

## **Presidential Proclamation No. 12-62**

### ***Commemorating the First Anniversary of the March 2011 Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan and Remembering its Victims***

On March 11, 2011, untold thousands perished on the east coast of Japan, after an earthquake of rare and fearsome magnitude and the devastating tsunami that followed. All of us in Palau were horrified and deeply saddened by the death, destruction, and immeasurable suffering endured by the people of Japan in that disaster and its aftermath. Because of Palau's historical ties with Japan, Palauans felt a special sense of sympathy for the people of Japan, and stood in solidarity with them in their time of need.

A year has now passed since this terrible event occurred. It is fitting and proper for the government and people of Palau to take a moment to remember those who lost their lives, and to reaffirm our thoughts and prayers for those who survived that dark day. It is appropriate, also, for us to declare our confidence in the courage and resilience of the people of Japan, qualities that will ensure their success in their ongoing efforts to recover and rebuild.

Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, I, Johnson Toribiong, President of the Republic of Palau, hereby proclaim March 11, 2012 a National Day of Remembrance for the victims of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan; and order that, as a display of the respect and sympathy of the people of Palau, all flags regularly flown within the jurisdiction of the Republic, and all flags of the Republic flown at its embassies, consulates, missions, and liaison offices in other countries, shall be flown at half-mast on March 11, 2012.

**SO PROCLAIMED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2012, at the Republic of Palau.

/s/

---

Johnson Toribiong  
President  
Republic of Palau