

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 276

Establishing a Special Presidential Task Force to Investigate the Discrepancies in the Respective Lists of Work Visas Maintained by the Bureau of Immigration and the Division of Labor; and for other related purposes.

WHEREAS, on or about October 9, 2009, the President issued Executive Order No. 273 establishing a quota for the issuance of Work Visas; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 273 ordered the Director of the Bureau of Immigration, in coordination with the Division of Labor, to prepare and submit to the President comprehensive lists of all Work Visas currently issued and outstanding, and further ordered any differences in the lists maintained by the respective agencies to be reconciled or explained; and

WHEREAS, the respective lists of outstanding Work Visas submitted to the President by the agencies contain wide discrepancies that the agencies are unable to explain or reconcile; and

WHEREAS, in order to properly manage the quota established by Executive Order No. 273 it is critical that the discrepancies in the lists be investigated, explained and, if possible, reconciled;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in the President by Article VIII of the Constitution of the Republic of Palau and by Title 13 of the Palau National Code, the President orders as follows:

1. Creation of Special Presidential Task Force; Duties. There is hereby established a Special Presidential Task Force that forthwith shall, as and when directed by its Chairman, meet and review and investigate the discrepancies in the lists of outstanding Workers Visas submitted to the President by the Bureau of Immigration and the Division of Labor. The Task Force shall consist of the following persons, and such other persons as the President shall, from time to time, designate.

- Mr. Isaac N. Soaladaob, Chairman.
- Attorney General Ernestine Rengiil, or her designee.
- Minister Harry Fritz, Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment & Tourism, or his designee.

- Gustav Aitaro, Director, Bureau of International Trade and Technical Assistance, Ministry of State.
- Adair Sumang, Director, Bureau of Revenue, Customs and Taxation, Ministry of Finance.

2. Task Force Inventory and Report; Deadlines. The Task Force shall prepare and submit to the President a preliminary report by no later than January 31, 2010. The report shall precisely identify the discrepancies in the lists of outstanding Worker Visas submitted to the President by the Bureau of Immigration and the Division of Labor, explain the cause of the discrepancies; and if possible, reconcile the discrepancies or, at a minimum, make recommendations to the President as to how to accomplish a reconciliation of the discrepancies. The report should also include any other comments and recommendations for action considered by the Task Force to be appropriate, without limitation including recommendations for avoiding such discrepancies in the future and for repatriating persons whose Workers Visas have expired. At the further direction of and on a date to be determined by the President, the Task Force shall prepare and submit to the President a final report.

3. Administrative Support. All Ministries and agencies of the Executive Branch of the National Government shall make available staffing and other resources as requested by the Chairman of the Task Force and shall cooperate with and provide such information as is requested by the Task Force. The Social Security Administration is requested to cooperate with and provide such information as is requested by the Task Force. It shall be considered insubordination and cause for dismissal for any employee of the Executive Branch of the National Government to refuse to fully cooperate with the Task Force.

4. Suspension of Portions of Executive Order No. 273. Sections 1 and 5 of Executive Order No. 273, respectively imposing a quota on the issuance of Work Visas and requiring the Bureau of Immigration to formulate and suggest to the President for promulgation certain regulations, are hereby suspended until further order of the President.

5. Effective Date and Duration of Task Force. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force and effect until the President has determined in writing that the assignment of the Task force is completed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 9th day of December, 2009.

/s/

 Johnson Toribiong
 President
 Republic of Palau