

## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 184

### *Establishing a Committee on Sustainable Tourism Policies and Action Plans*

**WHEREAS** tourism is and for the foreseeable future will remain a driving force in the economic development, growth and vitality of the, Republic of Palau; and

**WHEREAS** the Republic of Palau must recognize and respect the limited and sensitive nature of its natural resources, and especially must acknowledge the fragile quality of the unique land and marine environments of Palau which create such strong incentives for travel to Palau; and

**WHEREAS** there is the potential for tension, opposition, and needless harm to and loss within Palau as the desire to increase short-term benefits from high-volume tourism conflicts with the need to achieve sustainable levels of high-value tourism and not merely high-volume tourism,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the Republic of Palau pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, I order that there be, and hereby is, created a National Committee on Sustainable Tourism Policies and Action Plans (hereinafter “Committee”) with the powers, duties, and characteristics described below.

1. Composition.

A. The Committee shall be composed of the following individuals, as well as the representatives of those entities identified in subsection B, *infra*:

Lazarus Kodep	Mario Katosang	Leilani Ngirturong
Joan Demei	Emery Wenty	Rukebai K. Inabo
Kenjiro Dengokl	Jonathan Maui	Dr. Minoru Ueki
Dorotheo Nagata	Tina Rehuher	Sam Scott
Francis Matsutaro	Marhence Madrangchar	Mary Ann Delemel
Herman Francisco	Henaro Antonio	Itaru Ishigawa
Shallum Etpison	Vicki Kanai	Gustav Aitaro
Maria Rehuher	Lucy Sugiyama	Judy Otto

B. The Committee shall include representatives of the following entities, as well as the individuals named in subsection A, *supra*:

Ministry of Commerce and Trade	Association of Governors
Ministry of Administration/ Division of Revenue and Taxation	Palau Pacific Resort
Belau National Museum	Belau Tourism Association
Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs	Palau Community Action Agency
Division of Labor	Palau International Coral Reef Center
Ministry of Justice/ Office of the Attorney General	Environmental Quality Protection Board
Foreign Investment Board	Bureau of Natural Resources
Palau Chamber of Commerce	Sam's Dive Tours
Palau National Development Bank	Blue Marlin/Belau Tours
Palau Conservation Society	Palau Visitors Authority

Any entity listed in this subsection B may name as its respective representative one of the individuals named in subsection A, *supra*, provided however that such individual agrees to act as the representative and to not participate in his or her individual capacity.

C. The Committee should also include a representative of each of the House of Delegates and the Senate of the Olbiil Era Kelulau. Each of the houses is hereby invited to name its respective representative to the Committee.

2. Organizational Meeting.

The Committee shall meet no later than February 1, 2001, to establish procedures for undertaking its duties, to name such officers as it deems appropriate, and to otherwise organize itself in a manner appropriate for the performance of its duties.

3. Duties and Responsibilities.

A. The Committee shall undertake a comprehensive review of; the current state of tourism in the Republic of Palau; the general state of the travel industry in the region; competitive advantages and disadvantages of various destinations in the region; untapped sectors

of the travel market which are realistically accessible to the Republic of Palau, keeping in mind the dual needs to preserve Palau's unique assets and attain long-term sustainable levels of visitors; and such other and related matters as may be necessary in order to arrive at a full understanding of the possibilities and limitations facing Palau's efforts to meet the aforementioned dual needs. This assessment shall be ongoing and evolving through the life of the Committee.

B. In undertaking the assessment described in subsection A of this section, the Committee shall confer with and utilize all reasonably available public and private sector resources. All components of the Executive Branch are expressly ordered to cooperate with and provide reasonable assistance to the Committee in its efforts to obtain data. The Committee is further encouraged to confer with, seek information from, and consider the value of forming mutual cooperation and assistance agreements with its counterparts in foreign jurisdictions.

C. The Committee shall issue periodic reports of its assessment and recommendations based thereon to the President. Such reports shall be submitted with no less frequency than twice per year.

4. Duration of Committee.

The Committee shall continue in existence until such time as this Order is amended or rescinded.

***SO ORDERED THIS 29<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2000,***

Kuniwo Nakamura  
President of the Republic of Palau