

## **PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 09-93**

*Declaring November 29<sup>th</sup> - December 4<sup>th</sup> as National Aids Prevention Week in Palau*

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the United Nations through a resolution has proclaimed Wednesday, December 1, 1991, WORLD AIDS DAY; and

WHEREAS, in observing WORLD AIDS DAY, the United Nations urged countries around the globe to conduct educational programs geared toward public awareness of Aids such as;

1. What Aids is:

AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) is the end of stage of infection with the human immune deficiency virus, HIV. A person infected with HIV may look healthy for many years, but he or she can still transmit the virus to someone else. In adults, AIDS takes an average of 10 years to develop. We know that HIV is transmitted in only three ways:

- a) through unprotected sexual intercourse with an infected partner
- b) through infected blood or blood products
- c) from an infected mother to her baby before, during or shortly after birth (perinatal transmission).

2. Information and Education are Vital:

Until medical research finds a cure for AIDS or a vaccine to prevent infection, we must rely on changes in personal behavior to prevent the spread of HIV. Information and education are therefore vital in the fight against AIDS.

3. Aids Threatens Us All:

Aids recognizes no boundaries of race, sex class or age. No one is immune, and no one will remain untouched in the years to come as AIDS threatens entire communities and changes the patterns of daily life for everyone.

4. Sharing the Challenge:

Because AIDS is a global problem, it can only be stopped in one country if it is stopped in all countries. Working together--pooling our efforts, resources and imagination--gives us the best chance of bringing the pandemic under control.

5. We can all work on preventing the spread of AIDS:

You can contribute to stopping AIDS by making sure that you understand the facts about

AIDS and helping others to do the same. WORLD AIDS DAY is a special opportunity every year to focus attention on this urgent problem that affects us all, and to join forces to meet the challenge. It is marked around the world by thousands of different events designed to increase awareness, and to express solidarity and compassion. This WORLD AIDS DAY--and every day--you can join the worldwide effort "TO STOP AIDS"; and

WHEREAS, the PALAU NATIONAL AIDS COMMITTEE has organized a program to observe WORLD AIDS DAY on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, with walk-a-thons, poster contests, speeches, and other activities; and

WHEREAS, said PALAU NATIONAL AIDS COMMITTEE has already launched educational and awareness programs through WSZB Radio Broadcast, school visitation;

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 November 29 - December 04, as NATIONAL AIDS PREVENTION WEEK in Palau. 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 WORLD AIDS DAY by actively participating in the programs and activities geared to prevent AIDS and HIV and thus protect ourselves and our nation.

SO DECLARED, PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED this 29<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1993, at Koror State, Republic of Palau.

/s/

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Kuniwo Nakamura  
President of the Republic of Palau