

## **Presidential Directive No. 09-04**

*Declaring a Freeze on Government Travel, Hiring of New Employees and All Purchases Using Funds From Local Revenue Accounts*

**WHEREAS**, it has become apparent that due to the effects of the global economic crisis, declining revenue collections and a myriad of other contributing factors, it is projected that the Republic of Palau will face significant shortfalls at the end of this Fiscal Year; and

**WHEREAS**, we have undertaken cost cutting measures and have made every effort to reduce expenditures to endure this common trend of decline experienced by many of our nearby Pacific neighbors and larger economies throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, it has become evident that more severe and decisive actions must be taken to counter this trend of decline and ensure continued delivery of essential public service and maintain employment for our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Minister of Finance has provided relevant figures to confirm these conclusions and has made appropriate recommendations to the President on immediate actions that need to be taken;

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the powers vested in me by the Constitution, Laws, and Rules and Regulations of the Republic of Palau, I HEREBY DIRECT THAT

1. Executive Branch Ministries and Agencies shall restrict all hiring that require the use of funds derived from local revenue accounts.
2. Executive Branch Ministries and Agencies shall restrict all government travel that requires use of funds derived from local revenue accounts with the exception of those deemed immediately essential by the President.
3. Executive Branch Ministries and Agencies shall restrict all purchases requiring the use of funds derived from local revenue accounts with the exception of those deemed immediately essential by the President.

SO ORDERED THIS 22th DAY OF TUNE, 2009.

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/s/  
Johnson Toribiong  
President of the Republic of Palau