

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 201

Establishing the Tourism Revitalization Task Force.

WHEREAS, The tragic acts of terrorism that occurred in the United States on September 11, 2001 have resulted in a world-wide economic slowdown that has greatly impacted the international tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, the domestic tourism industry in the Republic of Palau has shown significant signs of following the international slowing of tourism transactions; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to immediately respond to this international tourism slump with proactive domestic policies to minimize the impact on Palau's economy,

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President, pursuant to the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Palau, it is hereby ordered that a Tourism Revitalization Task Force is established to recommend the actions necessary to limit the impacts of the tourism slump.

1. Membership of the Task Force -- The Task Force shall be composed of the following members:

- The Chairman of the Senate Committee on Tourism Development & Cultural Affairs;
- The Chairman of the House of Delegates Committee on Tourism;
- The Chairman of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and Financial Matters;
- The Chairman of the House of Delegates Committee on Ways and Means; .The Chairman of the Governors Association;
- The Chairman of the Sustainable Tourism Committee, who shall act as the Chairman of the Task Force;
- The Minister of Commerce and Trade;
- The Minister of Administration;
- The President of the Chamber of Commerce;
- The Chairman of the Palau Business Association;
- The Chairman of the Palau Visitor's Authority Board of Directors
- The Chairman of the Belau Tourism Association; .
- The Manager of the Palau Pacific Resort;
- The Manager of the Palasia Hotel;
- The Manager of the West Plaza Hotels; and
- The Manager of Surangel and Sons Company.

2. Duties and Responsibilities of the Task Force -- The Task Force shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- Analyze, from all available sources, and make an initial assessment of, the impact of the events of September 11, 2001 on the international and domestic tourism industry;
- Project the nature, size and duration of the current tourism downturn;
- Recommend appropriate domestic actions needed to minimize the impacts of the current tourism downturn, to include measures to be taken by the national and state governments, and the private sector, to include airlines, hotels, diving businesses and other relevant support sectors;
- Identify appropriate international contact points for negotiation and assistance in the area of tourism; and
- Recommend appropriate legislation and other appropriate policies.

3. Administrative Support -- Administrative support for the Task Force shall be provided by the Office of the President, the Ministry of Commerce and Trade and the Palau Visitor's Authority, as appropriate.

4. Meetings of the Task Force --The Task Force shall commence its initial meeting at the Office of the President at 10:00 a.m. on October 5, 2001 and thereafter meet at least weekly, as necessary and appropriate. and shall issue monthly reports to the President on the status of its activities.

5. Task Force Reports -- The Task Force shall provide the President with an initial assessment report by October 19,2001. Thereafter, the Task Force shall report to the President on at least a monthly basis. The Task Force shall maintain a continuing dialogue with the President on the status and success of recommended initiatives.

6. Term of the Task Force -- The Task Force shall continue in existence until dissolved by the President.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 3rd day of October, 2001, at the State of Koror, Republic of Palau.

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