

Presidential Proclamation No. 12-65

Declaring April 22, 2012 Earth Day - “Sustainability: Be a Part of the Solution”

WHEREAS, April 22nd is internationally recognized as Earth Day to promote understanding of the need to conserve the Earth’s resources and planetary environment; and

WHEREAS, it is everyone’s responsibility, as stewards of the Planet Earth and its environment, to prevent excessive exploitation and depletion of our natural resources; and

WHEREAS, our island environment is very fragile and our future livelihood dependent on its preservation; and

WHEREAS, Palau has made tremendous strides with regard to land use planning, energy efficiency, protected areas management, climate change mitigation and adaptation, watershed management, and food security towards nation-wide sustainable development; and

WHEREAS, sustainable development will help today’s Palauans achieve their desired economic goals and lifestyles while protecting the natural resources that support Palau’s future growth and uphold its cultural principles; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Earth Day is to remind ourselves of the importance of managing the Earth as well as our natural resources and unique beauty for the sake of future health and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, collaborative efforts between the leaders of today and tomorrow is encouraged to stimulate actions to sustain our environment from our ridges to our reefs; and

WHEREAS, all Palauans are encouraged to take those personal and community actions necessary to enhance and preserve our natural environment and to participate in Earth Day activities; and

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WHEREAS, this year’s Earth Day theme is “Sustainability: Be a Part of the Solution”, recognizing the need to identify and implement sustainable land, natural resources and energy management practices that can be achieved by every man, woman and child to promote the continued services and function of our natural resources for future generations;

WHEREAS, the Republic of Palau is committed with the International Community as a member of the United Nations with the objectives set forth on the upcoming RIO+20, 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development and to achieve the goals of its themes towards “Green Economy in the context of Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development”, and towards developing “Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development” and furthermore, commits and supports 2012 International Year of Sustainable Energy for All.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the Republic of Palau, and in the interest of safeguarding Palau’s natural resources for future generations, I hereby proclaim 22 April 2012 as Earth Day in the Republic of Palau, with activities to be scheduled on the 22nd of April 2012 and to be coordinated by the Earth Day Committee as chaired by the Palau Environmental Quality Protection Board.

SO PROCLAIMED this 17th day of April 2012 at Koror, Republic of Palau.

/s/

Johnson Toribiong
President
Republic of Palau