

**JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ  
OF THE SEVENTH MICRONESIA  
PRESIDENTS' SUMMIT  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2007**

***The Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the  
Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau***

The Presidents of the Federated States of Micronesia ("FSM"), the Republic of the Marshall Islands ("RMI") and the Republic of Palau ("Palau") held their Seventh Presidents' Summit in the State of Chuuk, the Federated States of Micronesia on September 5, 2007 to discuss matters of common interest. The meeting confirms the firm and strong commitment developed in the first six meetings of the three Presidents to establish closer ties and to communicate on national, regional, and global issues of importance to the three nations.

President Emanuel Mori extended a warm welcome to President Kessai H. Note, and President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. and members of their delegations on behalf of the FSM. President Note and President Remengesau expressed their appreciation to President Mori for hosting the 7<sup>th</sup> Micronesia Presidents' Summit in the FSM, and to the leadership and the people of the FSM, particularly the State of Chuuk for the generous hospitality extended to their delegations. The Governor of the host State of Chuuk, T.H. Wesley Simina, also made remarks welcoming the Presidents to Chuuk State.

**Quarantine Standardization:**

During the 1<sup>st</sup> Micronesia Presidents Summit, the three governments agreed, "to harmonize the quarantine laws and regulations" across the region to facilitate technical cooperation and trade. Senior quarantine officials from the three jurisdictions (including participants from Guam, CNMI, UOG and SPC) met in Guam in November 2006 and recommended that each entity undertake pest/disease surveys and update pest listings; that each entity increase institutional capacity to effectively monitor harmonization of quarantine program(s); and that each entity facilitate sub-regional quarantine training in the Micronesian region. The Secretariat of the Pacific Community was identified as a technical partner to lead the survey. Activities undertaken thus far include Quarantine officers' training, including awareness of invasive species (pathways, prevention and eradication), a non-tariff facilitation workshop convened to explore cooperative and collaborative opportunities (quarantine protocol for movement of agricultural produce between/among the three countries established), the development of a model Biosecurity law and the undertaking of Avian Pandemic Exercises. With the assistance of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, a Pest Disease Survey was undertaken and completed in Yap State; a veterinarian has been recruited and is currently based at SPC Regional Office in Kolonia, Pohnpei; a quarantine protocol for movement of agricultural produce between the three countries has been developed, and a Standard Operation

Procedures (SOPs) for emergency response has been developed and is currently being utilized to control invasive species (i.e., brown tree snake).

Recognizing the important of the matter, and noting the positive progress made thus far on quarantine harmonization and standardization, the Presidents agree to direct their respective quarantine authorities to continue to encourage for the need of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) to continue to provide technical assistance to the Micronesia region, particularly on the urgent need to complete the Pest and Disease Survey. The Presidents further expressed their appreciation for the SPC's valuable assistance to the Micronesian region. The Presidents also agreed to direct their quarantine authorities to continue to expedite harmonization of quarantine laws and regulations and to continue efforts to secure the necessary funding support to upgrade the capacities of respective quarantine offices. To support this effort, the Presidents recommended the exploration of potential technical assistance to support such upgrade, to expedite the necessary requirement for the development of biosecurity systems, and the expansion of funding resources for the development of programs in support of the eradication of invasive species.

The Presidents also agreed to endorse the need for a timely identification and confirmation of animal-borne diseases (i.e., avian flu). Additionally, the 4 Presidents agree to jointly lobbying with the US Government to allow FAS Quarantine Services to send specimens for identification/verifications to its laboratories (i.e., Guam and Hawaii military laboratories, and to have each entity's respective JCM's to work together to pursue this matter with the US.

As in last year's Summit, President Remengesau invited the FSM and the RMI to join the Micronesia Regional Invasive Species Council (RISC), stating that the issue of invasive species was an issue that needed to be dealt with at the regional and sub-regional level. The Presidents of the FSM and the RMI noted the invitation and indicated that they would pursue such membership at the national and state level prior to the next Summit

### **The Micronesia Challenge:**

The Micronesia Challenge (MC) declaration was signed by five governments The FSM, Palau, The RMI, Guam and the CNMI) in 2006 and declared internationally at side event to Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Curitiba, Brazil in March 2006. Generally, the five governments declared to "effectively conserve at least 30% of the near-shore and 20% of forest resources across Micronesia by 2020.

During the 2006 Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Leaders Meetings in Nadi, Fiji, the FSM, the RMI and Palau announced the Micronesian Commitment to the region. The member countries of the PIF agreed to support the Challenge, to support the development of similar commitments to conservation, to invite regional and international development partners to support these efforts and directed that work be undertaken to develop appropriate mechanisms for long-term financing. Major accomplishments thus far include The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) and Conservation International's (CI) pledge

and the Global Environment Facility's (GEF) commitment of \$6 million to match these commitments and a pledge to assist in leveraging an additional \$6 million matching from international donors.

In December 2006, the Micronesia Challenge Action Planning Meeting was held in Palau and recommendations were developed, which the Presidents agree to endorse, as follows:

- The establishment of a Steering Committee, comprised of a focal point from each of the jurisdictions and one representative of the Micronesia Challenge Support Team and including participation by a representative of the Micronesia Challenge endowment
- The recruitment of a regional coordinator and support staff in accordance with agreed terms of reference and a preliminary budget of up to USD200,000 per annum to be financed through contributions by each jurisdiction on an equal basis and fundraising from partners. The jurisdictions approved the recommendation to house the regional coordinating office in the ROP after the FSM withdrew their offer to house the coordinator in a show support of the ROP.
- An annual report on progress to implement the Micronesia Challenge by the Chair of the Steering Committee to the Chief Executives
- The development of a regional fundraising strategy in coordination with national strategies for public and private funds to support the Challenge including joint action to maximize access to GEF funds through a high-level meeting.
- The Micronesia Conservation Trust to house a single endowment in support of the Challenge and that further consultations will be held to finalize the process and procedures to the satisfaction of each of the jurisdictions and donors
- Each jurisdiction of the Micronesia Challenge to take the appropriate steps to institutionalize the Challenge, including engaging traditional and community leaders, support for a Regional Communication Specialist and the implementation of outreach and marketing strategies at regional, national and jurisdictional level.

The Presidents also agreed to support the use of the funding assistance from Turkey, earmarked to support the implementation of the MC, to the FSM / RMI / Palau for the implementation of the regional coordination office of the Micronesia Challenge, and further agreed to sign a joint appreciation letter to the Government of Turkey for the assistance. It was noted that additional funding from TNC / CI / NOAA and DOI to support funding of the office is anticipated.

The Presidents also expressed their appreciation to the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and other regional CROP Agencies for their support of the implementation of the MC, and noted and support the discussion of the MC in the upcoming SIS Leaders Meeting in Tonga pursuant to the recommendations made in 2006.

The Presidents noted with appreciation the \$6 million commitments from GEF to support the MC, as well as the larger regional commitment of the \$100 million directed towards conservation in the Pacific, and agreed to sign a joint letter of appreciation to GEF.

### **Fuel (bulk purchasing of petroleum):**

During the 2005 Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting, Forum Leaders rendered the endorsement for the Small Islands State Initiative on Bulk Procurement of Petroleum Products given the increase of fuel throughout the Pacific Region. The seriousness of the matter led the Forum Leaders to call for a meeting of Forum Energy Ministers which was held in the Cook Islands in April 2007, and recommendations were put forth by the Ministers to have the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat undertake immediate exploration on this regional bulk fuel procurement purchasing initiative and a Framework Agreement was proposed for implementation.

At the sub-regional level, the 2006 Micronesia Presidents' Summit rendered a directive for the three entities to undertake all necessary actions to combat the rise in fuel prices and, to the extent possible, minimize dependence on fossil fuel by exploring renewable energy options. Subsequently, the APIL, through its Resolution No. 25-GA-01, CDI, also rendered its concern on the need to address this urgent matter by establishing a taskforce to develop a regional fuel plan in efforts to explore ways of reducing fuel prices.

Given the urgency of the matter, the Presidents supported and endorsed ongoing sub-regional efforts for bulk purchasing of petroleum as well as the Regional Bulk Purchasing Fuel Procurement Initiative and Framework Agreement agreed to by the Forum Leaders in their October meeting. This Forum Leaders agreed to push for urgent technical support from the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and donor countries to assist in the implementation of this bulk purchasing of petroleum initiative, particularly for the FSM/RMI/Palau. The Presidents further directed respective energy offices to explore possibilities of having one fuel market through execution of a synchronized fuel supply arrangement for the FSM/RMI/Palau with one fuel supplier. In addition, the Presidents directed that their respective energy offices work with partners, such as the Pacific Power Association and the Forum Secretariat to collaborate on renewable energy initiatives to lessen the dependence on fossil fuel. In line with this directive, the Presidents further directed the energy offices to develop a joint report to submit to the next Summit.

The Presidents also expressed their appreciation to the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and Pacific Power Association for the continued assistance in providing technical assistance to support efforts to secure ownership of the storage facilities.

### **Extradition Treaties and Laws:**

The Presidents signed an Extradition Treaty at the Sixth Presidents' Summit. Since the signing, only the RMI has ratified the treaty. The Presidents of the FSM and Palau agreed to work with their respective legislatures to gain ratification of the treaty.





### **Labor and Immigration:**

During the 2006 Summit, the Presidents received a proposal from the Republic of the Marshall Islands for the harmonization of immigration and labor law and regulations among the three countries, with a focus on work permits. The Presidents supported this concept and directed their respective authorities to explore this matter and report back in the 2007 Summit.

Progress reports were made by each country and, taking into account their different compact agreements with the United States, the Presidents agree to continue to pursue harmonization. In this light, the Presidents directed their respective legal officers to work together to develop a model law and, if necessary treaty, for presentation at the 2008 Summit. The Presidents also directed respective AGs to explore technical assistance from regional organizations to facilitate this drafting effort.

### **Reauthorization of Airport Improvement Program (AIP):**

At the Sixth President's Summit, the Presidents jointly signed a letter to President Bush seeking extended eligibility for the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), which expires on September 30, 2007. The extension of the Program is essential for the continued improvement of the airports of the three countries. This letter is in line with and parallel to efforts made through U.S. Embassies to reauthorize the Program. Through these efforts, a bill is currently pending before the U.S. Congress which, if approved and signed by the President, will insure our continued eligibility of the AIP program.

Considering the importance of this reauthorization, the Presidents noted the progress made thus far to gain reauthorization and directed their respective embassies and authorities to continue to work together with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to ensure that the proposed bill language is supported and favorably considered in the next session of the US Congress.

The Presidents also agreed to sign a follow-up letter to the United States Government seeking passage of Bill.

### **Full Restoration of Pell Grant, SEOG, and Workstudy:**

The Presidents noted that funding for essential educational program, including Pell Grants, Work Study and SEOG grants in the three countries were pending before the U.S. in various Senate and House Bills. The President's further noted that time is running out for the timely passage of these bills to avoid a potentially catastrophic impact on educational programs in Palau, the FSM and the RMI.

The Presidents therefore agree to continue to work together through their U.S. Embassies in Washington D.C. to gain passage of the necessary laws to continue grant funding. The Presidents also agreed to jointly sign a letter to members of the U.S. Congress reminding them of the critical nature of the pending legislation and the need for immediate passage.

### **Postal Service Issues:**

Under the amended Compact of Free Associations for the FSM and the RMI, the U.S. Postal Service initiated a transition of Micronesia mail service status from 'domestic' to 'foreign' or 'international'.

Under the new compacts, mail bound for the FSM and the RMI from the U.S. is now considered international destination mail, and is charged at a significantly higher international rate. In addition, the FSM and the RMI have lost access to numerous special postal services. These changes in postal services and rates have been detrimental to our national postal systems, and have provided many difficulties for both FSM and RMI. Even Palau has begun to feel the impacts of inferior mail service despite the fact that they are still considered to be a domestic jurisdiction under their original Compact.

In addition, the contract between the U.S. Postal Service and Continental Airlines mandating a certain level of delivery service of U.S. postage to FAS states is scheduled to expire on October 12, 2007.

At the Sixth Presidents' Summit the Presidents directed their Post Masters to work with the U.S. Postal Services to gain the reinstatement of the special services, to re-mandate the prior quality of delivery service through Continental Airlines. The Presidents noted very positive results since the Sixth Summit, including the reinstatement of numerous special services and the signing of the transportation contract between the Postal Service and Continental Airlines. The Presidents directed their respective authorities to continue to work with USPS on full reinstatement of special service.

The Presidents of the FSM and the RMI further noted that Palau has rendered its full support to the efforts of the FSM and RMI.

The Presidents agreed to sign a letter expression their sincere appreciation to the United States Postal Service, particularly Mr. Paul Vogel, Head of the International Department of the United States Postal Service, for his efforts and assistance in reinstating the special services and in securing the transportation contract with Continental Airlines.

### **Prior Service Program:**

Funding for Prior Service benefits in the FSM, The RMI and Palau is sufficient only through December 2007. As in the past, the U.S. Congress has included, in an annual Department of Interior appropriation, funds for prior service benefits in fiscal year 2008.

The Presidents indicated their preference that the U.S. Congress completely fund the Prior Service Program rather than their current practice of funding the program on an annual basis. The Presidents directed their respective missions in Washington D.C. to continue their collective lobbying efforts with the U.S. Government (Department of Interior) to ensure continuity of the funds for the Prior Service program, taking into account their preference for a final funding solution.

Taking this into account, , the Presidents agreed to sign a letter to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior urgently requesting funding for Fiscal Year 2008 and further requesting the exploration of a long-term funding solution for the program.

### **The Pacific Plan:**

The Pacific Plan is a development framework for the Pacific region endorsed by regional leaders in the 2005 Pacific Islands Forum Leaders meeting held in Papua New Guinea in October 2005. The Plan aims to deliver short, medium and long-term benefits to the people of the Pacific by proposing concrete development plans based on the four key pillars of (1) Economic Growth, (2) Sustainable development (3). Good governance and (4) Security.

Under each pillar, there are identified targeted development programs/initiatives provided by member countries through a series of national consultations undertaken by the Forum Secretariat and others.

The Presidents reiterated their support for the Pacific Plan, and noted the progress of the implementation of the Pacific Plan at the regional, sub-regional and national levels and directed their respective authorities to work together and identify Pacific Plan Initiatives that are best implemented at the sub-regional level, as opposed to the national level, and agree to jointly support for the implementation of such sub-regional initiatives in regional meetings.

### **Maritime Boundaries:**

In the Sixth Presidents' Summit, the Presidents signed appropriate maritime boundary treaties between the three countries.

The Presidents noted the present progress in ratifying the treaty by each country and encouraged the expeditious ratification of the Treaty by parties that have yet to ratify at the earliest opportunity and the deposit of the treaties with the United Nations.

### **Okinawa Partnership:**

During the last PALM meeting in Okinawa, the Leaders issued a declaration entitled "*Okinawa Partnership for a more robust and prosperous Pacific Region*". This is a visionary document proposed by the host government of Japan and agreed to by all Leaders from both the Pacific island countries and Japan. The Partnership realigned Japan's assistance plan to target key development areas such as trade, investment, infrastructure, fisheries, tourism, environment, health, water and sanitation, education and vocational training, administrative capacity building and institutional capacity building to support good governance, disaster mitigation and management, and measures against organized crime, and People-to-People communication and exchange. The Japanese committed \$400 million to the partnership access to which is gained through grant application.

In the 2006 Summit, the Presidents rendered a directive for a joint exploration of projects that may be funded under this initiative on a sub-regional basis. This is to ensure that the three countries benefit this initiative at the maximum level.

The Presidents agree to direct their respective Embassies in Japan to work collectively together and engage actively with the Government of Japan to ensure that development programs under the Partnership are implemented in the three countries to ensure maximum benefit, and to direct their respective foreign affairs and economic development authorities to jointly explore possible cross-cutting projects that may be considered for implementation under the Okinawa Partnership Initiatives.

### **Maritime Surveillance Operation:**

The three Micronesian countries, Palau, the FSM and the RMI signed the subsidiary agreement under the Nuiie Treaty in 2002, thus paving a way for Joint Maritime Surveillance activities in efforts to provide effective surveillance of our Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs).

The recent operation was Operation RAI BALANG, which was held from August 5-21, 2007 in the waters of FSM and Palau with aerial support from the US Navy P3 Aircrafts, and funding support from the Government of Australia. The Operation ended with the arrest of two foreign fishing vessels. In the pipeline, two others operations are being planned to take place in latter part of this year.

The Presidents noted the progress of the Maritime Surveillance Operations, and the success and achievements of the recently concluded operation RAI BALANG. The Presidents also encouraged the assistance from the participating nations (Kiribati, PNG, the U.S. (Navy and Coast Guard), New Zealand (Air Force) and, most especially, the Government of Australia and its Australian Defense Force for their continued financial and technical support to the operations. The Presidents endorsed the continuation of future operations, and also agreed to sign a letter to the Government of the United States to request funding assistance to support the operation costs of the surveillance operations, particularly fuel costs.

### **Deep Sea Bottom Trawling:**

At the Sixth Micronesian Presidents' Summit, the three Presidents expressed support for a temporary moratorium on deep sea bottom trawling in the Pacific Region. The Presidents further agree to pursue this issue before the Pacific Islands' Forum and at international level.

Subsequently at the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Pacific Islands' Forum in Nadi, Fiji, the PIF leaders made a declaration on deep sea bottom trawling to protect biodiversity on the high seas (Nadi Declaration). The PIF leaders declaration identifies a strong commitment by all forum member countries to urgently take actions to prevent fishing practices on sea mounts in the Western Pacific Tropical Island Area (WTPIA) and to prevent destructive fisheries practices areas of high seas in WTPIA.



In addition, the declaration calls on all Forum Member Countries to advocate for an interim conservation and management measures in areas where regional fisheries management organizations negotiations are being undertaken. In absence of such interim prohibition on destructive fishing practices, the Declaration calls upon countries to advocate for an interim prohibition on destructive fishing practices, including bottom trawling, beginning August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 (until such measures are in place).

Taking these positive regional actions into consideration, the President's agreed to continue to support, at the regional and international level, a temporary moratorium on destructive fishing practices, including bottom trawling.

### **Trans-Pacific Fiber Optic Cable:**

The Presidents received a presentation from the RMI on behalf of the FSM and the RMI regarding the proposed Trans-Pacific Fiber Optic Cable. Due to recent difficulties, the proposed cable construction will be delayed, possibly until 2007 with an anticipated completion in 2008 at a cost of approximately \$67 million. The U.S. military will pay for most of the project. One cable will extend from Guam, with two branching units, one to Pohnpei and one to Majuro. The two countries will be responsible for paying \$20 million of the total cost.

### **Regional Trade Related Issues (PICTA/PACER/EPA)**

For regional trade related issues, the Presidents noted the PICTA, PACER and EPA, and recognized the need for the three countries to cooperate closely on trade implementation including the imminent negotiations on PICTA trade in services, the needs to work together on implementing the Regional Trade Facilitation Programme (RTFP, which deals with standards and conformance, food standards, customs automation and quarantine issues, and the need to work together as the 'Micronesian block' prior to the Trade Meetings and formulate a 'sub-regional position' on the issues of mutual interests.

The Presidents also recognized the need for the three countries to consult with the U.S. on how they can deepen their trade relations and integrate the development dimension *inter-alia* through the provision of Aid for Trade to assist with development their export capacity, and the need to collaborate with the U.S. on non-tariff barriers and other issues affecting trade, including transportation. The Presidents also noted the need to enter into consultations with the U.S. and request a waiver from their MFN Compact obligations to allow them to enter into EPA and PACER without incurring major tariff revenue loss. The Forum Secretariat was noted as a source of assistance for technical assistance and advice on these matters.

Lastly, the Presidents directed their respective trade authorities to explore the possibility of establishing a Micronesian Trade Committee comprising of trade representatives from the three countries to collaboratively explore, review and submit policy recommendations on trade-related issues, such as PICTA, EPA, and PACER, including trade consultation with the U.S. This would provide assistance to the three

countries to pool resources and collaborate on key trade issues that will be discussed at the regional level.

### **Regional Crime Lab:**

During the 2006 Micronesian Presidents' Summit, the Presidents expressed their support for Guam's efforts to establish a regional crime lab to be based in Guam. Major developments have occurred since then with the ground breaking of the \$5.9 million project slated for the latter part of 2007 and anticipated for completion in October 2008.

The Guam Police Department has agreed to take the initiative in establishing the first regional crime lab in the Micronesia region that will be available for utilization by law enforcement agencies throughout Micronesia. Under the proposed arrangement, Palau, the FSM and the RMI would be able to not only use, but to also provide personnel support towards the operation of the crime laboratory.

The Presidents noted with anticipation the major progress of the regional crime lab in Guam, and conveyed their appreciation and congratulation to the Government of Guam for such great efforts in establishing the first Micronesian Crime Lab in the Micronesian region. The Presidents also directed respective law enforcement entities to continue to monitor its progress and assist where appropriate.

### **Changed Circumstances Petition:**

The Presidents once again reiterated their full support of the ongoing process regarding the 'Changed Circumstances Petition' submitted by the Republic of the Marshall Islands in 2001, pursuant to Section 177 of its the Compact of Free Association, to adequately address the issue of additional compensation for populations affected by the nuclear testing program. The Presidents further agree to support the Republic of the Marshall Islands to progressing regional support of the CCP in the upcoming Pacific Island Leaders meeting in Tonga.

### **Regional Institutional Framework:**

The Presidents noted the Regional Institutional Framework (RIF) proposal for a three-pillared regional institutional arrangement, namely the Forum Secretariat, the Pacific Community and Academic and Training Institutions such as the Fiji School of Medicine and the University of the South Pacific. Under the amalgamation proposal other regional CROP agencies, namely SOPAC, FFA, and SPREP would be lumped under the Secretariat of the Pacific Community. It stipulates that "In this framework, the Pacific Islands Forum and its secretariat would remain essentially unchanged (some functions of the FFA would be assimilated) but PIFS' core business would be more clearly defined, the other major technical agencies would be folded into one secretariat under the governance of the existing Secretariat of the Pacific Community..."

Noting previous regional discussions of the proposed regional institutional framework and the work undertaken thus far by the RIF Task Force, the Presidents agree to direct their respective authorities to jointly work together to explore the matter in detail and

determine joint positions prior to the upcoming Forum Leaders Meeting to be held in the Kingdom of Tonga.

### **Micronesia's Joint Representation in Europe:**

The Presidents agree to direct their respective entities responsible for Foreign Affairs to jointly explore, with the Forum Secretariat, ways to effectively utilize the Forum arrangement and its services in Brussels to maximize benefits to the three countries, and report updates in the 2008 Summit. The Presidents also agreed to jointly discuss and explore the offer from the Government of Austria to share cost for a Pacific Islands Forum States Office to be based in Vienna and report updates in the 2008 Summit. The Presidents also rendered a directive to jointly discuss and explore an arrangement to utilize the same Honorary Consul in Europe or contract an individual on a cost sharing arrangement, and provide updates from time to time.

### **Montreal Protocol (FSM's Amendment):**

The Montreal Protocol (MP) addresses substances that deplete the Ozone Layer, hence, its name Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. It is the subsidiary agreement to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, both of which enjoy greater ownership and membership in the international community.

The Montreal Protocol has been touted for its substantial success in protecting the ozone compared with the Kyoto Protocol, a related environmental subsidiary treaty to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Recently, there has been an effort to propose accelerating the phase-out of certain substances that affect the ozone, specifically the accelerated freeze and phase-out reduction of halochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) which cause greater damage to the ozone layer.

Nine member parties proposed six adjustments or amendments to the Protocol, one by FSM. While the amendments aimed at strengthening the MP, they are substantively different in the reduction percentage amounts and timing of reduction. There is also different in emphasis of the benefits to the environment, especially the issues of ozone depletion and climate change.

The gist of the FSM amendment provides for the dual objective of addressing recovery of the ozone layer and climate change. It calls for a freeze in 2016 and a phase-reduction of HCFCs until year 2040 for developing countries and 2030 for developed countries. It also calls for permission of special and critical uses in various sectors like health and security while allowing financial assistance out of the Protocol's Multilateral Fund for parties who experience difficulties in meeting phase-out costs. The proposal also encourages alternatives and substitutes for HCFCs, promotes energy efficiency and transfer of environment-friendly technology as ways to address ozone depleting substances used by parties.



The Presidents of the RMI and Palau directed their appropriate environmental staff to review the FSM proposal and to notify the FSM regarding potential support prior to the next meeting on the proposed amendments.

### **Public Safety Training (Micronesia Public Safety Academy):**

The Presidents noted the establishment of the Micronesian Public Safety Academy in the FSM (Pohnpei State) in July 2007, and encourage their respective law enforcement authorities to explore ways that respective academies can collaboratively work together for possible joint law enforcement ventures. The Presidents support the need for a recruitment course for Palau, the FSM, and the RMI and directed their respective law enforcement authorities to explore funding opportunities to provide technical and/or funding to support their respective academies. The Pacific Plan was seen as a possible source of technical assistance. Given the importance of such ventures in providing security, the Presidents expressed their appreciation to the Government of Australia for their continued support in such important undertaking.

### **Micronesia Transnational Crime Unit:**

The Pacific Transnational Crime Network (PTCN) is an initiative that provides a proactive, transnational criminal intelligence and investigative capability to Pacific region law enforcement agencies. It is a law enforcement network that includes police, customs, and immigration officers and comprises Transnational Crime Units (TCUs) in Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, and soon to be FSM.

The PTCN also includes the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Center (PTCCC), which was established in Suva in June 2004 to coordinate, exploit and disseminate the law enforcement intelligence produced by the TCUs, and to provide for the exchange, sharing and integrity of law enforcement information and intelligence.

A major objective of the TCU in combating transnational crime in the Pacific region is to expand the program to the Micronesian region. A Micronesia regional TCU is being established in Pohnpei in the Federated States of Micronesia and will be operational in September 2007.

The Presidents noted the major progress in establishing the Micronesian Transnational Crime Unit to be based in the FSM (Pohnpei), and expressed their appreciation to the Government of Australia and the United States for continued technical and funding assistance provided to support the establishment of the Unit. The Presidents also encouraged their respective law enforcement authorities to continue to explore other technical sources that can be used to support the Unit and its programs.

### **International Declaration of Reef Rights:**

Recognizing that 2008 is the International Year of the Coral Reefs and in line with the commitments made through the Micronesia Challenge and the commitment of the three countries to take all actions necessary to combat global warming, the Presidents endorse and signed the International Declaration of Reef Rights.

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### **Micronesian /SPC Regional Office in the FSM:**

On January 19, 2006, the FSM signed an agreement with the SPC to establish a regional office in the FSM. The development of the office is progressing positively on a two-year time frame. This expansion of the current office in the FSM would result in more programs becoming available for the northern members.

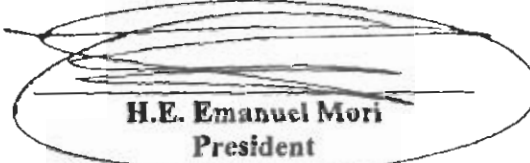
Noting the strong interest and commitment from SPC to strengthen and expand the Micronesian / SPC Office, the Presidents expressed their joint support of this effort.

### **Military-Build-up in Guam:**

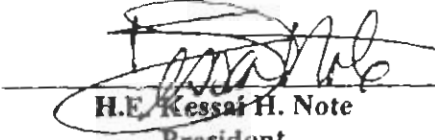
Noting the ongoing build-up of United States military personnel in Guam, the Presidents agree to work together to explore the matter, and investigate economic opportunities resulting from the built-up.

### **Next Summit Meeting**

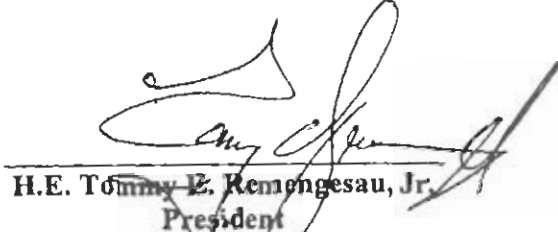
The Presidents agreed that the Eight Micronesian Presidents' Summit will be hosted by the Republic of Palau.



**H.E. Emanuel Mori**  
President  
Federated States of Micronesia



**H.E. Kessai H. Note**  
President  
Republic of the Marshall Islands



**H.E. Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.**  
President  
Republic of Palau