

## **Executive Order No. 323**

*To re-establish a National Drug Trafficking Task Force as set forth in Executive Order No. 190.*

**WHEREAS**, on January 1, 2001, President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., signed Executive Order No. 190, which established a “National Drug Trafficking Task Force” that resulted in stronger intra-agency coordination within the Executive Branch between the Director of Public Safety, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Special Prosecutor, the Chief of the Division of Drug Enforcement, and the Chief of the Division of Customs; and

**WHEREAS**, this Task Force was effective in severely curtailing the presence of and use of drugs in the Republic from 2001 - 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, during the last four years, from 2008-2012, the Task Force fell into disuse, which has resulted in less coordination and cooperation between the various law enforcement entities of the Task Force and a commensurate rise in the presence of drugs and increased drug use; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 190 has never specifically been repealed; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the belief of President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. that the National Drug Trafficking Task Force was an effective intra-agency government entity that performed good work for the people of the Republic and played a significant role in the lowered presence of and use of drugs in the Republic; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority and power set forth in the Constitution in the President to “enforce the law of the land,” the President hereby orders as follows:

(1) That all law enforcement agencies consider Executive Order No. 190's National Drug Trafficking Task Force to be a standing Task Force in existence in perpetuity until Executive Order No. 190 and this Executive Order are specifically repealed.

(2) That the National Drug Trafficking Task Force created by Executive Order No. 190 shall be amended to modify the membership of the Task Force as follows:

- (A) The Attorney General, or an Assistant Attorney General appointed by the Attorney General, who shall act as the Chair of the Task Force;
- (B) A law enforcement official to be appointed by the Attorney General;
- (C) The Special Prosecutor, or his designee;
- (D) The Chief of the Division of Customs, or his designee;

(E) Two (2) members of the Division of Customs, appointed by the Chief of the Division of Customs, who shall have demonstrated a commitment to eradicating drugs; and

(F) Two (2) members of the Bureau of Public Safety appointed by the Director of the Bureau of Public Safety who shall have demonstrated a commitment to eradicating drugs.

(4)[sic] That the National Drug Trafficking Task Force shall focus its efforts on the eradication of the importation of so-called "hard" drugs such as, but not limited to: methamphetamine (aka "ice"), and cocaine.

(5) That the National Drug Trafficking Task Force provide reports to the President of the Republic on a quarterly basis (on January 1st, April 1st, July 1<sup>st</sup>, and September 1<sup>st</sup>) that details the current status of the importation of drugs, the use of drugs, any other relevant statistical data about the importation of drugs and use of drugs in the Republic; the steps the Task Force is taking to address the current status; any progress that the Task Force has made upon its previous report; and any suggested executive or legislative steps that can be taken to support the Task Force in its efforts. The first report of the year shall provide a road-map action plan for the coming year. The first report following this Executive Order shall be issued on April 1, 2013.

(6) That all employees of the national government provide any cooperation requested by the National Drug Trafficking Task Force and that the National Drug Trafficking Task Force shall have all law enforcement capabilities available pursuant to law.

(7) That, effective immediately, the National Drug Trafficking Task Force make any recommendations necessary to the President of the Republic that may assist the National Drug Trafficking Task Force in its efforts.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this February 1, 2013.

/s/

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Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.  
President  
Republic of Palau