

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 06-70

World We Tobacco Day

WHEREAS May 31st of each year has been established by the World Health Organization as World No Tobacco Day in order to focus the world's attention on the devastating costs of tobacco use in the modern world; and

WHEREAS the health of a nation is one true measure of its viability; and

WHEREAS the health of all those living in Palau is inseparably linked with the health of all people throughout the world; and

WHEREAS the 2005 Palau Youth Tobacco Survey revealed that 69% of high school students and 55% of middle school students currently use tobacco in some form; and

WHEREAS all types, names and flavors, mild, light, low tar, full flavor, natural, additive-free, organic are all deadly forms of tobacco; and

WHEREAS the absence of truthful information deprives even well intended people the ability to make health choices; and

WHEREAS this truth about tobacco can empower people to improve their own health, as well as the health of their families, friends and others in their community; and

WHEREAS the tobacco industry continues to put profit before life; and

WHEREAS Palau is a signatory to the W.H.O. Framework Convention on Tobacco Control they paves the way for a better understanding of methods of regulating and controlling tobacco products; and

WHEREAS the purpose for this year's theme "*Tobacco: deadly in any form or disguise*", is to raise awareness about the existence of a great variety of deadly tobacco products in order to help people get accurate information, remove the disguise and unveil this truth behind tobacco products, traditional, new and future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, do hereby declare May 31st, 2006, as WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY in Palau and urge everyone to take part in observance and activities on this day and throughout the year designed to advance the cause of tobacco use prevention and control.

SO PROCLAIMED this 31st day of May 2006 at Koror State, Republic of Palau.

/s/

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