

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 251

Establishing an Independent National Invasive Species Council

WHEREAS, the National Invasive Species Committee was established by the National Environmental Protection Council (NEPC) by Resolution No. 2 in 2003 as directed in Executive Order No. 219; and

WHEREAS, the NEPC has ceased to hold meetings and must await a resolution as to its on-going status; and

WHEREAS, the NISC has continued to function outside of the scope of the NEPC; and

WHEREAS, the move of the National Invasive Species coordinator from the Office of the Environmental Response and Coordination (OERC) to the Bureau of Agriculture (BOA) has created a need for small changes in the NISC membership,

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. Conversion of NISC to an Independent Committee. The NISC is hereby converted into an independent committee, advisory to the President and his Cabinet, with the initial membership set forth herein.

2. Duties and Responsibilities. The Invasive Species Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. Identify responsible agencies for the management of invasive species introduced into the Republic of Palau;
- b. Coordinate the development and implementation of response plans for invasive species;
- c. Coordinate public awareness and education regarding invasive species;
- d. Review and enhance and/or develop regulations governing the importation and inter/intea-state movement of invasive species;
- e. Coordinate appropriate responses and actions to address the possible introduction of invasive species into the Republic, with special attention being given to special events, which increase exposure to alien species;
- f. Conduct and upkeep an inventory of the invasive species present in Palau.; and (Comment: too much detail)

g. Investigate methods to reduce and contain or eradicate each invasive species existing in Palau.

In carrying out its above duties and responsibilities, the NISC shall consult with knowledgeable individuals in the private sector and officials of the State and National Governments. The NISC may also consult appropriate representatives of foreign governments or international organizations. The NISC will evaluate the various responses to invasive species in terms of effectiveness, cost, potential collateral impacts on plant and animal species indigenous to Palau, and potential impacts on the environmental integrity of Palau.

3. Membership in NISC. The initial membership in the NISC shall be as follows:

OERC	1 Member
Ministry of Resources and Development	2 Members
Bureau of Agriculture	
Bureau of Marine Resources	
Ministry of Justice	2 Members
Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection	
EQPB Legal Counsel	
Ministry of Health	1 Member
Division of Environmental Health and Sanitation	
Ministry of Finance	1 Member
Division of Revenue, Customs and Taxation	
Palau Conservation Society	1 Member
National Invasive Species Coordinator	Ex Officio Member

4. Sub-Committees. The Invasive Species Committee may establish subcommittees to focus on specific issues and programs related to invasive species.

5. Coordination with Existing Bodies. The Invasive Species Committee shall coordinate its efforts with existing public and private bodies to accomplish the above duties and responsibilities.

6. Reference to Stakeholder Recommendations. The Invasive Species Committee shall utilize stakeholder recommendations as a guide in its efforts to address the growing hazards of invasive species in Palau.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 24th day of December 2008, at the State of Melekeok, Republic of Palau.

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