

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 04-98

Establishing an Earth Day for the Republic

WHEREAS, April 22nd is internationally recognized by countries throughout the world as Earth Day to promote knowledge regarding the conservation of the earth's resources and the planetary environment; and

WHEREAS, it is everyone's responsibility as stewards of the earth and its environment to prevent excessive exploitation and depletion of our natural resources; and

WHEREAS, our island environment, both above and below the surface of the ocean, is particularly fragile and our livelihood depends on our environment; and

WHEREAS, sustainable development will assure healthy and improved lifestyles for Palauan citizens today and future generations tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Earth Day is to proclaim a day upon which we will remind ourselves of the importance of taking care of the earth, conserving our natural resources and natural beauty for prosperity's sake; and

WHEREAS, Palau is presently the Number One (1) Underwater Wonder in the World and it is our duty to maintain it for future generations of Palauans and for the world; and

WHEREAS, now that we are experiencing drought as a result of El Nino, we should exert extra effort to conserve our natural resources especially water and to prevent fires throughout the Republic; and

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the Republic of Palau and in the interest of conserving Palau's natural resources for future generations, I hereby declare and proclaim April 22nd of this year as Earth Day in the Republic of Palau.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and affixed my seal this day of April, 1998, in the State of Koror, Republic of Palau.

/s/

Kuniwo Nakamura
President of the Republic of Palau