

## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 261

### *Effectuating Changes in Executive Order No. 243 concerning Palau's Extended Continental Shelf Task Force*

**WHEREAS**, Republic of Palau's *Extended Continental Shelf Task Force (eCSTF)*, together with its subsidiary body known as *Study Team (eCSTT)*, was formally established on 4 October 2007 by Executive Order No. 243; and

**WHEREAS**, designations of compositions of the *eCSTF* itself (Section 1(a)), and the *eCSTT* (Section 2(a)) were based on the previous administration's ministries some of which have been subsequently renamed by RPPL No. 7-43, and consequentially must be changed in order to conform to the new nomenclatures of certain cabinet ministries; and

**WHEREAS**, *eCSTF* has successfully progressed its assigned tasks under Section 1(b)(i) particularly in sourcing of external financing from (a) the United Nations Trust Fund and (b) the Government of Turkey (Palau's development partner) as well as in the *"...development of an Extended Continental Shelf Study, including the development, formulation and completion of a hydrographic and geoscientific survey and mapping of Palau's extended continental shelf margin, as required by Article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNLCOS)"*; and

**WHEREAS**, *eCSTF* is mandated by Section 1(b)(iii) *"To review and evaluate the final product of (Palau's Claim for its Continental Shelf) and, upon finding that the document conforms to and satisfactorily meets the guidelines and criteria set forth by the UN Commission on the Limits of Continental Shelf (CLCS/11, 1999, as amended), and to recommend the same to the President or its formal submission to the United Nations Commission on the Limits a Continental Shelf prior to the submission deadline a May 13, 2009"*; and

**WHEREAS**, the eCSST itself has successfully undertaken its assigned duties set forth under Section 2(b) (i-viii), including the development, formulation and completion, consistent with UNCLOS Article 76 the required geological and geoscientific study for review by the Task Force before submission of the same to the LN Commission on the Limits of Continental Shelf; and

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative that the restructured eCS Task Force and its Study Team must rely upon and to continue to use Executive Order No. 243 as a guide in carrying out their functions, duties and responsibilities as well as in exercising powers and authorities set forth therein;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Palau, it is hereby ordered that Executive Order No. 243, in (a) Section 1(a) - Task Force membership; (b) Section 2(a) - Study Team membership; and (c) Section 1(f) and Section 2(f) - durations of the Task Force and the Study Team respectively, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"1(a) Composition: The ECSTF shall be composed of the following members:

- Minister of State;
- Vice President/ Minister of Administration or his designee;
- Minister of Public Infrastructures, Industries and Commerce;
- Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism;
- One member appointed by the President;
- Attorney General or her designee;
- Program Manager of Palau Automated Land and Resource Information System (PALARIS), and
- Other members as may be determined by the Task Force.

The Minister of State shall chair the restructured Task Force; the presidential appointee shall serve as vice chair, and the Task Force may elect its Secretary and Treasurer and any such other officers as deemed appropriate. Minister of State shall appoint as senior official from her ministry to serve as Executive Director of the Task Force who shall be answerable directly to and shall carry out his/her duties under the supervision of the Minister of State."

"2.(a) Composition: The Study Team shall be composed of appropriate technical, administrative, management and legal staff, including expert and professional advisers, scientists and technical consultants, as follows:

- One member appointed by the President;
- Program Manager of PALARIS;
- An appointee of Minister of State;
- An appointee of Vice President/Minister of Administration;
- An appointee of Minister of Natural Resources, Environment & Tourism;
- An appointee of Minister of Public Infrastructures, Industries & Commerce;
- Attorney General or her designee; and
- Other members as determined by the Task Force.

Program Manager of PALARIS shall be the chair of the Study Team; an appointee of the Minister of State shall be vice chairman, and Secretary/Treasurer and other officers may be elected as deemed necessary. With the concurrence of the Chair of the Task Force, the Study Team may recruit, hire, engage services of hydrologist, marine surveyors, environmental scientists, continental shelf experts or consultants, etc. Primary source of funding pay for these services shall come from the United Nations Trust Fund and the donation from the Government of Turkey or from any other external sources that may become available in support of ongoing work on continental shelf."

"1(f) Duration of Task Force and 2(f) Duration of Stud Team. The Extended Continental Shelf Task Force (eCSTF) and its subsidiary Study Team (eCSST) shall remain in existence until otherwise replaced by an office, division, bureau of a given ministry to which remaining duties, functions or responsibilities with respect to continental shelf are by executive order are formally transferred."

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2009, at Ngerulmud, Melekeok State, Republic of Palau.

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/s/  
Johnson Toribiong  
President  
Republic of Palau