

## PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 10-32

*Declaring this December 3, 2010  
As the International Day of Persons with Disabilities*

### **“Keeping the promise: Mainstreaming disability in the Millennium Development Goals towards 2015 and beyond”**

**WHEREAS**, over 750 children and adults in the Palauan communities have some form of physical, mental and other disability; and

**WHEREAS**, many of these challenged community members have struggled to achieve their full potential as self-sufficient and contributing members of their communities for the well-being of the Republic; and

**WHEREAS**, the various Ministries of the government provide programs to help and assist persons with disabilities while national laws by the Republic of Palau have been created to protect persons with disabilities to ensure their rights to better lives and opportunities however, recognize the need to further strengthen and improve their inclusions between our communities as a whole in all aspects of our society towards Persons with Disability; and

**WHEREAS**, many commitments have been made by the international development community including the Republic of Palau to include persons with disability in all aspects of development including with goals of MDG however, the gap between policy and practice continues; and

**WHEREAS**, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) cannot be fully achieved without the inclusion of persons with disabilities, as the current track toward the achievement of the MDGs needs to improve for the commitment towards persons with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the persistent and cumulative impact of the multiple global crises threatens the progress made toward the achievement of the MDGs that has a disproportionate and negative impact on persons with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, persons with disabilities represent key target groups in all the MDGs, therefore, Palau must ensure its role and partnership in actions and work towards the disability and the concerns of persons with disabilities so that it will strengthen its goals and obligations to persons with disabilities and to ensure that such progress are inclusion to MDG processes and mechanisms - improving the representation and impact on the progress in the achievement of the MDGs; and

**WHEREAS**, governments, global leaders, policy-makers and other stakeholders acknowledge the need for disability-inclusive development, they must be supported in their efforts and be reminded to keep their promises; and

**WHEREAS**, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities – 3 December 2010 -- can be used for this purpose to further ensure the full and effective participation of persons with disability in all aspects of societal life and development; and

**Now, therefore, I, Johnson Toribiong, President of the Republic of Palau, do hereby designate December 3, 2010 as “International Day of Persons with Disabilities.”** In doing so, I call on all the People of Palau to observe December 3<sup>rd</sup> as National Day of Persons with Disabilities with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities and to recognize fellow citizens with disabilities to be full and able members of our community and our society.

SO PROCLAIMED this     1<sup>st</sup>     day of     December    , 20 10 in the Republic of Palau.

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/s/  
Johnson Toribiong  
President of the Republic of Palau