

## PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 05-97

Proclaiming December 1st as National HIV/AIDS Prevention Day in Palau

WHEREAS, the global spread of HIV infection and AIDS necessitates a worldwide effort to increase communication, education and action to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) observes December 1 of each year as World AIDS Day, a day to expand and strengthen the worldwide effort to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, UNAIDS estimates that 21.8 million people are currently living with HIV/AIDS, with children under the age of 15 years accounting for 830,000 of the cases; and

WHEREAS the 1997 World AIDS Day theme "Give Children Hope in a World with AIDS" (a) urges the world to contemplate the long-term repercussions of the AIDS pandemic, (b) recognizes that everyone can do something about the pandemic through prevention, education and cure HIV/AIDS in the ultimate prospect of minimizing the impact of the epidemic on children, their families and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Palau AIDS Prevention Day provides a local opportunity to focus and learn about HIV infection and AIDS; and

WHEREAS, the Palau National AIDS Committee/Community Planning Group has organized activities, including a youth training and outreach programs on December 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> in our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, by the power vested in me as President of the Republic of Palau by the Constitution and laws of this Republic, I hereby declare and proclaim December 1 st as National HIV/AIDS Prevention Day. All national and state government employees, together with the general public in our island community irrespective of race, religion, sex, age, or national origin, are urged to observe National HIV/AIDS Prevention Day by actively participating in the programs and activities geared to prevent the spread of HIV and thus protect ourselves and our nation.

SO PROCLAIMED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1997, at Koror State, Republic of Palau.

/s/

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Kuniwo Nakamura  
President of the Republic of Palau