

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 352

To Declare a National State of Emergency Caused by the Typhoon Haiyan

WHEREAS, commencing on Wednesday, November 6, 2013 , through Thursday, November 7, 2013, Super Typhoon Haiyan struck the Republic of Palau inflicting significant damage to all areas of Koror, Babeldaob, and complete devastation to the State of Kayangel; and

WHEREAS, the initial damage assessments conducted by the National Emergency Committee have reflected the following information:

- The State of Kayangel has suffered total destruction including almost all residences and public facilities being destroyed.
- The State of Kayangel is experiencing full loss of power and water.
- The State of Kayangel has standing sea water over a substantial portion of the island from the storm surges.
- The State of Kayangel has experienced a 100% loss of subsistence farming including but not limited to fruit trees and taro.
- The Islands of Koror and Babeldaob, and have experienced and continue to experience power outages, water delivery failures, and sewage treatment issues.
- The islands of Koror and Babeldaob have sustained substantial property damage.
- Many roads on of Koror and Babeldaob are blocked by debris making accessibility to homes and outlying health centers difficult.
- The islands of Koror and Babeldaob have sustained a 50% loss of subsistence farming including but not limited to fruit trees and taro.
- The Koror jail has sustained damage to one roof which threatens the safety and security of the jail.

- The States of Peleliu and Angaur have sustained less damage according to early reports, however, the airports on each have debris that must be removed in order to allow for safe travel. Further assessment of these states is necessary.
- The disruption of water, power, and sewer services may pose a significant health and safety risk to the residents and visitors of the Republic.

WHEREAS, the National Emergency Committee has coordinated the provision of emergency rescue assistance in the form of fuel to travel to Kayangel to assess damage and bring supplies. State governments and Surangels have assisted in initial debris removal. The Assessment Team of the National Emergency Committee is continuing to gather more detailed information regarding damage and the needs of each of the states of the Republic; and

WHEREAS, the National Government is attempting to restore water, power, and sewer services to the States of the Republic; and

WHEREAS, emergency remedial action is required for the roads, power, water, and sewer systems and provision of supplies; and

WHEREAS, water, power, and sewer service delivery been] have disrupted in some areas and will remain so for the foreseeable future; and.

WHEREAS, all of the foregoing damage and destruction threatens Palau's food supply and poses significant public health issues to all residents and visitors of the Republic of Palau; and

WHEREAS, the National Emergency Committee has recommended that a National State of Emergency be declared; and

WHEREAS, Section 14 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the Republic of Palau provides that:

Whenever war, external aggression, civil rebellion or natural catastrophe threatens the lives or property of a significant number of people in Palau, the President may declare a state of emergency and temporarily assume such legislative powers as may be necessary to afford immediate and specific relief to those lives or property so threatened. At the time of the declaration of a state of emergency, the President shall call a meeting of the Olbiil Era Kelulau to confirm or disapprove the state of emergency. The President shall not exercise emergency powers for a period of more than ten (10) days without the express and continuing consent of the Olbiil Era Kelulau; and

WHEREAS, in light of the catastrophic destruction inflicted on the Republic of Palau by Super Typhoon Haiyan, in the exercise of his constitutional authority, the President has determined that the welfare and well-being and the lives and property of a significant number of people of the Republic of Palau is threatened and will, for the foreseeable future, continue to be threatened;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the President's constitutional authority under Section 14 of Article VIII of the Palau Constitution, the President hereby declares that a National State of Emergency exists and determines that the President must immediately and temporarily assume

such legislative powers as may be necessary to afford immediate and specific relief to those lives or property so threatened; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I Tommy Remengesau Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, hereby declare a National State of Emergency in the Republic of Palau in accordance with Article VIII, Section 14 of the Constitution, and other applicable provisions of law, and during such emergency:

1. The Vice President as the chairman of the National Emergency Committee shall continued to be charged with coordinating efforts among the Ministries, public utilities and public communications to respond to this emergency;
2. Public and private schools in the Republic of Palau (with the exception of schools located in Kayangel) shall be canceled until November 11, 2013. The Director of the Bureau of School Administration, in consultation with Kayangel School personnel shall determine the date when classes may resume in the State of Kayangel;
3. All National Government employees shall report to work on November 11, 2013;
4. The Director of the Bureau of Public Safety may, in consultation with the President and the State Governors, determine if curfews are necessary for times and places other than those presently in effect and order such additional curfew hours;
5. The public's cooperation is requested to conserve water and electricity until further notice, when the water and power delivery lines have been reestablished; and

6. The Minister of Health or his designee is hereby directed to issue announcements regarding health and safety issues regarding the use of water and disposal of waste during this emergency.

NOTICE OF THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER shall be disseminated as rapidly as possible to the public, with public postings and radio announcements.

This Executive Order takes effect immediately and shall continue in effect until confirmed or disapproved by a meeting of the Olbiil Era Kelulau.

PROVIDED FURTHER, pursuant to the President's constitutional authority under Section 14 of Article VIII of the Palau Constitution, the President hereby calls a meeting of the Senate and the House of Delegates of the Ninth Olbiil Era Kelulau to convene at 10:00 a.m., Saturday November 9, 2013, in special session to confirm or disapprove the foregoing Declaration of a State of Emergency.

SO DECLARED at 4:40 p.m., this 8th day of November 2013.

/s/

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President
Republic of Palau