistance to the Land Court, Palau Public Land Authority, national government agencies, and to the general public; and

WHEREAS, on August 6, 1993, I approved the Bureau of Lands and Surveys reorganization, functions and personnel listing; and

WHEREAS, Addenda to Executive Order No. 116 have been issued for the purpose of initiating or improving needed services to the public:

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the Republic of Palau, pursuant to the Constitution and applicable laws of the Republic of Palau, it is hereby ordered that Executive Order No. 98 which reorganized the Executive Branch of the National Government is hereby amended by this Eighth Addendum to Executive Order No. 116 in the following manner with regard to Ministry of State.

Within the MINISTRY OF STATE, the functions of the Bureau of Lands and Surveys are divided into an Office of the Director and two Divisions: The Division of Surveying and Mapping and the Division of Land Resources Information.

SECTION 3. BUREAU OF LANDS AND SURVEYS

The Bureau of Lands and Surveys is headed by an Office of the Director, who as the principal professional lands and surveys officer and technical authority of the Government of the Republic of Palau, advises the President and the Minister of State and represents the Republic on all technical matters related to land. The Director coordinates the Bureau's logistical support to the Land Court (formerly the Land Claims Hearing Office) and its sixteen (16) State Land Registration Offices, the Palau Public Land Authority and the sixteen (16) state Public Land Authorities, government ministries, state governments, and other programs or activities requiring the services involved in the implementation of Section 7 of Article XIII of the Constitution if and when it becomes necessary for the national government or a state government to exercise its eminent domain power therein conferred. The Office of the Director includes an Administration Branch headed by an Administrative Officer who supervises, directs and coordinates the Bureau's administrative, fiscal and service functions necessary for the internal administration, operation and functioning of the Bureau.

(a) Division of Surveying and Mapping

The Division of Surveying and Mapping will be headed by a Chief, who, with the assistance of staff, including cadastral (land) and other surveyors, shall perform the following duties and functions:

- (i) Assist the Director in formulating policies and procedures for all surveying and mapping activities of the Bureau;
- (ii) Provide staff advice and technical direction for all surveying functions and programs and all activities related to cartographic and mapping program;
- (iii) Carry out all official land and geodetic surveys and re-surveys necessary for identification and description of all public and private lands;
- (iv) Carry out cartographic surveys, urban and rural planning surveys, and purposes as required;
- (v) Prepare all official survey drawings, property plat examinations, survey computations, map and survey plat compilations, photogrammetric computations, interpretations and drawings, urban and rural planning maps, and drawings and map reproduction and printing; and
- (vi) Provide authorized survey services, cartographic and mapping services to the national government agencies, state government agencies, boards and commissions, and the

general public.

(b) Division of Land Resources Information

The Division of Land Resources Information will be headed by a Chief, who, with the assistance of staff, shall perform the following duties and functions:

- (i) Assist the Director in formulating policies and procedures for carrying out functions pertaining to land classification, appraising and the land information system;
- (ii) Conduct a continuing, thorough and accurate inventory of the total Republic land and mineral resources above the high water mark and such areas of specific interest below the high water mark;
- (iii) As part of the land resources inventory, classify and map the land forms for vegetation, soils, minerals, climate and topographic features, considering current and potential values;
- (iv) Arrange for the printing of the inventory and other data gathered as official Bureau publications on an annual basis, together with supplementary printed material as deemed necessary;
- (v) Coordinate the Republic's Land Classification Program, the purpose of which is to assess the productivity of the Republic's public and private lands and their suitability for agriculture;
- (vi) Develop the lands and minerals appraisal standards issued by the Bureau as a manual for application to the Republic's land programs;
- (vii) Serve as the Bureau's liaison with the Office of the Attorney General on land appraisal matters;
- (viii) Formulate and develop the Land Information System including its rules, regulations, standards and procedures;
- (ix) Develop the data base for all land records for the Republic;
- (x) Compile previous Administrations' land transactions, Japanese land records, court cases, and develop a system for their use; and
- (xi) Conduct title searches using the data base and all other records.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunder set my hand and affixed my official seal this 18th day of March, 1998, in the State of Koror, Republic of Palau.

Kuniwo Nakamura
President of the Republic of Palau