

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 11-94

Declaring November 28-December 3 as National HIV/AIDS Prevention Week in Palau

WHEREAS, WORLD AIDS DAY is on December 1, 1994; 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

