

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 233¹

Establishing a Solid Waste Program Steering Committee

WHEREAS, the Republic of Palau has written a grant request to the Government of Japan to institute a comprehensive solid waste management program throughout the Republic, which program would include the closure of the current solid waste facility in Koror and the development of a new solid waste facility in Aimeliik/Airai; and

WHEREAS, the Japanese Government has agreed to provide technical assistance to the Republic of Palau through “*The Project for Improvement of Solid Waste Management in Palau*” (Attached) in accordance with an agreed-upon Master Plan, the “*Record of Discussions between the Japan International Cooperation Agency and Authorities Concerned of the Government of the Republic of Palau on Japanese Technical Cooperation for the Project for Improvement of Solid Waste Management in the Republic of Palau*” and associated documents (Attached - Annex I through VI); and

WHEREAS, various private business ventures have approached the Government of the Republic of Palau seeking to provide project management and other solid waste services to the Republic; and

WHEREAS, solid waste management was declared by the Chief Executives in the First Joint Communique of the First Western Micronesian Chief Executives’ Summit to be a regional priority requiring regional action; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of Palau was designated as the ‘Focus State’ by the Chief Executives in the First Joint Communique, with the responsibility of studying solid waste management issues, both domestic and regional, and to report, on a quarterly basis, to the other three states who attended the First Summit; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Executives of the Second Western Micronesian Chief Executives’ Summit created a Pacific Islands Regional Recycling Initiative Committee (PIRRIC) in order to follow up on the recommendations made during the Second and subsequent Western Micronesian Chief Executives’ Summit, to include:

- Promoting the implementation or augmentation of viable Integrated Waste Management Plans (IWMP’s) in each of the participating islands (Palau, the CNMI, Guam and Yap of the FSM);
- Formulating the steps necessary to bring the Regional Recycling Initiative (RRI) into being and oversee the implementation of this plan.

WHEREAS, the Chief Executives, in the Third Western Micronesian Chief Executives’

¹ Identified in headers on each page as “Presidential Directive No. 233”

Summit recommended the Creation of a Comprehensive Regional Solid Waste Action Plan, with an initial emphasis on the removal of metallic waste; and

WHEREAS, the Republic contracted the development of two separate comprehensive solid waste management studies entitled “*The Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan*” - Golder Associates, 1999 and the “*Ngerbeched Dump and Solid Waste Management Waste Study; The Ngerbeched Dump Risk Assessment*” - Golder Associates, 1998,

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, it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. Creation of Solid Waste Steering Committee. There is hereby established a Solid Waste Steering Committee (“*SWSC*” or “*Committee*”).

2. Composition. The SWSC shall be composed of the following members:

- The Governor of Koror State;
- The Governor of Aimeliik;
- The Minister of Resources and Development;
- The Director of Public Works within the Ministry of Resources and Development;
- The Manager of the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Office;
- The Solid Waste Manager within the Ministry of Resources and Development;
- The Director of Public Works for Koror State;
- The Executive Officer of the Environmental Quality Protection Board (EQPB);
- The Education Manager for the EQPB;
- One member appointed by the President;
- One member appointed by the Governors Association;
- One member appointed by the Minister of Finance;
- One member appointed by the Minister of Health;
- One member appointed by the Office of Environmental Response and Coordination; and
- One member appointed by the National Environmental Protection Council (NEPC).

The President may appoint additional regular members to the Committee and the Committee, by consensus, may add additional regular members. The Committee can also approve, by consensus, observers to Committee meetings.

3. Powers and Duties of the Committee. The powers and duties of the Committee are as follows:

- a) Review the current status of efforts within the Republic of Palau to initiate a comprehensive Solid Waste Management Program, including all grants related to such efforts;

- b) Oversee Palauan membership in and make recommendations to the PIRRIC regarding the establishment of a Comprehensive Regional Solid Waste Action Plan;
- c) Review, with designated representatives of the Territory of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the State of Yap within the Federated States of Micronesia, as well as other regional partners, where appropriate, solid waste issues from a regional perspective and make recommendations regarding potential synergies and consolidated regional actions to improve solid waste disposal;
- d) Coordinate, on behalf of the Republic of Palau, *The Project for Improvement of Solid Waste Management in Palau* (“Project”), as follows:
 - Formulate and review an annual operational work plan of the Project within the framework of the “Record of discussions”;
 - Review the overall progress and achievement of the Project;
 - Review and exchange opinions on major issues that arise during the implementation of the Project;
 - Work out any modifications in Project activities, as required; and
 - Undertake other responsibilities as required to complete the Project.
- e) Review domestic and external proposals to provide Solid Waste Management and other services to the Republic of Palau and make appropriate recommendations regarding such proposals, in light of current activities in Palau; and
- f) Coordinate the development of Requests for Proposals for solid waste management services, as appropriate.

4. Meetings. The Committee shall meet no later than July 7, 2005 and shall meet at least once every three months thereafter. At the first meeting, the Committee shall elect one of its members as Chair and another as Vice Chair. The Committee shall also designate, from among its members, a Secretary to keep the minutes and records of the Committee.

5. Administrative Support.-- Administrative support for the Committee shall be provided by the Ministry of Resources and Development, the OERC, the Office of the President, the CIP Office, and other government agencies, as required.

6. Reporting. - The Committee shall issue reports as needed or as required by the President.

7. Term of the Committee. -- The Committee shall remain in existence until terminated by the President.

8. Presidential Directive No. 03-003 Superseded. - Presidential Directive No. 03-003, which established a Solid Waste Program Development Committee is here by superseded by this

Executive Order.

SO DIRECTED THIS 24th DAY OF JUNE 2005.

/s/

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