

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 02-27

Recognizing and Endorsing United Nations Resolution 56/8,
Declaring 2002 to be the U.N. Year for Cultural Heritage

WHEREAS, on November 21, 2001, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 56/8, declaring the year 2002 to be the “United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage”; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 56/8 acknowledges the importance of protecting the world cultural tangible and intangible heritage as a common ground for the promotion of mutual understanding and enrichment among cultures and civilizations; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 56/8 calls upon all international actors to intensify their efforts to implement programs, activities, and projects aimed at the promotion and protection of the world cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 56/8 further calls upon all international actors, including members of the private sector, to contribute to and support activities aimed at the promotion and protection of the national and world cultural heritage, including the relevant activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (“UNESCO”); and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Republic of Palau expressly recognizes the unique value of the cultural heritage of the People of Palau and mandates the sustenance, protection and promotion of that cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, the People and Government of Palau believe that preservation of their unique culture and traditions is vital to their ability to grow and develop as a people and as a nation; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing understandings, the People and Government of Palau endorse Resolution 56/8,

NOW, THEREFORE, by the powers vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, I hereby proclaim;

1. The year 2002 shall be, and hereby is, recognized as the “Year for Cultural Heritage” in the Republic of Palau;
2. The Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs shall be, and hereby is, charged with undertaking appropriate activities to promote, protect, and expand awareness of the value of our national and world cultural heritage;
3. All citizens of Palau are encouraged to support and attend the Olechotel Belau Fair as part of the celebration of the “Year for Cultural Heritage”; and

4. In recognition of the United Nations' designation of December 4 as Cultural Heritage Day, all citizens of Palau are encouraged to take special notice of the role our unique culture and traditions play in our daily lives on that day.

Done this 10th Day of October, 2002.

/s/

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