

Executive Order No. 349

Rescinding Executive Order No. 333 and providing for the further improvement of aid coordination and grant management and monitoring

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order No. 9, there was established within the Office of the President the position of Federal Programs Coordinator (subsequently amended pursuant to Executive Order No. 116 as the Grant Coordinator), whose responsibility it is to oversee the implementation of all grants or grant funding to the Republic of Palau; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order No. 203, there is organized within the Ministry of Finance a Bureau of Budget and Planning headed by a Director, whose responsibilities include:

- (a) Governmental and sectoral strategic plans to ensure they are consistent with the national master plan;
- (b) Providing an aid coordination and management framework that ensures a coordinated and cohesive process in which overseas development assistance is pursued and utilized effectively to finance operational and capital requirements in line with developmental plans and strategies, and serve as the Secretariat to national level committees relating to economic development planning and financing;
- (c) Review and report on the performance of governmental agencies in accordance with RPPL No. 6-11, the Budget Reform Act of 2001, and on request or as assigned, assist governmental agencies in the implementation of performance management and the preparation of annual performance reports; and

WHEREAS, there is organized within the Ministry of State the Bureau of Foreign Affairs and Trade, headed by a Director, whose responsibilities include researching and identifying financial grant/aid and technical assistance opportunities from foreign governments and international and regional organizations for the benefit of the Republic of Palau, including, but not limited to, providing assistance to national and state government agencies in the procurement of financial grant/aid and technical assistance. In this regard, the Division shall coordinate its efforts with the Office of the President, the

Bureau of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Bureau of Budget and Planning and the Grants Coordinator (pursuant to Executive Order No. 349): and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order No. 277, there was established within the Office of the President an Office of Budget and Grant Oversight headed by a Special Assistant to the President that advised on the development of the national budget, provided program and budget oversight, and serve as a grant clearance coordinator for the Republic; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Directive No. 10-003, issued accompanying directions for compliance with Executive Order No. 277; and

WHEREAS, the President determined that many of the functions of the Office of Budget and Grant Oversight were duplicated by several other agencies within the Executive Branch, thereby creating an unnecessary expense and level of bureaucracy; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 333 responded to this duplication by rescinding Executive Order No. 277 and Administrative Directive No. 10-003, which organized the Office of Budget and Grant Oversight; and

WHEREAS, efficient aid coordination and grant management and monitoring requires a clear delineation of grant requirements for the broad variety of grants that are periodically applied for and received by governmental agencies, authorities, boards, commissions and semi-governmental entities, including U.S. Federal Grants, bilateral grants from foreign nations and grants from International Aid Donors; and

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:

- (a) Executive Order No. 333 is rescinded in its entirety.
- (b) The Office of the Grant Coordinator shall work closely with the Bureau of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Bureau of Budget and Planning to:

- I. Aid Coordination

- Minimize duplication of efforts and maximize the usage of available lending facilities;
 - Ensure that grants are consistent and in line with national priorities pursuant to approved national development strategies;
 - Make sure that all grant aid is coordinated, taking into account the source and nature of each grant;
 - Ensure that international standards for grant submission and compliance are met;
 - Enhance, through collaboration and coordination with all interested parties, the formal communication undertaken by the Bureau of Foreign Affairs and Trade with international, regional and non-profit Organizations and agencies, to identify all available grant Opportunities in the Republic of Palau; and
 - Disseminate grant information, where appropriate, to interested potential applicants.
- ii. Grant Monitoring -
- Monitor all grants, taking into account the capacity of each government agency responsible for direct grant management, to ensure that grant recipients are in compliance with reporting requirements and monitor the accomplishment of the objectives of the grant.
 - Work with all parties, through the entire granting process, to ensure that relevant grant documentation is provided to Grant applicants, Grant recipients and Grantors, to ensure and facilitate aid coordination and management
- iii. Development of Grant Repository - Develop a comprehensive database of information about all existing grants identifying donors, recipients, purposes, amounts, grant periods, matching sources, key personnel and reporting requirements.
- iv. Grant Development Assistance and Training - Make available assistance to government agencies authorities, boards, commissions, and semi-government entities under the jurisdiction of the national government, including staff training, taking into account the capacity of such agencies to develop, manage and gather appropriate data for all grants.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this October 23rd, 2013 at Koror, Republic of Palau.

/s/

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President
Republic of Palau