

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 01-08

Declaring "World No Tobacco Day" for the Republic of Palau

WHEREAS, the health of all people is a true measure of a nation's vitality; and

WHEREAS, the health of all Palauans is inseparably linked with the health of people throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, all the nations of the world, acting through the World Health Organization (WHO), which Palau fully supports, are pledged to the goal of health for all; and

WHEREAS, May 31st of each year has been established by the WHO as World No Tobacco Day, an occasion to educate, to encourage increased community involvement, and to focus on the unity of our health concerns; and

WHEREAS, the local theme for 2001 World No Tobacco Day is "Leaders to be are tobacco free"; and

WHEREAS, current prevalence data on Palau's youth indicate that many of our children use tobacco, and that they began at very young ages; and

WHEREAS, World No Tobacco Day stresses the importance of community participation in promoting healthy lifestyles in an effort to reduce tobacco-related diseases and deaths, and the social costs of tobacco use; and

WHEREAS, the creation of an environment that will prevent initiation of tobacco use by children, promote quitting among the adults and youth, and encourage successful permanent abstinence from tobacco use will benefit each and every one of us in the Republic and the generations to come:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, do hereby declare May 31, 2001 as "World No Tobacco Day", emphasizing "Leaders To Be Are Tobacco Free", and urge all citizens to observe and take part in activities designed to advance the prevention of tobacco-related diseases and the use of this deadly drug especially by our children, and encourage participation in the worldwide efforts to attain "Health for All".

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and affixed my seal this 30th day of May 2001 in the State of Koror, Republic of Palau.

/s/

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President of the Republic of Palau