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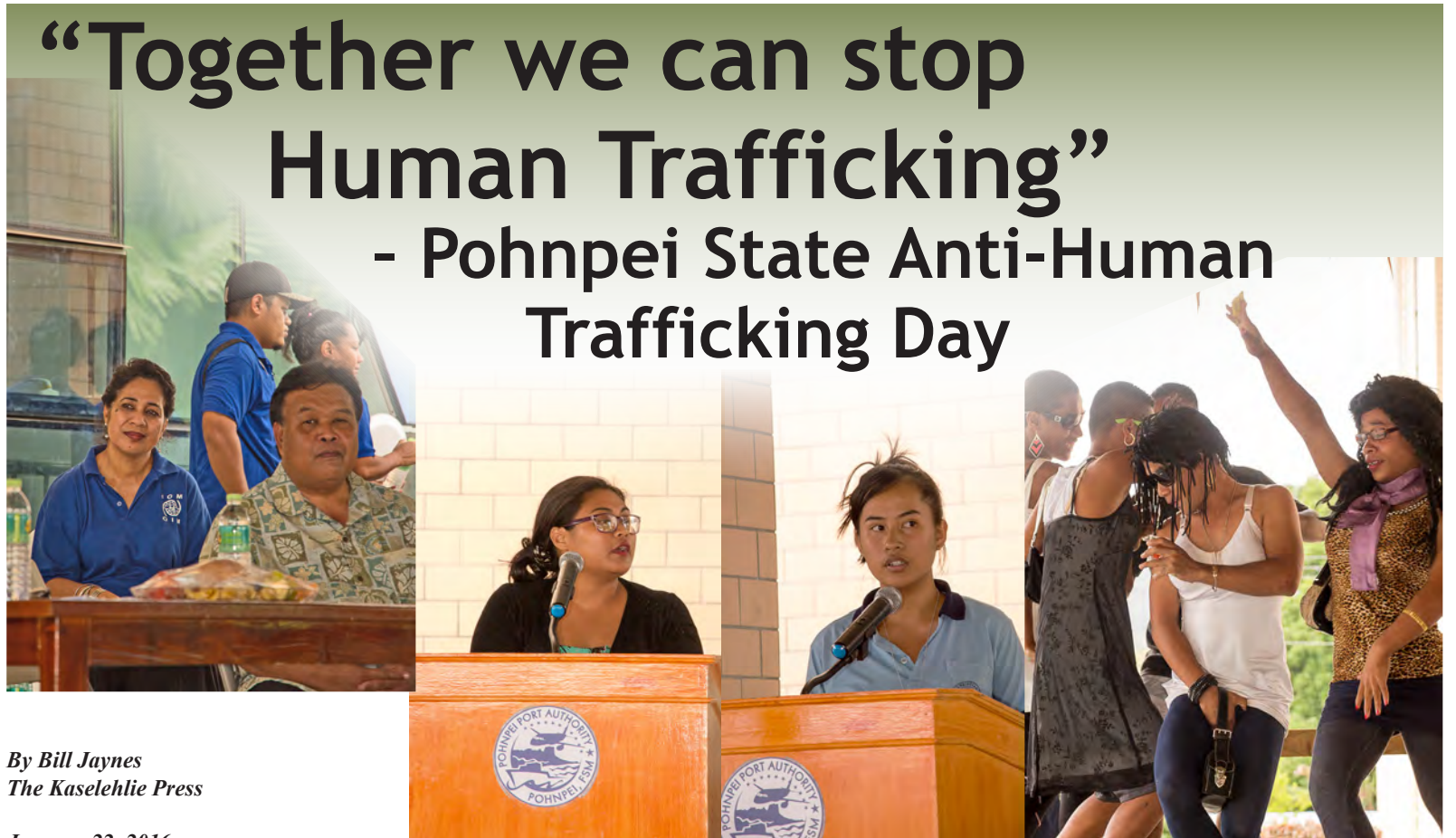
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“Together we can stop Human Trafficking” - Pohnpei State Anti-Human Trafficking Day



By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

January 22, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—Realizing that the crime of human trafficking is no joke, Governor Marcelo Peterson issued an executive order declaring January 22 to be Pohnpei State Anti-Human Trafficking Day.

This afternoon a special program highlighting the trauma of victims of human trafficking was held on the front door steps of the Pohnpei State Government Complex.

Despite the efforts of the Migrant Resource Center, there is still a great deal of misunderstanding about the crime of human trafficking and still far too little concern for the victims of the crime. A victim of human trafficking is exactly that—a victim.

Human trafficking is far too often misunderstood as a crime that requires national boundaries to be crossed. The fact is that anyone who is in a position of involuntary servitude through coercion is a victim of human trafficking.

Some employers have argued that the definition of human trafficking is too broad and might go so far as to include people who go to work each day in order to make ends meet for a paycheck that is too small



to do so. In a market where employment opportunities are scarce, it might feel to an employee that they have no other choice but to go to work each day. An employee might feel like a slave to their employer, but they are not victims of human trafficking unless they have been involuntarily stripped of their freedom of choice.

International Organization for Migration Chief of Mission, Stuart Simpson gave a poignant keynote address on the subject of Human Trafficking at this afternoon’s activities which was heard by far too few people.

“Trafficking in Persons is a complex and dynamic global phenomenon involving the trade in human beings for the purpose of exploitation,” he said. “While it is widely considered as a transnational crime, crossing state borders and jurisdictions, it can

also occur domestically, within the State of Pohnpei or within the Federated States of Micronesia. EVERY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD is affected by trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims. The crime of people trafficking is best understood as a collection of crimes bundled together rather than a single culpable act; a criminal process rather than a criminal event.”

Simpson said, “The groups most vulnerable to trafficking in FSM include foreign migrant workers and Micronesian women and girls who allegedly engage in organized prostitution with crew members of fishing vessels [Editor’s note: against their will]. FSM men and women are recruited with promises of well-paying jobs in the United States and its territories, but who are subsequently FORCED into prostitution or domestic labor upon arrival.”

“FSM and the States have enacted laws to combat trafficking,” he reminded the small audience. “The 2012 FSM Anti-Human trafficking law defines Trafficking in Persons as ‘A person who knowingly recruits, transports, transfers, harbors or receives another person for the purpose

See “Trafficking” on page 5



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Chuuk Conservation Society refreshes operations



The Chuuk Conservation Society (CCS) recently relocates to a new office at the LMB Apartment Building in Nepukos, Weno Island. The decision to change location comes as part of a series of administrative reforms the past four months.

After the former Executive Director, Mr. Wisney Nakayama, became a member of the House of Representatives at the Chuuk State Legislature in May 2015, the CCS board of directors opened a personnel hunt for the vacated position. Nearly five month later, CCS hired Mr. Marcellus Akapito as the executive director.

CCS has been in service as one of the lead non-government organizations in Chuuk since 2005, assisting in the sustainable management of resources with other community-based organizations, along with many other non-government and government entities.

This organization has also been serving as the focal organization in Chuuk for the GEF Small Grant Programme in the Federated States of Micronesia, whose office is based in Pohnpei.

Currently, CCS is managing separate contracts to assist the islands of Oneisom and Piis Paneu in Chuuk Lagoon in the long process of making community-driven

climate change adaptation plans with primary technical and financial assistance through the Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT). CCS also has a sub-contract with MCT to assist in coral reef monitoring and community outreach activities as part of the Micronesian Challenge initiative with funding primarily from the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. It was also intimately involved in the formation of the first officially established Marine Protected Area (MPA) in Chuuk through collaboration with the Brothers and Sisters Association of Tiun, Parmen Island, along with other key partners. The establishment of this MPA catalyzed other community enhancement support to the Parmen residents, which included starting up a small size sponge farming adjacent to the MPA site. Unfortunately, this project was hampered by the last typhoon that wreaked havoc in Chuuk in March, 2015.

CCS operates under supervision from a Board of Directors with growing support from the Chuuk State Government through partner-agencies such as the Department of Marine Resources, the Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency. CCS is also a member on the Steering Committee on Climate Change Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction and Education Plus Program

for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) sub-office in Chuuk; the Joint Coordinating Committee for the Japanese Promotion on Pacific Regional Initiative for Solid Waste Management in Chuuk (J-PRISM); and the Chuuk Climate Change Adaptation Planning Committee.

The CCS management has publicized fundraising activities through various

social media, stressing its aim to boost collaboration with other local NGO partners; increase rapport with municipal, state and national governments; progress pending community projects; elevate community awareness with regards the GEF-SGP program; engage with communities on sustainable resources management planning and clean up initiatives.

John Fritz takes Oath of Office as FSM Ambassador to Japan

FSM Information Services

15 January, 2016, Palikir, Pohnpei – The Honorable John Fritz was officially sworn in as the FSM Ambassador Plenipotentiary to Japan by His Excellency President Peter Christian on Friday afternoon at the President’s Conference room.

Emphasizing the significance of the ceremony, the Oath of Office administered by President Christian took place less than two months after the FSM 19th Congress re-confirmed Mr. John Fritz appointment to the post in November 2015. Ambassador Fritz served as the Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) in Tokyo prior to his first Japan Ambassadorial posting in 2008; he served as the Ambassador to Japan during the FSM’s previous administration, from 2008 – 2015.

In the presence of President Christian, Vice President George, Senior staff, Secretaries, family, and the FSM Honorary Consul in Fukuoka, Japan, Ambassador Fritz expressed his gratitude to President Christian and the Leadership for the confidence in him to continue to serve as the FSM’s Senior diplomat and representative to Japan. He also assured the President of his commitment to perform his diplomatic duties to the best of his abilities, emphasizing the need to represent the Nation’s interests, and further strengthen the close ties that already exist between the people of Japan, and the two governments.

Also present at the brief ceremony were Vice President Yosiwo George, Secretary of Department of Foreign Affairs; Lorin Robert, Secretary of Department of Justice; Mr. Joses Gallen and other senior staff of the National Government.



The Kaselehlie Press

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Seventh Day Adventist School Varsity Basketball teams competing in Walla Walla, Washington

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

January 27, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—After raising over half of their \$60,000 fund raising goal, members of Pohnpei Seventh Day Adventist boys and girls basketball teams left Pohnpei to compete in a Friendship Tournament in Walla Walla University in Washington state. The tournament is set to begin as this newspaper goes to press on January 29, Pohnpei time.

For many of the students, the trip is a once in a lifetime experience. Many of them had never flown before nor been off island. Most had never experienced snow before either but they have experienced plenty of that since they arrived in Walla Walla and were even treated to a lesson in sledding.

Vice Principal Daniel Williams says that from what he has heard, the team members are “having a blast” and that the school is very proud of their team members. He said that the Pohnpei team is the only international team at the “Friendship Tournament” and they are anxiously waiting to see how the team will fare against high school teams from the U.S. mainland.

“They’re in Walla Walla first to represent the Lord,” he said. “Secondly, they are there to represent the school. Thirdly, they are there to represent the nation.”

He said that more funds are still needed in order to finish paying for the trip. SDA raised over \$30,000 on its GoFundMe page (www.gofundme.com/e9gzxrv8). More donations are needed.

The page says, “Pohnpei Seventh-day Adventist



School is a school on the island of Pohnpei with both boys’ and girls’ varsity basketball teams. Both teams just finished playing in the Federated States of Micronesia’s National High School Tournament, with the Dolphins placing 3rd in the country and the Lady Dolphins winning the national championship! We are very proud of what they have accomplished, but we have even more in mind for them.”

“This trip would allow them to experience a foreign culture and understand how vast the world is, as well as experience such things as cold weather and snow that they have never seen before. Attending this tournament would also allow students to meet students from other SDA high schools and experience what life is like at Walla Walla University,” their GoFundMe page says.

The \$60,000 the school is trying to raise will be used to pay for airfare. Walla Walla University is taking care of living expenses while the teams are there.

The team members who are currently in Walla Walla for the girls team are Jeannete Yamada, Danielle C. Edward, Demi Edgar, Emelisse Santos, Ariel Perman, Ayaka Akinaga, Joslyn Gallen, Ivana Nimea, and Reyonna Weillbacher. Their coaches are Jaci Allison and Avalon S. Edward.

The members of the boys team are Bo Panuelo, Denzel Perman, Shawn Walter, Danny Fredrick, Zachary Charley, Keanu Joseph, Andrew Musrasrik, Makani Damarlane, Shelten Neth Jr., Marion Navarrosa, Hart Yamada, Tristen Jano, Cris Esiel, and Luke Carlos. The coaches are Michaela Garcia, Ryan Yamada.

For the most cost effective flight arrangements, the boys team is returning on February 2 and the girls team is returning on February 3.



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Ohwa Village School library restored and reopened Iglesia Ni Cristo, Church of Christ INCGiving Volunteers Adopt-a-library

POHNPEI, MICRONESIA (JAN. 24)—The Ohwa Village school library is now ready and reopened, thanks to volunteers of the Iglesia Ni Cristo (INC or Church Of Christ). Nearly 100 locals gathered, children and families included, for the opening ceremony of the school library on Sunday Jan. 24.

Over the last three months, INC volunteers of all ages, families and even other community members offered their time sorting through books, painting and repairing shelves in order to renovate and restore the library, preparing it for the youth in the region.

"The event is an extension of our continuous commitment to share our faith through acts of kindness," said Scott Agustin, Minister of the Gospel for the Pohnpei Local Congregation. "We know it is a duty to provide not only spiritual needs, but assistance for our neighbors in any manner possible. It is our way of saying we are here to help."

The day following the opening ceremony,

Ohwa school staff, together with some of their high school students, gathered at their school cafeteria to welcome the INCGiving volunteers back to show their appreciation through a simple, but very heart touching program.

"We are so grateful for the gesture," Agustin said. "Where there are INC congregations, there are residents ready to serve the community and be of help to local organizations in need of a volunteer task force – all over the world. We look forward to servicing the community even more."

The day of service is a labor of the INCGiving Project, one of the INC's socio-civic programs that support the efforts of community partners, by offering time and resources for the wellbeing of those in need. INC volunteers worldwide are taking a multi-service approach to address the issues facing residents of their area, while setting the tone for future programs that support family and community development – a global commitment to share faith through acts of kindness.

Numerous large-scale and local community partnerships have been established for 2016, events to take place internationally. Most recently volunteers have conducted community clean ups around Pohnpei.



The Iglesia Ni Cristo (INC) or Church of Christ is a global Church comprising more than 5,500 local congregations in nearly 100 countries and territories worldwide with membership of at least 110 nationalities. Its Central Administration is in Quezon City, Philippines. www.incmmedia.org



Palau lawmakers look to strengthen integrity

KOROR, Palau (UNDP/MV, Jan. 28, 2016) — Senators and delegates in the Northern Pacific island nation of Palau held a consultation on anti-corruption to engage more strongly with the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

"The United Nations Joint Presence Initiative in Palau is strongly supporting the work of the U.N. Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project in conducting this consultation and this has fostered a strong commitment from Congress members in Palau similar to what we've seen in other Pacific parliaments," said U.N. coordination officer in Palau, Sharon O. Sakuma.

Senators, delegates, legal counsels and legislative staff attended the Joint United Nations Development Program, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption consultation on strengthening anti-corruption efforts.

"The more we are open and transparent as a nation, government and parliament, the more we can contribute to creating a society where everyone gains maximum benefit from our economy, tourism and resources," said Camsek E. Chin, president of the Senate, in

opening the consultation.

Alexander Merep, vice speaker, House of Delegates, said that increased transparency must be accompanied by heightened accountability. "We also welcome the opportunity in this consultation to receive a presentation by Palau Ombudsman Francis Llecholch on a proposed ombudsman bill for Palau," said Vice Speaker Merep.

U.N. Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption adviser Annika Wythes emphasized that "parliamentarians have a key role to play in preventing and indeed fight corruption, often leading by example."

Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption Oceania chair and U.N. Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption consultant John Hyde added that there was strong interest from senators and delegates on learning about best practices and the role of parliamentarian-driven initiatives to build integrity and oversight of government.

The Australian government is supporting the four-year, \$4.3 million U.N. Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption a project being implemented in 15 Pacific nations.

Fisheries Seminar in Beijing Invites China to Invest in FSM Long Line Fisheries

January 13, 2016 (FSM Embassy, Beijing) —To promote the fisheries sector of the Federated States of Micronesia, FSM's top fisheries officials, Mr. Churchill Edward, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA), and Mr. Eugene Pangelinan, Executive Director of NORMA, conducted a fisheries seminar in Beijing. The seminar provided information on the opportunities that exist in the FSM for Chinese long line fishing companies. It also encouraged long line fishing vessels from China to invest in the FSM and secure vessel days for long line fishing in FSM waters.

With the implementation of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) long line vessel day scheme in 2016, the Executive Director advised Chinese long line fishing companies "that the opportunity exists now for China to play a major role in its (FSM) long line fisheries development and for China to secure a place in the limited fishery once it goes into full implementation in 2017." Mr. Pangelinan further requested China to seriously look to the FSM as a partner in improving relations on the management of the long line fishery through a strategic partnership in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). Chairman Edward said that "China is a major fishing partner for the FSM and FSM looked to China to secure additional investments in improving our facilities to support the fleet if they were to move to FSM." He said that "there is great opportunity to develop a mutually beneficial arrangement for both FSM and China and this will be explored further in the near future." While in Beijing, Chairman Edward and Executive Director Pangelinan also met with the China Overseas Fisheries Association (COFA), and the Bureau of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) of the People's Republic of China.

The China Overseas Fisheries Association (COFA) is a non-profit organization, which was established to promote the sustainable development of China's distant water fishing and also

enhance international exchange and cooperation on overseas fisheries. The association services more than 200 deep sea fishing companies who are members of the association. At the government level, COFA has a special arrangement with the Chinese Government providing valuable support and advice on overseas fisheries. With renewed friendship, the association can play an instrumental role in FSM's promotional efforts. The FSM delegation was received by Mr. Huang Baoshan, Vice President and Secretary General of COFA. In their meeting with Mr. Huang, both sides acknowledged the opportunities and look forward to a fruitful relationship. Mr. Huang is hopeful and supportive of Chinese fishing companies investing in the FSM. He is also eager to explore the potential of FSM and China cooperation in the "One Belt One Road" scheme, an initiative by President Xi Jinping in 2013 to advance regional connectivity and common development.

In the meeting with the Bureau of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, the FSM delegation was received by Deputy Director General, Mr. Cui Lifeng. The Deputy Director General informed that the FSM is an important country and partner to China in the Pacific. He acknowledged the vast territories and rich marine resources of the FSM, to which the Deputy Director General saw great potential for cooperation. Mr. Cui is supportive of the FSM's efforts to promote its fisheries in China. He welcomed the seminar from NORMA and looked forward to future ones that would further promote understanding between the two sides. Deputy Director General Cui is supportive of the FSM and has informed that he would continue to encourage Chinese companies to invest in the FSM. He made note of the Liancheng group, commonly known in the FSM as Luenthai, as a very good investment. The goal of making the FSM a main transshipment center, which was presented by Executive Director Pangelinan, was warmly welcomed by the Deputy Director

...Trafficking

Continued from front page

of exploitation; by threat, use of force, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power OR the giving or receiving payments, or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person shall be guilty of human trafficking’.

“In order to effectively combat and prevent human trafficking, a holistic approach by all stakeholders (traditional leaders, government, NGOs, faith based organizations, women and youth and civil society) entailing integrated actions on investigations, prosecution, prevention and protection is needed. Successful conviction of offenders, appropriate assistance to victims and consequent prevention of crimes of people trafficking is possible when first responders, namely law enforcement agencies, perform their tasks competently and meticulously. In this process, investigation of crimes assumes an important role. The task includes early identification of victims’ collection of intelligence about crimes, registering crimes, prompt action and efficient action at crime scenes and also ensuring all legal and administrative follow-up measures are taken.”

After Mr. Simpson’s keynote address, Brittany Carl read Governor Peterson’s executive order declaring the day to be Anti-Human Trafficking Day in Pohnpei. Wanda Sado read the definition of Human trafficking.

One of the highlights of the ceremony was a Youth Skit Competition. Young people from the Every Home for Christ Fellowship, Youth for Change, and The Salvation Army each organized skits that demonstrated their understanding of Human Trafficking. Only one of the skits involved characters who had crossed national boundaries.

The first skit involved harvesting of organs. A wealthy man’s son needed a new heart so he hired a group of men and women to bring the heart of a boxing champion who, as a young athlete had strong internal organs. The boxer was lured into a bar where he was drugged and had his heart removed.

It was a rather severe example of one type of human trafficking that takes place internationally, and though the skit was “fun”, the group won third place in the competition.

The second skit involved child trafficking. In it, a rich man was recruiting young women for his bar. He worked with a local man who lives in a remote village with poor families. The local man lured his 15 year old niece to go to work for the rich man and made many promises. Upon arrival in the more populated area, she was forced into sex labor. Not only was she too young to consent to prostitution as a way to make a living, her uncle was paid for her services and she was kept in servitude.

This group’s skit and performance won them the first prize which was presented by Lt. Governor Reed Oliver and Pohnpei Port Authority’s General Manager Nelperson Etse.

The third group took second place in the competition. In that skit, the parents of a 15 year old girl received a phone call from a relative in the U.S. asking for them to send their daughter to help babysit. The relatives



promised to send money back to the family on a regular basis. The parents trusted the couple in the U.S. and sent their daughter in hopes of a better life. Upon arrival, the relatives confiscated the girl’s passport and forced her to work with no opportunities outside the home. They also forced her into prostitution through threats of physical violence. After three months her parents had not heard back from their U.S. relatives or their daughter. They contacted the police and IOM.

The skits were judged by Magdalena Walter as a representative of Civil Society, Suanrita Ladore of the State Government, FSM Police Chief Johnny Santos as a representative of Law Enforcement, Rofino Roby of the St. Barnabas Youth, and Amy Santiago as representative of women.

Stephanie Jano Edward served as the Mistress of Ceremonies for the event this afternoon.

U.S. Ambassador Doria Rosen was the last speaker of the afternoon. She told the audience that when she first came to the FSM she had a meeting with her staff members and asked what one of the U.S. Embassy’s priorities should be. She said that overwhelmingly, the staff members indicated that the problem of Human Trafficking should be addressed.

Since that time the FSM moved from the Tier 2 watchlist of the State Department’s Trafficking in Persons Report to Tier 2 for the last two years. That move came because of



legislation and increased enforcement efforts in the FSM.

Several times during the ceremony, participants were urged to report even suspected cases of human trafficking. They were told that they could contact the Pohnpei State Police at 320-2221/2222, FSM National Police at 320-2628, the FSM Transnational Crime Unit at 320-2713, the Migrant Resource Center at 320-8898, or the International Organization for Migration at 320-8795.

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19th FSM Congress opens its Third Regular Session

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

January 27, 2016

Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM—

The FSM's 19th Legislature began its third regular session on January 26. Speaker Wesley W. Simina appointed the Committee to Wait on the President during the first session day. Committee members were Senators Berney Martin of Pohnpei, Florencio Singkoro Harper from Chuuk, Joseph J. Urusemal from Yap, and Paliknoa Welley from Kosrae.

According to their report, the committee asked President Christian if a final decision had been made as to whether or not the FSM would be hosting the Pacific Island Forum (PIF) in just a few months.

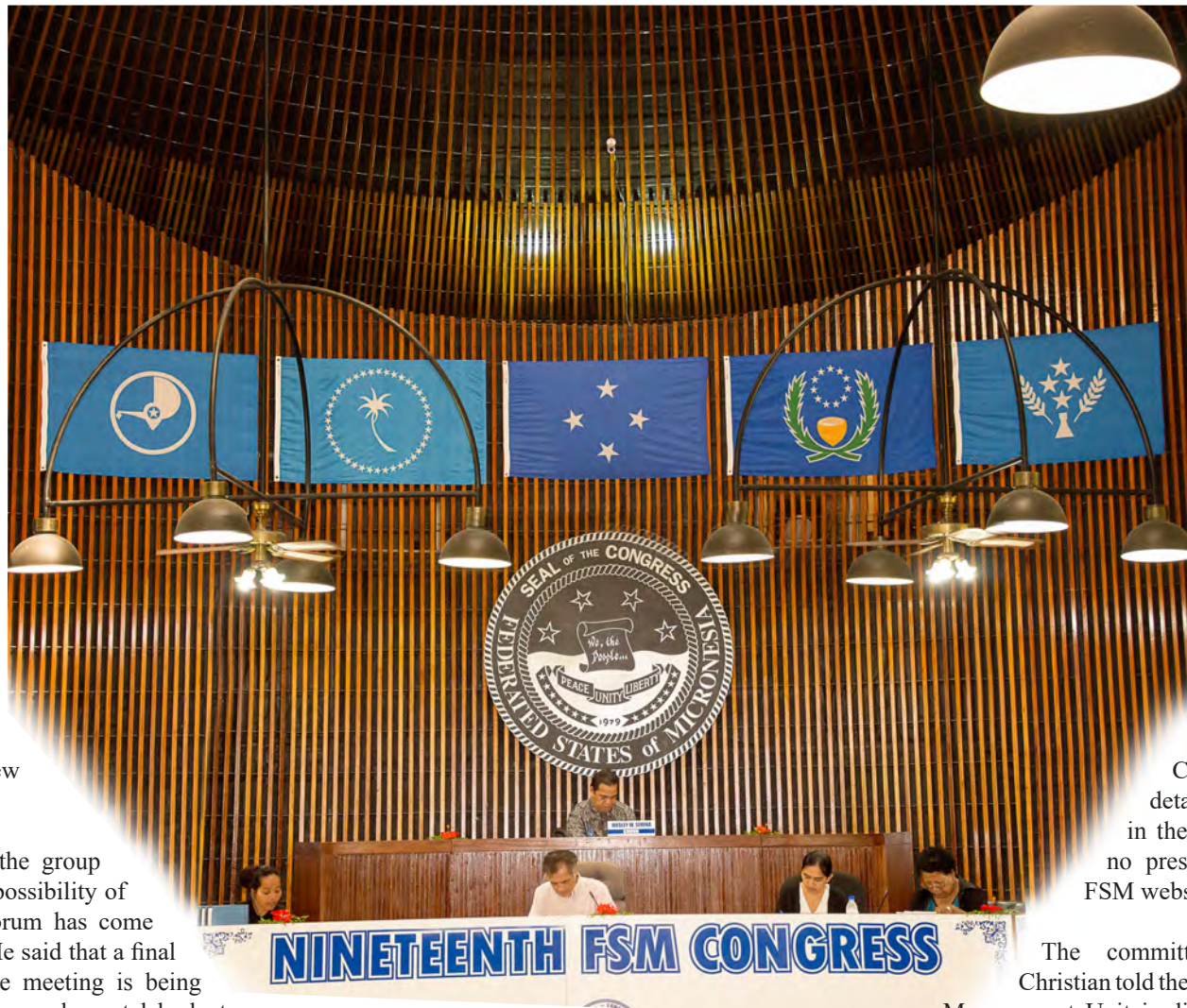
He told the committee that the group designated to investigate the possibility of hosting the Pacific Island Forum has come back with a positive report. He said that a final budget for the hosting of the meeting is being prepared and might require a supplemental budget request of approximately \$500,000 in additional funding.

The report did not discuss the projected amount of economic impact the PIF would have on the FSM.

President Christian, who as a member of Congress was often critical of delayed revenue projections told the committee that revenue projections are being held pending further work by the Secretary of Finance and Administration as to the total amount of the "carry over" money. The Secretary was not comfortable with committing to a final amount prior to a final audit. It looked like there might be as much at \$20 million but she was much more comfortable with a carry over amount closer to \$11 million.

The committee reported that the latest revenue projections should be with Congress this week.

Fishing revenues were forecast to be at record amounts



this year but then the United States pulled out of its fishing agreement in the Pacific region including in the FSM. "Fishing revenues continue to be unclear as to amount and timing," the report said. President Christian suggested that rather than appropriating based on projections, the Nation should begin appropriating based only on collections.

The report said that President Christian told the committee members that, "A recent delegation from China has begun discussions as to a change in foreign aid based on our priority lists. The President developed a priority list primarily based on transportation needs...that list was transmitted during the Chinese delegation visit." No details on that "list" were provided in the committee report and there is no press release regarding it on any FSM website that we could find.

The committee reported that President Christian told them that although the FSM Project Management Unit is dissolved, the Executive Branch continues to work with the States in order to finish some ongoing projects and to monitor the development of State offices taking over PMU management of projects.

He told the committee that the annual Infrastructure Development Plan has been approved by the US Office of Insular Affairs and the Joint Economic Management Committee for this year.

The President said that he would like to see the treaties regarding national boundaries to be taken up by Congress in this session.

He would also like to see action on the nominations for his cabinet and department positions.

Congress has been holding committee hearings on his nominations but at press time, no committee reports had yet been submitted or nominations submitted for a vote by Congress.



Zika virus monitoring continues in Pacific

Secretariat of the Pacific Community

28 January 2016

Noumea, New Caledonia - The Pacific Community (SPC), in collaboration with the World Health Organization, has this week sent an update on the Zika virus infection to public health ministries and health professionals in the Pacific Islands region.

SPC closely monitors the Zika situation regionally and internationally, along with other diseases, such as dengue and chikungunya.

"We provide an ongoing service to the region's public health professionals whereby we maintain a map of epidemic and emerging disease alerts for regional health security purposes," the acting Deputy Director of SPC's Public Health Division, Dr Salanieta Saketa, said.

"According to the information available to us, no Pacific countries have reported confirmed cases of the Zika virus infection so far this year, but further investigation is under way to ascertain circulation of the virus in a number of Pacific Island countries and territories."

Zika virus infection can only be confirmed by a laboratory diagnosis, and the Pacific Islands overall have very limited capacity for Zika testing.

"We're working closely with our partners from the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network to overcome this challenge and facilitate access of all countries to the few laboratories who can perform the testing," Dr Saketa said.

Part of SPC's update concerned the latest findings on the possible association between Zika virus infection in pregnancy and congenital central nervous system malformations, including microcephaly.

While this is not proof that Zika virus has caused these malformations, a possible association cannot be ruled out given the evidence available.

"In view of the latest findings, we provided countries with a number of recommendations. For example, we recommend all travellers, particularly pregnant women, who are visiting known affected areas to take extra precautionary measures to prevent being bitten by mosquitoes," Dr Saketa said.

The map of epidemic and emerging disease alerts in the Pacific is updated in real-time and is available at: www.spc.int/phd/epidemics

Pacific scientist in China to present taro supply breakthrough

Pacific Community

21 January 2016

Nanning Guangxi, China - A scientist from the Pacific Community (SPC) is in Nanning Guangxi, China, this week to present important research on new methods for improving the supply of taro planting material. Improved production methods are important for food security and taro export industries in Pacific Island countries and territories.

Ulamila Lutu is currently attending the inaugural World Congress on Root and Tuber Crops, which brings together around 750 key industry stakeholders including farmers, researchers, the private sector and donor agencies.

Ms Lutu, a senior Research Technician at SPC's Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees in Fiji, presented the centre's efforts to improve mass propagation of taro planting material using a "bioreactor system", with Samoa's taro industry providing a case study.

This research is especially significant in light of the taro leaf blight which saw Samoa's taro exports fall dramatically from 6,000 tonnes in 1993 to almost zero in 1994.

The study was conducted by SPC's "Developing a clean seed system for market-ready taro cultivators in Samoa" project with

funding support from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) under the Pacific Agribusiness Research Development Initiative.

The SPC trial found that it is possible to reduce the time needed to produce viable taro planting material by eight weeks (from 28 weeks to 20 weeks) using the bioreactor system. The bioreactor-treated plantlets also appeared sturdier and taller compared to those cultured through conventional methods.

The system, a type of laboratory vessel that is used to provide an enhanced environment for growing plantlets in various liquid solutions, was originally successfully trialled on breadfruit, resulting in shortening the time required to produce field ready plants from 44 weeks to 30 weeks.

CePaCT's research, made possible with Australian Government support, provides significant insight into how new mass production methods can help meet the growing demand for traditional export crops in the Pacific.

The World Congress on Root and Tuber Crops concludes on 22 January. More information on the congress can be found at <http://www.gcp21.org/wcrtc/index.html>.

JOB OPENING

TITLE: Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
CLOSING DATE: February 19, 2016

The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) is responsible for all financial matters of MCT. Reporting to and partnering with the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director, the CFO will set MCT financial policy and direction while also being an active participant in, and driver of, the organization's overall strategy. S/he will lead all financial administration, business planning, budgeting and financial projections and supervision of finance staff. (full job description available upon request)

Qualifications

The CFO will be a seasoned and mature leader with at least 12-15 years of broad finance experience. S/he will have experience managing finance (accounting, budgeting, control, audit and reporting), HR, and IT for a complex nonprofit with multiple funding sources including government contract and diverse program areas delivered regionally. The CFO will have the following experience and attributes:

- A minimum of a BS and CPA/CMA required; an MBA would be a plus.
- An effective communicator, with strong oral and written skills.
- Significant experience in or knowledge of nonprofit accounting, including sophisticated fund and grant accounting, compliance and reporting.
- Strong IT skills and experience preferred.

SALARY AND BENEFITS AND DUTY STATION

MCT offers attractive and regionally competitive salaries and benefits depending upon qualifications. MCT does not provide relocation, housing or repatriation expenses. MCT covers the employer portion of the FSM National health insurance basic plan and offers a retirement plan and life insurance. The duty station for this position is Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.

TO APPLY:
(electronic submissions preferred)

- 3 Letters of Reference
- Resume
- Letter of Interest

Submit to: Lisa Ranahan Andon
Deputy Executive Director
Micronesia Conservation Trust
P.O. 2177 Kolonia
Pohnpei, FM 96941
Tel: (691) 320-5670
Fax: (691) 320-8903
deputy@ourmicronesia.org

Only candidates selected for interview will be contacted.



Call for Expression of Interest

Background

Between March 28 and April 1 2015, Typhoon Maysak crossed directly over Chuuk State and increased in strength as it continued across Yap State in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). Following the issuance of FSM Presidential Emergency Declaration for both states, US President Barack Obama signed a Presidential Disaster Declaration on April 28. Under the Compact of Free Association between the US and FSM Governments, the US has treaty-driven reconstruction responsibilities for public and private infrastructure which are overseen by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

USAID's implementing partner, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has launched the Typhoon Maysak Reconstruction Program (TMRP) which will support the local and national governments in the reconstruction of public facilities and utilities, and will provide repair to damaged housing units and reconstruction of those that were destroyed by Typhoon Maysak.

Outreach and Media Consultant

Estimated Start Date: As soon as possible
Pohnpei, FSM

General functions

Under the overall supervision of the USAID Field Personnel and with strategic and programmatic coordination with the TMRP Grant and Contracts Manager, the consultant will be responsible for implementing and managing TMRP Outreach and Media in Chuuk and Yap States.

The consultant will be expected to plan and execute TMRP outreach and media strategies; create photo and video content of TMRP activities throughout Micronesia; draft articles and video segments for brand journalism activities regarding TMRP; manage the public image of TMRP; and among others related activities.

Qualifications

(a) University degree in Journalism, public affairs or a related field from an accredited academic institution; (b) with minimum of 3 years of relevant professional experience; (c) Master's degree in the above fields an advantage; (d) Experience in the areas of social media, writing/journalism, public affairs; (e) Experience working with USAID is preferred; (f) Fluency in English is required.

How to apply

IOM offers a three (3) month contract with possibility of extension subject to funding and performance.

In order for an application to be considered valid, it should include a cover letter (not more than one page), curriculum vitae highlighting the required education and experience, School credentials and/or University Degree and the names and contact details of 3 referees.

Interested candidates may send their application to HRmicronesia@iom.int or to dsosa@iom.int on or before 05 February 2016. Position title should be specified in the SUBJECT field. Application may also be hand carried to IOM's office in Pohnpei

For inquiries you may call our office at +691 320 8735

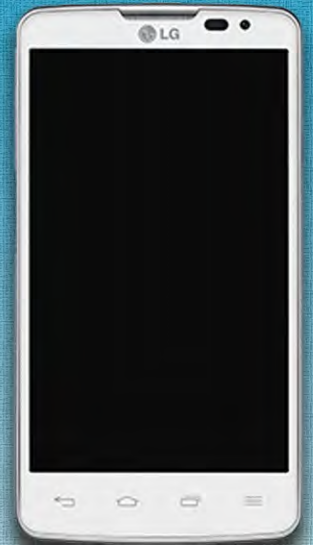
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FSM Supreme Court unveils new workflows and documents software

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

January 27, 2016

Palikir, Pohnpei—Celebrating a milestone in its history, the Supreme Court of the Federated States of Micronesia today unveiled its OnBase by Hyland enterprise content management (ECM) solution, which makes case files accessible and searchable from each of the FSM four States.

The unveiling took place in the chambers of the FSM Supreme Court in Palikir. Local attorneys were given a briefing on the new system and were able to ask question of the developer after the presentation.

The new system, which includes both hardware and software solutions, will also help the court to streamline and better track cases as they move through the judicial system.

After working with Data Management Resources (DMR) a family run contractor from Guam to build a virtual server environment, the court then turned to DMR, also an OnBase Authorized Solution Provider, to design an OnBase system that would provide the Court with the ability to assign cases electronically, route motions to assigned justices, and track the status of Civil cases, a press release from Hyland says.

For now, access to the system will be available for court officials in each of the States. A terminal at each court building will also be provided for access by attorneys and legal practitioners.

“But this is just the beginning”, said Chief Justice Dennis K. Yamase. “We are already planning the next stage of our modernization using OnBase. The next step is to provide a public access portal so that private attorneys can search our public case documents. We are glad that we found a system that will help us realize our strategic goals as this Court matures, and we are pleased to be working with a seasoned technology partner here in the Pacific to help us meet our goals.”

Chief Justice Dennis Yamase says that though the OnBase system has been online since November of last year, it began as a system that contained no data. The Court’s clerks have been working diligently to populate the database with documents from ongoing cases. Yamase says that at this point enough data has been entered into the system that he has just recently begun to use the new system himself.

He said that the process of populating the database of case records will be much faster after two high speed network scanners the court has ordered arrive. The new scanners will allow court personnel to digitally scan court documents much faster than they are currently physically able to do. They are currently using flatbed scanners which can scan one page at a time.

“It is exciting to see these milestones in the history of our Pacific Island nations,” said DMR CEO Richard Taitano. “Technologically

speaking, not too long ago Guam was where the FSM is now. However, the FSM has the advantage of being able to make technological leaps over months and years instead of decades because of solutions like OnBase.”

“More importantly, the staff and management of the FSM Supreme Court were open to these advancements in their processing, which is usually the biggest hurdle when introducing new technologies to an organization. It was refreshing to work with such a forward-thinking group who were committed to a specific vision and who remained open to new ideas,” he said.

The World Bank’s Annual “Ease of Doing Business” report has consistently pointed out that the amount of time it takes from the filing of a civil action at the FSM Supreme Court before a ruling is made has been excessive, making it difficult for businesses that operate in the FSM. The court has improved significantly in recent months and Chief Justice Dennis K. Yamase expects that it will continue to improve especially with the new tracking technology. But he said that until the Court has more justices there will continue to be problems with justices who have conflicts of interest that bar them from hearing cases.

For a long time, the FSM Supreme Court has often had to recruit judges from elsewhere in order for cases to move forward. He said that they are working on that problem but that there won’t be any quick solutions.

He said that FSM’s President Peter Christian recently nominated Ben Webber to be an Associate Justice for the Supreme Court in Yap. When that position is filled they can move on to try to fill the position that the physically ailing Associate Justice Ready Johnny in Chuuk currently occupies.



Fisheries Seminar

Continued from page 5

General. He encouraged that both sides should make fisheries development a priority and encouraged the Embassy through Ambassador Apis to work with the Ministry of Commerce in seeking the available funding schemes that are available to the Pacific Island Countries.

During the meetings with COFA, MOA, and at the seminar, His Excellency Ambassador Apis provided an overview of the diplomatic relationship between FSM and China. Ambassador Apis acknowledged the strong relationship between the FSM and China over 26 years, and called upon all stakeholders to add substance to the friendly relationship by investing in the FSM fisheries sector. In this regard, Ambassador Apis welcomed all participants of the seminar to consider the FSM as their next investment destination. Ambassador Apis believes that if carefully planned, and packaged, the investments in FSM Fisheries will benefit both sides. Ambassador Apis encouraged Secretary General Huang that in order for fisheries cooperation to be successful between FSM and China, good relations between COFA and NORMA was necessary.

In the meeting with Deputy Director General Cui Lifeng of the Bureau of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ambassador Apis informed that the FSM Government places high priority on the development of its fisheries sector. In that regard, Ambassador Apis offered his keen support to work with the Ministry of Agriculture to further enhance FSM-China relations through fisheries cooperation. Ambassador Apis extended his appreciation to Deputy Director General Cui for his support, and noted the valuable recommendations that were provided. In terms of funding support for future fisheries projects and investments, Ambassador Apis recommended to the Deputy Director General for a collective approach amongst the FSM Embassy, NORMA, COFA, MOA, and any interested Chinese companies to work together in packaging favorable proposals for the Ministry of Commerce to consider.



College of Micronesia-FSM
Human Resources Office
P.O. Box 159
Kolonia, Pohnpei, FSM 96941
Phone: 691-320-2480 Fax: 691-320-2479

Employment Opportunities

College of Micronesia – FSM Mission Statement: The College of Micronesia-FSM is a learner-centered institution of higher education that is committed to the success of the Federated States of Micronesia by providing academic, career and technical educational programs characterized by continuous improvement and best practices.

Values:

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participatory governance
empowerment | **diversity**
collaboration | respect | **students**

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT LIFE

Location: National Campus
Annual Salary: \$24, 006.00
Closing Date: February 12, 2016

POSITION PROFILE: The Director of Student Life reports to the Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Services (VPEMSS) and is responsible for the effective coordination, delivery, evaluation, and refinement of student support services (residence halls, sports and recreation, health services, peer counseling center) including related programs, student activities, student body associations, student clubs and organizations; ensure that all programs and activities are in alignment with outcomes for student success as identified by the college.

Minimum Qualifications include but not limited to: Bachelor's degree from a US accredited college in psychology, higher education administration, student affairs or related field. Five years' experience in student support services, student affairs, counseling and advising or related experience in a higher education environment. Foreign credentials must be equated to US standards using World Education Services at <http://www.wes.org>. Demonstrate commitment to student success. Must have proficiency in computers; good oral and written communication skills; assessment and evaluation in student support services; supervisory skills; teamwork ability; and cultural sensitivity.

REGISTRAR

Location: National Campus
Annual Salary: \$30, 194.00
Closing Date: February 25, 2016

POSITION PROFILE: The Registrar reports to the Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Services (VPEMSS) and is responsible for planning, organizing, and managing registration, admissions and students' records college-wide, and serves as the College's chief FERPA officer. The Registrar also develops and administers policies pertaining to the overall student record keeping function of the college including student registrations, student applications, permanent records, transcripts, credits, grading, withdrawal, computer processing and statistical information, as well as the security and confidentiality of student records.

Minimum Qualifications include but not limited to: Master's degree required in higher education administration or the equivalent from a US accredited college. Foreign credentials must be equated to US standards using World Education Services at <http://www.wes.org>. Minimum of five years of college administrative experience required primarily in the areas of student records, registration, admissions or other support areas, including at least one year of supervisory experience. Experience in budget and student services planning at the college level is required.

Serious inquiries can be made to the Human Resources Office at email address hro@comfsm.fm and telephone number (691) 320-2482 or visit us at www.comfsm.fm for application, details, and requirements.

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- 6) Adhesive rubber patches for repairing inner tubes;
- 7) Inner tubes for bicycles;
- 8) Inner tubes for motorcycles;
- 9) Inner tubes for pneumatic tires;
- 10) Inner tubes for vehicle wheels;
- 11) Inner tubes for vehicle tires;
- 12) Luggage nets for vehicles;
- 13) Pneumatic tires;
- 14) Repair outfits for inner tubes;
- 15) Rims for vehicle wheels;
- 16) Saddle covers for bicycles;
- 17) Saddle covers for motorcycles;
- 18) Safety belts for vehicle seats;
- 19) Brake segments for vehicles;
- 20) Shock absorbers for vehicles;
- 21) Ski carriers for cars;
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Vice President George Attends Memorial Service for CNMI Late Governor Inos



FSM Information Services

January 12, 2016

On January 11, 2016, FSM Vice President Yosiwo George arrived on Saipan to attend the state funeral for the late Governor Eulogio Songao Inos of Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Vice President George was among many heads of state and government officials who attended the memorial tribute on January 12, 2016 at the Borja Funeral Home. On behalf of President Peter Christian, and the Government and the people of FSM, Vice President George conveyed sympathy to the family of the late Governor and the people of CNMI for the unfortunate passing of Governor Inos.

Governor Inos held office from 2013-2015 and served as Lieutenant Governor of CNMI from 2009-2013 before he assumed office as Governor. Gov. Eloy S. Inos passed away at the age of 66, on Tuesday December 29, 2015, following recovery from open heart surgery in Seattle, Washington.

Accompanying Vice President George was the FSM Guam Consul General, Mr. Robert Ruecho.

Dame Meg Taylor appointed by UN Secretary General to Every Woman Every Child High Level Advisory Group

Suva, Fiji: Dame Meg Taylor, Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, this week was appointed by the United Nations Secretary General to the Every Woman Every Child High Level Advisory Group.

The Group will provide leadership and inspire action for women's, children's and adolescent's health as the world begins working towards implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

See "Advisory Group" on page 15



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Happy New Year

2016 Chinese Lunar New Year falls on February 8. It is the Year of the Monkey according to Chinese zodiac. It will be a great chance to experience the traditional folk customs!



Origin and History of Chinese New Year

2016 Chinese Lunar New Year falls on February 8. It is the Year of the Monkey according to Chinese zodiac. It will be a great chance to experience the traditional folk customs!

Customs and Activities of Chinese New Year

The Chinese New Year, or Spring Festival as it is sometimes called, is a 15-day festival in traditional custom. It can be generally divided into three periods, the days preceding the festival, the festival days and the days after the Spring Festival Day. There are different customs related to each period:

Preceding Days

Cleaning and Purchasing

Cleaning before the New Year is a tradition in Chinese culture. The grounds, the walls, and every corner of the house need to be cleaned. In Chinese, "Dust" is a homophone for the word "old" (Chen), thus cleaning means to drive the bad luck or the old things away from the house to get ready for a new start.

After cleaning people will go shopping and buy new clothes for the festival. People in China believe that since this is a year anew they should buy a lot of new things. Purchasing new items symbolizes welcoming new things and getting ready for a new start.

Spring Festival Couplets

Couplets are typically pasted on doorways as a part of the festival's celebration. The custom of pasting couplets can be traced back over one thousand years to the Later Shu State (934 - 965). The original form of modern couplets was called "Taofu", a piece of peach wood protecting against evil without any writing on. In the Song Dynasty (960 - 1279), the antithetical couplets began to be written on the wood to express people's good wishes as well as being a decoration. Later, the modern form of couplets appeared replacing peach wood with the red paper. The couplets include antithetical on two sides and a horizontal scroll hanging on the top.

Pasting the "Fu"

The character "Fu", meaning good fortune or happiness, is used to express people's good wishes and yearning for the future, so people usually paste it gates or some



furniture in the house during the Chinese New Year. Pasting the "Fu" upside down, meaning the arrival of happiness or good fortune, is a widely accepted and popular custom among Chinese people. Other auspicious characters and patterns are added to express good wishes.

In the ancient time, this character and the couplets were written by hand, but now, people can buy printed ones in shopping malls or supermarkets. Some shops even present these printed works to customers who buy something in their shops.

Paper-Cuts

Auspicious words or pictures are cut on red paper and pasted on windows to express good wishes for the future during the happy event.

New Year Pictures

They originated in Tang Dynasty (618 - 907) with simple patterns to drive away evil. Now they are a kind of decoration for the festival. New meanings and patterns such as conventions, women and babies have been added to the old pictures. Different places in China have different styles of pictures.

Greeting Cards

The Cards are prepared before the festival. In the past, some people sent cards to their friends, parents, teachers and other relatives during the happy event especially when they were not going to be with them on Spring Festival's Eve. Words of blessing are written on the cards similar to Christmas cards. Now, with the advance of technology, the form of cards has changed, the custom of sending cards continues.

The Gate Gods

In Taoism and folk-custom, the Gods of the Gate, one of the most popular gods, guard houses. Ancient people pasted their pictures on the door to drive away evil and keep their houses safe. Now their pictures are pasted on the doors during the Spring Festival.

Chinese Knots

They are prepared to decorate houses during the festival. They were first used to string jade pendants on clothes as decorations and these knots were widely used in different places such as flute, Xiao (a vertical bamboo flute), curtain and so on as decorations.

Now these knots are used as gifts containing the blessing for other people or decorations.



Festival Time

Having reunion dinners, eating dumplings, staying up all night, setting off firecrackers and other activities are the most popular customs of the Spring Festival. Besides, visiting relatives, gifts are also exchanged during the first days of the festival.

Eating Dumplings

The most important food during Chinese New Year is the dumpling (jiaozi). Made with flour and stuffed with different fillings, dumplings are usually eaten on the Eve. Because their shape resembles the Yuanbao (a kind of money used in ancient times), dumplings are eaten to bring wealth in the coming year. People wrap coins, candy, peanuts, or chestnuts in some of the dumplings to express different blessing for example a coin for wealth, candy for sweet life, peanuts for health and longevity, and chestnuts for vigor. It is also a custom in many parts of China to eat dumplings on Jan. 1st and Jan. 15th of lunar calendar.

Staying Up:

The custom of staying up all night dates back to the Northern and Southern Dynasties (420-289). In ancient times, after the reunion dinner, families members chatted around the stove while waiting for the arrival of the new year. Now they watch CCTV New Year's Gala.

CCTV New Year's Gala:

This is a comprehensive art and performance event on the festival's eve. Since it was first broadcasted in 1983, it has become a beloved performance for most Chinese people. Performances include basic elements such as skits, cross talk (Xiangsheng), acrobatics, songs and dances. Recently more and more foreign artists are appearing which provides Chinese people a window into western cultures. The performance always ends with the song "Cannot Forget Tonight".

Firecrackers and Fireworks:

Firecrackers are always set off at midnight. In some places, people also set off firecrackers on the morning of the first day. The use of firecrackers can be traced to the legend of the Monster Nian in 2,000 years ago, when people threw bamboo into the fire to drive away the monster. After gunpowder was invented, firecrackers replaced the bamboo. Because fires can be easily started by the firecrackers, many places ban firecrackers except in designated areas. Fireworks are also set off in the evening of Lantern Festival.

Red Envelope:

Red envelope, also known as lucky money, is prepared for children by adults and the elderly and given after the reunion dinner. In folk culture, the children will live safe and sound for the whole year if they get lucky money. This custom still remains and the amount of money is increasing. Children use their money to buy books or other school supplies. Some families also save the

money for future use or use it to help cultivate in their children the habit of saving.

Following Days

Visting Friends and Relatives

A special way for people to express good wishes to each other and an important activity during the festival is to visit their friends and relatives. In ancient times younger people had to salute the elderly by kowtowing; today they salute them by offering good wishes. In response, the older generation gives them money wrapped in red paper.

Generally speaking, people drop in at relatives and friends' houses, greeting one another with 'Happy New Year'. This custom has not changed. In some rural places, where families have many relatives, this activity lasts for several days. It is impolite to visit someone without a gift. Therefore, special local products, fruits, desserts, wines and other small gifts should be taken when you visit others.

Although busy people choose to send greetings by telephone or e-mail, the old tradition of paying visits is still popular.

Temple Fairs

Temple fair is another old practice in festival traditions, especially in Beijing. Although they originally were a form of worship connected with temples, now they are more like carnivals and are sometimes held in parks. Traditional cultural performances such as playing diabolo, traditional magic, puppet shows and so on can be seen. Besides, people can buy all kinds of daily using things at very low prices.



During and after the festival, Beijing has temple fairs almost every day in different places such as Wangfujing, Altar of the Earth and Dragon Pool Park.

Enjoying Colorful Festive Lanterns

The Lantern Festival marks the end of the festival. Lanterns in different shapes are displayed on the evening of Jan. 15th of lunar month. In ancient times, these lanterns were made of paper or silk with candles placed inside. Now the materials have changed and the candles have replaced by bulbs or LEDs. In many cities, organizations or local government decorate the gardens and other places with lanterns so you can enjoy their beauty.

Chinese New Year Food

Mention Chinese New Year Food, dumplings, fish and a reunion dinner may come into mind; however, these are not the only foods associated with the abundant New Year Food—a symbol of Chinese food culture. Every dish has its symbolism deeply rooted in Chinese culture. Different kinds of food have different meanings, which express people's good wishes for a new year.

Dumpling

The Chinese dumpling now enjoys worldwide popularity. Its history can be traced back to South and North Dynasty (420 –589). It was very popular to eat dumplings during the Chinese New Year during the Ming (1368 – 1644) and Qing Dynasty (1644 – 1911) in North China. Dumplings are often eaten at the midnight. This kind of tradition has a meaning of changing of years, because “jiao” has the meaning of changing. There are two other reasons to eat dumplings: the dumpling's shape resembles the Chinese tael, which hopes to bring in wealth and treasures in next year. The second reason is that the dumplings have stuffing, in which people often put auspicious materials inside. In some places, people even put a clean coin into the dumplings, because they think the one who eats the coin will become wealthier.



Nowadays, dumplings are the major food on the New Year's Eve and the first meal on the first and the fifth day of New Year.

Fish

Fish is an indispensable dish on the reunion dinner, because Chinese people give it many kinds of meanings. Fish has its Chinese pronunciation as ‘Yu’, which means having more than just a basic need each year. In southern China, some people just eat the middle part of the fish on the New Year Eve, leaving the head and tail to the next day to symbolize completeness. In China, there is a blessing speech as ‘Nian Nian You Yu’, which means ‘May you have surpluses and bountiful harvests every year.’



New Year's Dinner

Also being called Reunion Dinner, it is very large and sumptuous and includes meat and fish as well as all kinds of vegetables. The pronunciation of fish makes it a homophone for ‘surpluses’ and the fish is not eaten completely, as the Chinese phrase “may there be surpluses every year” sounds the same as “let there be fish every year” in Chinese pronunciation. Sweet food is also necessary in the wishing of a luscious life in next year. The number of dishes also important, the number is always six, eight or ten, which means smooth, getting prosperous and perfect respectively. Now more and more people choose to have the reunion dinner in restaurants instead of cooking on themselves.

Rice Dumpling (Yuanxiao)

Yuan Xiao

Since the Song Dynasty (960 – 1279), people have had the custom of eating Yuanxiao during the Lantern Festival (Yuanxiao Festival). Now Yuanxiao are eaten on the morning of the first day of New Year (Jan. 1st of first lunar month) in southern part of the country. But for most places, it is eaten during the Lantern Festival (Jan. 15th of first lunar month), because the round shape is the symbol of family reunion.

People in north and south of China have different eating habits and making processes of rice dumplings. In south part of the country, the rice dumplings are called Tangyuan in Chinese.

The making process is similar with that of the traditional dumplings. Dough made by glutinous rice powder is made first and then use the dough to wrap the stuffing such as bean paste, brown sugar and all kinds of fruits and nuts. But in north part of the country, the rice dumplings are called Yuanxiao, and are made by wrapping glutinous rice flour onto stuffing. Fillings are made first; then flour is put into a bamboo basket and then fillings into the basket. Shaking the basket, the flour can stick to the fillings, so that the rice dumplings can be finished.

Spring Rolls

It was first eaten on fourth day of February in Eastern Jin Dynasty (317 – 420). Fresh vegetables or ingredients in spring time are wrapped inside and people eat it to welcome a new spring. Now it has also become a dessert in some places in the reunion dinner, which contain people's wish to welcome a new start.



New Year Cake

Glutinous New Year Cake was originally used to worship the gods and ancestors during this festival. In the south of China, it is customary to make and eat it during the happy event. The Chinese pronunciation of the Cake (Niangao) has a homophonous meaning of ‘increasingly prosperous year after year’, which gives people new hope. The cake is made of glutinous rice powder and can be cooked by frying, steaming, stir-frying or boiling.

Laba Congee

The preparation of the Chinese New Year began from the Laba Festival (the Dec. 8th of lunar calendar), so Laba Congee is also regarded as a kind of festival food. Laba congee is a ceremonial congee dish eaten during the Laba Festival. It includes different kinds of rice, ormosia, dates, peanuts and melon seeds. It originated in Buddhism, in which the congee was only served for the Buddha. In Ming and Qing dynasties, people sacrificed Laba congee to their ancestors or sent it to relatives, as a blessing. The emperors would bestow the congee to their ministers as well as temples. Chinese people also sacrifice the Laba congee to the Five Cereals Gods. These kinds of ceremonies disappeared, but the custom of having Laba congee remains.



Hot Pot

Hot pot is a necessary dish in some places in the country. Eating hot pot makes people feel warm and the atmosphere is very kind. The red color indicates that the following year is booming.



Shehuo:

Shehuo is often part of the Lantern Festival particularly in Northwestern China. Shehuo is a form of worship consisting of both shows and parades. It includes a variety of performances such as the dragon and lion dances, yangko (a popular rural folk dance), and performers on stilts. The Shehuo stories come from Shaanxi operas. People crowd the roads to watch the exciting parade.

Rice Dumplings

In many regions, the Rice Dumpling (Yuanxiao or Tangyuan) is a popular traditional food for the Lantern Festival. The dumplings are made of sticky rice flour stuffed with different fillings. Some do not have fillings. Their round shape symbolizes reunion, harmony and happiness. During the night of the Lantern Festival, family members gather together to eat the delicious Rice Dumplings and appreciate the full moon.





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RMI elects first female President after no confidence vote

By GIFF JOHNSON
Marshall Islands Journal

The ousting Tuesday January 26 of Casten Nemra, only two weeks into his term as President, by a successful vote of no confidence, suggests family ties have trumped customary authority that once dominated the Marshall Islands Nitijela's leadership lineup.

Dr. Hilda Heine's election Wednesday (January 27) is another unprecedented twist in the leadership battles that have played out in Nitijela (parliament) this month — she is the first woman elected president in the RMI and, indeed, the first female elected head of state in any independent nation in the Pacific islands.

Despite Kwajalein Senator and Iroij Mike Kabua's orchestration of Nemra's one-vote victory as President on January 4, the coalition that propelled him to the presidency as the youngest and only the second commoner president collapsed in fewer than five days. Key to this was the defection of the three Heine family members — all Cabinet ministers during the past four years of the Loeak administration — to the opposition. The Heines' move to the opposition followed Nemra offering Cabinet postings to only two of the three — Hilda and Wilbur, but not Thomas.

The trio's move followed a number of members of the so-called Solids group jumping to support Nemra and later receiving Cabinet postings in the short-lived government. But when he announced his Cabinet at the January 11 swearing in ceremony, only eight of the 10 members were named, an omission that suggested the difficulties that were to come in the days following.

Another first for the government and Nitijela was Friday's resignation from Cabinet of T&C Minister Mike Halferty, who held the post for just 11 days. In a one-sentence letter of resignation, he told Nemra he was resigning "for political reasons." Nemra in turn thanked Halferty for his "integrity and decency in writing to me personally" about his resignation.

With his Cabinet increasingly in tatters, the no confidence vote was just a matter of time. At Monday's debate on the motion brought by the opposition coalition, Nemra, Kabua, Foreign Minister Kessai Note and other government party leaders used outrigger canoe metaphors and Marshallese terms to describe the no confidence move as premature and unreasonable given the Nemra government's two weeks in office. But the opposition coalition was resolute: this was a number's game, and Nemra's administration didn't have a majority it needed to govern.

"Never before in our nation's history has there been such a strongly expressed mandate for change in an election," no confidence introducer Senator John Silk told the Nitijela and the nation Monday to kick off the debate. "The present government does not have such a mandate or even a majority sufficient to appoint a fully functioning Cabinet. It does not have any mandate from the members of Nitijela or the Marshallese people." Silk said the last thing the RMI needed at a time when many pressing issues weighed heavily on the nation needing urgent attention "is a weak and ineffective government."

Silk, correctly predicting the vote's outcome, said Monday morning: "If the vote of no confidence goes forward today, it will succeed." In fact, a roll call vote Monday to decide whether the session would recess until Tuesday or Thursday demonstrated the government's lack of votes: Foreign Minister Kessai Note asked for an extension of time until Thursday, while the opposition called for the body to return Tuesday to conduct the vote. The government could only muster 15 votes — which actually included an abstention by opposition Senator David Paul, tallied as a "yes" vote for Thursday — in support of the Thursday motion, so the Nitijela reconvened Tuesday as demanded by opposition senators.

The result Tuesday: 21-12 in favor of the no confidence motion. It was only the second successful vote of no confidence out of eight such motions brought in Nitijela since 1998. The Constitution gives the Nitijela a 14-day window in which to elect a new

President following a successful vote of no confidence. Majuro Senator David Kramer called for convening the following day, Wednesday, to elect the President, and the body adjourned for 24-hours. Meanwhile, the opposition coalition — soon to the government — moved its location to local restaurants Tuesday afternoon and evening to make its final decision on the nomination for President to be put forward Wednesday at Nitijela: Dr. Hilda Heine, who also claims the distinction as the only Marshall Islander to achieve a Ph.D.



Photo Courtesy of the Marshall Islands Journal



Photo Courtesy of the Office of the President, Republic of the Marshall Islands

First Gentleman, Mr. Tommy Kijiner, holds the Bible as President Hilda C. Heine takes the oath of office administered by District Court Judge Milton Zackios held this morning at the Cabinet Conference room.

...Advisory Group

Continued fom page 10

"If we are to transform the world then we must ensure an environment for future generations that prioritises health and well-being," said Dame Meg. "Healthy women, children and adolescents are a foundation for prosperous communities and sustainable development within those communities. Everyone should have the opportunity to achieve their full potential by living healthy and worthwhile lives".

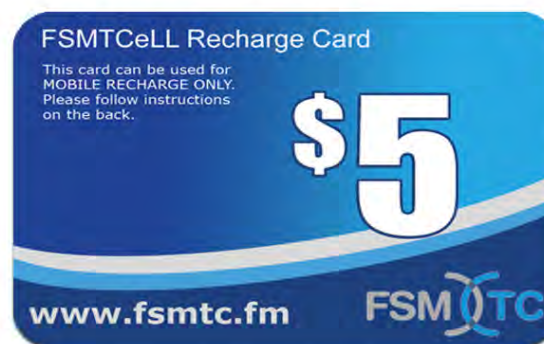
The High Level Group will provide advice to the UN Secretary General and regularly report on progress, key challenges and make recommendations on important issues including accountability, financing and

implementation of the Every Woman Every Child Initiative and the recently launched Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescent's Health.


"I believe this is vitally important work and I stand ready to receive and share the thoughts and ideas of people, communities and countries across the Pacific. I will depend on assistance from key Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific agencies, and in fact I have already been assured by SPCs Director General Dr. Colin Tukuitonga, that they stand ready to offer their technical advice and support."

Every Woman Every Child is a movement focused on driving action to address the considerable health challenges facing women, children and adolescents around the world.

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customerservice@fsmtc.fm
www.fsmtc.fm

Newly arrived Australian Ambassador hosts celebration of Australia Day

The Kaselehlie Press

January 26, 2016

Nanpohnmal, Pohnpei—One day after Australia's Ambassador to the FSM, George Fraser presented his credentials to President Peter Christian, he hosted a celebration of Australia Day at the Australian Residential Compound in Nanpohnmal.

The turnout by the invited guests for the popular annual event was high and the conversational volume level was nearly deafening, but the importance of the event for Australians was not lost on the guests.

Ambassador Fraser gave a speech during the function to which FSM's Deputy Secretary for Foreign Affairs Samson Pretrick responded, each speech followed by toasts. No stranger to the Pacific Islands, Ambassador Fraser hoisted a coconut into the air for the toasts.

The text of Ambassador Fraser's speech follows:

"...Yesterday afternoon I was honoured to present my credentials to His Excellency President Peter Christian, who welcomed me to this beautiful country.

"It is a great pleasure to welcome you formally this evening as Australia's Ambassador to celebrate the National Day of Australia. I look forward to meeting all of you in the course of my posting and building friendships between our two countries.

"The relationship between the Federated States of Micronesia and Australia continues to grow and I am conscious of the responsibility I have to protect and develop it.

"January 26th marks the day in 1788 when the first people from Britain established themselves on the Australian continent, at a place where Sydney now stands.

"Australia is therefore a young country with a colonial past – a history we share in many ways with our friends and neighbors in the Pacific. And despite the travelling time from FSM to Australia, we are fact quite close neighbours.

"I am very comfortable being back in the Pacific Islands – having come from Head of Mission appointments in Kiribati and before that, Nauru. Each posting I have in the region just gets better and better.

"As some of you may know my wife, Denise, has been attending to her business interests in Taiwan and will arrive here next month. I'm certain she will also be much at home here in Pohnpei Sarawi.

"As we stand in the midst of this stunning landscape I acknowledge the women and men who are the traditional owners of the land here in Nahnpohnmal, and I pay my respects and express our gratitude for allowing us to reside here.

"Australia, as a member of the Pacific community, has a long standing and deep commitment to the prosperity, stability and security of Pacific Island states. Our relations are based on a common interest in a well-governed and secure region, economic growth, social development and properly-functioning regional institutions."

Australia's annual development assistance in the



Photo by Darsy Augustine



Photo by Darsy Augustine



Pacific is more than \$A 600 million, or around one quarter of Australia's total aid budget. It is based on several key themes:

- Stronger economic growth, underpinned by private sector development.
- More effective, accountable and democratic government, based on good governance.
- Improved systems of justice and security.
- Enhanced delivery of health and education services.
- Improving gender equality.

Today we also congratulate Australia's former army chief Gen. David Morrison, AO, who has been named Australian of the Year for 2016, by Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull in Canberra. This honour is in recognition of his commitment to gender equality, diversity and inclusion. He has spoken out publicly, vowing to be "ruthless" against those who stood in the way of gender equality in Australia's armed services.

He also appeared at the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict in London in 2014, alongside US Secretary of State John Kerry and actor and activist Angelina Jolie. As many of you know promoting greater gender equality, and reducing gender-based violence is one the Australian Government's most pressing priorities, at home and overseas.

Our aid program focusses on technical assistance and capacity building. At present we have an Australian adviser helping to strengthen Education in FSM and we are seeking to provide more support to women's and youth groups under Australia's 10-year and \$100 million program of 'Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development'.

Australia provides scholarships to the University of the South Pacific for Micronesian students to study in fields such as medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing, law, science, accounting and business administration. These scholarships cover academic fees, accommodation and living allowances, and return airfares, including for the spouses of scholarship recipients.

I urge you all to encourage your students to apply for these scholarships so that we may continue to help build the human potential in the FSM.

We are working together to address illegal fishing and transnational crime through maritime surveillance programs. Australia's Pacific Patrol Boat Program represents a thirty year commitment towards this goal.

Australia also contributes to emergency and disaster relief efforts as required particularly through our Climate Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Education program (CADRE). Australia stands at the ready to assist where we can following disasters such as our \$ A100,000 contribution towards Typhoon Maysak through IOM last year.

This year, with the FSM as host of the Pacific Islands Forum, we look forward to working together to celebrate achievements of the FSM and the Pacific as a region, and come up with innovative ways of supporting FSM as the host and working together for a more peaceful, resilient and prosperous Pacific.

Deputy Secretary Pretrick, it gives me great pleasure to propose a toast to the Government and people of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Thank you all.

TRADE MARK CAUTIONARY NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our client, Hankook Tire Worldwide Co., Ltd. of 133, Teheran-ro(Yeoksam-dong), Gangnam-gu, Seoul, Korea, is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark:

Hankook Smart City

To be used in connection with the following list of goods:

- 1) Automobile tires;
- 2) Bicycle tires;
- 3) Casings for pneumatic tires;
- 4) Covers for tires;
- 5) Motorcycle tires;
- 6) Adhesive rubber patches for repairing inner tubes;
- 7) Inner tubes for bicycles;
- 8) Inner tubes for motorcycles;
- 9) Inner tubes for pneumatic tires;
- 10) Inner tubes for vehicle wheels;
- 11) Inner tubes for vehicle tires;
- 12) Luggage nets for vehicles;
- 13) Pneumatic tires;
- 14) Repair outfits for inner tubes;
- 15) Rims for vehicle wheels;
- 16) Saddle covers for bicycles;
- 17) Saddle covers for motorcycles;
- 18) Safety belts for vehicle seats;
- 19) Brake segments for vehicles;
- 20) Shock absorbers for vehicles;
- 21) Ski carriers for cars;
- 22) Spikes for tires;
- 23) Studs for tires;
- 24) Tires for vehicle wheels;
- 25) Tires, solid, for vehicle wheels;
- 26) Treads for retreading tires;
- 27) Treads for vehicles [roller belts];
- 28) Treads for vehicles [tractor type];
- 29) Tubeless tires for bicycles;
- 30) Tubeless tires for motorcycles;
- 31) Valves for vehicle tires;
- 32) Vehicle wheel tires;

Our abovementioned client has instructed us and wishes us to bring to the notice of the trade and public that they attach singular importance to their abovementioned Trade Mark and that legal action will be taken against any person or persons who act in infringement of the rights of our client. Any inquiry relative thereto may be referred to ourselves being their agent:

Hilborne, Hawkin & Co.
2875 Michelle Drive, Suite 170
Irvine, California 92606
United States of America
Telephone: (714) 283-1155
Facsimile: (714) 283-1555
Email: info@hilbornehawkin.com

2016/2017 Chinese Government Scholarship Application

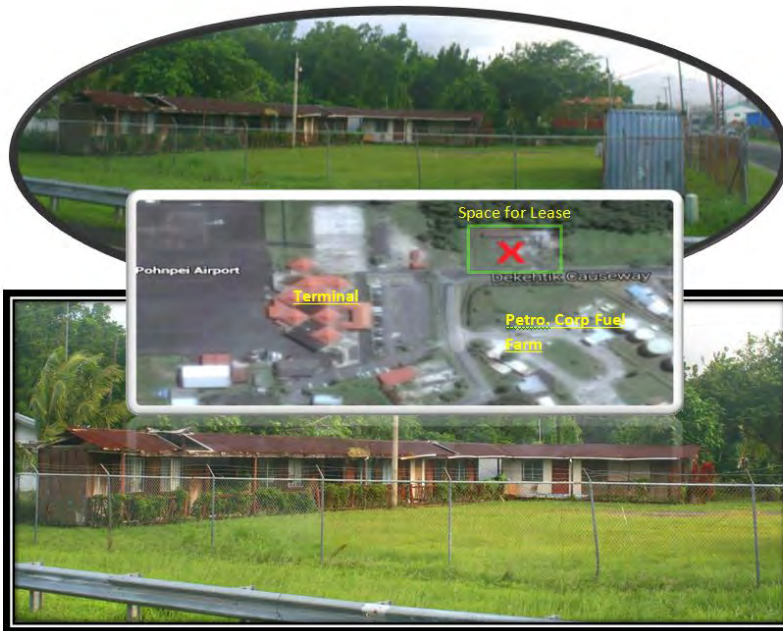
2016/2017 Chinese Government Scholarship is now open for application. The scholarship offers such programs as undergraduate, master, doctoral, general scholar and senior scholar.

The Embassy of People's Republic of China in FSM welcomes eligible FSM high school graduates, bachelor's degree holders, master's degree holders and so on to apply online. Firstly log on to www.csc.edu.cn/laihua or www.campuschina.org and fill in the application form. Your "Agency Number" is 5831. Secondly download the completed form and print two hard copies. Then submit the hard copies and other corresponding application documents to the Chinese Embassy no later than April 16th, 2016.

For more details and requirements, please consult the Chinese Embassy or refer to www.csc.edu.cn/laihua.

**Contact person: Mr. Song/ Deqin
Tel: 320-5575 Fax:320-5578
E-mail: chinaemb_fm@mfa.gov.cn**

**The Embassy of People's Republic of China to FSM
Jan. 13, 2016**



Pohnpei Port Authority is soliciting proposals from businesses or individuals interested in leasing the above marked X area as it is across the Petro Corp fuel farm east side of the airport main road. The size of the area is 109 X 157 square feet or a total of 17,113 square feet. All proposals shall be accepted from 02/05/16 to 02/19/16. no later than 5:00pm.

Pohnpei Port Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received in connection with the above subject proposing solicitation.

Additional information regarding this proposal can be obtained from the office of Pohnpei Port Authority, Marketing Manager located at Dekehtik main building, Pohnpei State, Federated State of Micronesia by contacting the following phone numbers: (691)-320-2793/2682 or email 1485sano1957@gmail.com.

Nelperson Etse
General Manager
Pohnpei Port Authority

TRADE MARK CAUTIONARY NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our client, Hankook Tire Worldwide Co., Ltd. of 133, Teheran-ro(Yeoksam-dong), Gangnam-gu, Seoul, Korea, is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark:

Hankook Smart Control

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- 4) Covers for tires;
- 5) Motorcycle tires;
- 6) Adhesive rubber patches for repairing inner tubes;
- 7) Inner tubes for bicycles;
- 8) Inner tubes for motorcycles;
- 9) Inner tubes for pneumatic tires;
- 10) Inner tubes for vehicle wheels;
- 11) Inner tubes for vehicle tires;
- 12) Luggage nets for vehicles;
- 13) Pneumatic tires;
- 14) Repair outfits for inner tubes;
- 15) Rims for vehicle wheels;
- 16) Saddle covers for bicycles;
- 17) Saddle covers for motorcycles;
- 18) Safety belts for vehicle seats;
- 19) Brake segments for vehicles;
- 20) Shock absorbers for vehicles;
- 21) Ski carriers for cars;
- 22) Spikes for tires;
- 23) Studs for tires;
- 24) Tires for vehicle wheels;
- 25) Tires, solid, for vehicle wheels;
- 26) Treads for retreading tires;
- 27) Treads for vehicles [roller belts];
- 28) Treads for vehicles [tractor type];
- 29) Tubeless tires for bicycles;
- 30) Tubeless tires for motorcycles;
- 31) Valves for vehicle tires;
- 32) Vehicle wheel tires;

Our abovementioned client has instructed us and wishes us to bring to the notice of the trade and public that they attach singular importance to their abovementioned Trade Mark and that legal action will be taken against any person or persons who act in infringement of the rights of our client. Any inquiry relative thereto may be referred to ourselves being their agent:

Hilborne, Hawkin & Co.
2875 Michelle Drive, Suite 170
Irvine, California 92606
United States of America
Telephone: (714) 283-1155
Facsimile: (714) 283-1555
Email: info@hilbornehawkin.com

TRADE MARK CAUTIONARY NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our client, Hankook Tire Worldwide Co., Ltd. of 133, Teheran-ro(Yeoksam-dong), Gangnam-gu, Seoul, Korea, is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark:

Hankook Smart Work

To be used in connection with the following list of goods:

- 1) Automobile tires;
- 2) Bicycle tires;
- 3) Casings for pneumatic tires;
- 4) Covers for tires;
- 5) Motorcycle tires;
- 6) Adhesive rubber patches for repairing inner tubes;
- 7) Inner tubes for bicycles;
- 8) Inner tubes for motorcycles;
- 9) Inner tubes for pneumatic tires;
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- 11) Inner tubes for vehicle tires;
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Facsimile: (714) 283-1555
Email: info@hilbornehawkin.com

RFP Ref No: NFC RFP 16-01



NATIONAL FISHERIES CORPORATION
AN AGENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
P.O. BOX R, KOLONIA, POHNPEI, FSM 96941
TEL. NO. (691) 320-2529 FAX NO. (691) 320-2239

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**1. General**

The FSM National Fisheries Corporation, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, hereby solicit proposal bid from interested individual, firms or organizations to develop the Corporation's Five Year Strategic Development Plan for FY 2017-2021.

Such strategic development plan is required under provisions of "Sections (6) and (7) of PL 13-14".

2. Eligible Applicants

The following kinds and types of firms, agencies and organizations within the Federated States of Micronesia, and other neighboring entities, inclusive of other nations shall be eligible to submit proposals:

1. Private, independent licensed management consulting individual;
2. firms or agencies;
3. Community-based non-profit institutions or agencies;
4. Other related fisheries organizations.

Proposals from other entities may be considered in case of hard to find applicants from within the aforementioned localities above.

3. General Scope of Work

(Additional work scopes may be added, if applicable)

- a. comprehensive blueprint of the Corporation's strategic direction and operating programs for the five years period consistent with the roles of the Corporation as the national fisheries organization establish to develop the FSM pelagic fisheries;
- b. strategic planning process of defining its strategy, or direction, and making decision on allocating its resources to pursue such strategy;
- c. It should include key components such as Vision, Mission, Goal and Objectives and Performance measures;
- d. Part of the Plan would include a Management Plan for carrying out strategic plan and to be implemented with proper control.
- e. The proposal should also recommend the best time budget plan to implement strategies on how to achieve goal and objectives, for monthly, quarterly and annual budget plans.
- f. It should also include components such as operating budget (sales budget, Administrative Expense budget and budgeted income statements) and the financial budget.
- g. The Strategic Plan should be designed with NFC's Management's vision consistent with the NORMA's Tuna Plan, PNA and the FSM Arrangement objectives.
- h. Such planning will review past, current and future prospects of the fisheries development environment both from domestic, sub-regional and regional trends perspectives.
- i. Performance measures to implement and monitor the progress of achievement on goals and objectives through reporting requirement should be developed and identified.

4. Format

All interested parties and/or agencies may adopt any generally accepted style and format of proposal writing as long as it provides the necessary information as follows:

1. Name and Address of Agency plus contact numbers, emails & website, if any.
2. Title of proposal and brief description of proposal (50 words or less)
3. Project Period: 2-3 months
4. Statement of Mission, Goals, objectives, performance outputs and timelines.
5. General Budget Outlays:
6. Clearance, endorsements & Supportive appendixes:
 - a. Letter of support and endorsements by relevant government/agencies officials and or reputable individuals;
 - b. Proofs of local reviews & clearances;
 - c. Copy of State Registry/licensures or certification as credible and/or legitimate agency.
 - d. List of past consultancy works and other supporting documents

5. Selection Criteria and review panel

These review and rating elements shall be used in reviewing and rating individually submitted proposals:

- a) Relevancies, Precision, Cost-effectiveness, Efficiency & Others. These elements account for the highest of the scoring unit on the total proposal, and applicants are required to present the rationale on how their proposals are relevant, applicable, precise, effective & efficient for the FSM National Fisheries Corporation (NFC) and needs.
- b) The FSM National Fisheries Corporation (NFC) reserves the rights to refuse any and/or all proposals on the basis of incompleteness and/or non-compliance. In case where no proposals will be accepted, the President-CEO shall re-announce the Request for Proposal accordingly.

6. Date of Submission

All proposals shall be submitted no later than the 11th of March 2016 at 1700 hours to the address below:

Mr. Peter Sitan
President-CEO
FSM National Fisheries Corporation
P. O. Box D, Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941
Tel: (691) 320-2529
Fax: (691) 320-2239

Email: psitan@mail.fm or psitan@nfc.fm

Employment Opportunities

College of Micronesia-FSM
Human Resources Office
P.O. Box 159
Kolonias, Pohnpei, FSM 96941
Phone: 691-320-2480 Fax: 691-320-2479



College of Micronesia – FSM Mission Statement: The College of Micronesia-FSM is a learner-centered institution of higher education that is committed to the success of the Federated States of Micronesia by providing academic, career and technical educational programs characterized by continuous improvement and best practices.

Values:



DEAN OF KOSRAE CAMPUS

Location: Kosrae Campus
Annual Salary: \$36, 007.00
Closing Date: February 17, 2016

POSITION PROFILE: The Campus Dean reports to the Vice President of Instructional Affairs (VPIA) and is responsible for providing strategic instructional and student services leadership that supports the mission, values, and goals of the College. The Dean will plan, implement, coordinate, and evaluate campus programs and services to ensure educational needs of the students and the community are satisfied.

DEAN OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Location: National Campus
Annual Salary: \$35, 297.00
Closing Date: February 17, 2016

POSITION PROFILE: The Dean of Academic Programs reports to the VPIA, oversees curriculum, and ensures development, delivery, and quality of all academic programs and services at all campus to support the mission, values, and goals of the College.

DEAN OF ASSESSMENT

Location: National Campus
Annual Salary: \$35, 650.00
Closing Date: March 02, 2016

POSITION PROFILE: The Dean of Assessment reports to the Vice President of Institutional, Effectiveness, and Quality Assurance (VPIEQA) and is responsible for oversight, management, and coordination of institutional assessments, data, and Instructional Research and Planning Office. Dean coordinates and works with campus, units, individuals, and committees to achieve and support effectiveness and quality assurance in support of the mission, values, and goals of the College.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDE, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

Master's degree from a US accredited institution in the relevant field with at least three (3) to five (5) years of progressive responsible administrative experience in higher education environment. Educational credentials must be from a US accredited college or equated to meet US standards using World Education Services at <http://www.wes.org>. Demonstrate commitment to student success.

Serious inquiries can be made to the Human Resources Office at email address hro@comfsm.fm and telephone number (691) 320-2482 or visit us at www.comfsm.fm for application, details, and requirements.

PATA Task Force explores homeport cruise opportunities in Guam And Micronesia

BANGKOK, Thailand (PATA, Jan. 27, 2016)—The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), at the request of the Guam Visitors Bureau (GVB) and the Micronesia Cruise Association (MCA), has assembled a PATA Task Force to recommend a public policy case and financially viable business model for the homeporting of a cruise line serving Guam and the neighboring islands of Micronesia.

The recommendations from the Task Force report, scheduled for publication in advance of the PATA Annual Summit 2016 in Guam, USA from May 18-21, will be used as a foundation to market the homeporting concept as a regional opportunity for cruise lines and operators seeking authentic and unexplored destinations. The final report will outline a recommended business model reflecting the costs and economic details pertinent to cruise lines, consumers and key stakeholders.

PATA CEO Mario Hardy stated, “A cruise line serving Micronesia with a homeport in Guam could capitalize upon the natural beauty, rich cultural heritage and various arts of the region as well as helping visitors to explore this less travelled region. The request of a PATA Task Force is a unique benefit for NTO PATA members and I am pleased that a government entity such as the Guam Visitors Bureau has taken this opportunity to reach out to us.”

The PATA Task Force is chaired by Twenty31 Consulting Inc., a destination development firm that harnesses the power of strategy, communications, research and technology to create a unique competitive position and a blueprint for the future for global leaders of organizations that span the tourism ecosystem. The Task Force members include Twenty31 Consulting senior partners Greg Klassen and Oliver Martin with the support of independent travel and tourism

industry experts Kevin Leong, an Associate Director with MasterConsult Services Pte. Ltd, Jillian Dickens, Director of Bannikin Travel & Tourism Ltd, and Paul Vallee, an Executive Consultant with GainingEdge.

“Developing the cruise industry is a vital component of our Tourism 2020 strategic plan,” said GVB General Manager Nathan Denight. “We’re excited to unveil the recommendations of the report at the PATA Annual Summit during the series of PATA internal meetings. This is a great example of how being a PATA member is beneficial to help propel Guam and Micronesia forward as an emerging cruise destination. We thank PATA and the PATA Task Force team for meeting with us.”

“A homeport sustainable cruise strategy would not only grow Guam’s share of this fast growing segment of the tourism industry but would also introduce discerning travelers to the exceptional, unique and authentic destinations of the Blue Continent,” said Greg Klassen.

The objectives of the Task Force are as follows:

- Determine the economic benefits of homeporting a cruise line in the region
- Determine the most feasible location for such homeporting
- Determine the economic viability and benefits of suggested inter-island cruise itineraries, attractions and tours
- Identify the existing and potential demand by international source markets
- Determine the ideal marketing strategy for each critical stakeholder and policy making audience identified

The islands of Micronesia include Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau.

President Christian visits Mwoakilloa and Pingelap Atolls

FSM Information Services

January 19, 2016

As part of his commitment to engage and dialogue with the FSM people, President Peter M. Christian visited the Eastern Islands of Mwoakilloa and Pingelap from January 12-15, 2016. Accompanying President Christian were Pohnpei State Senators Maskie A. Jim of Mwoakilloa, Daniel S. Isaac of Pingelap, and Sendilina Lekka of Nukuoro. The timely visits took place immediately following those Municipalities’ recent inaugurations of their new Governments.

On both Mwoakilloa and Pingelap Atolls, President Christian first engaged in open forums with residents, followed by formal meetings with Municipal officials. President Christian and his entourage also conducted site visits to the airstrips and the elementary school

facilities on these Atolls.

Common to these public facilities in both locations was the need for some repair and improvement work to ensure the safety of travelling visitors, citizens, and school students. President Christian assured municipal officials of both Atolls that he will do all he can to assist in these efforts; he also urged officials that as a first step, it would be appropriate that these requests for improvements are forwarded to the Governor of Pohnpei State and the Pohnpei State Legislature.

Since his election to the Presidency, President Christian has completed State visits to all the FSM States, as well as visits to numerous outer islands of the Federation. In the coming months, he plans to continue his outreach activities throughout the Nation’s other outer island communities.

Octo Cross

ACROSS

- 1. Particle
- 5. Tennis stroke
- 8. Travel by horse
- 9. Large flightless bird
- 10. Part of a hull
- 11. Atmosphere
- 12. Vacant
- 14. Concur
- 17. Romanian currency
- 18. Molten rock
- 22. Lamentable
- 23. Overt
- 24. Metal-bearing mineral
- 25. Adjacent

DOWN

- 1. Biblical boat
- 2. Neckwear
- 3. Lyric poem
- 4. Noisy fight
- 5. Bound

- 6. Exclude
- 7. Entomb
- 13. Fruit
- 14. In addition
- 15. Cogwheel
- 16. Ill-mannered
- 19. Simian
- 20. Irritate
- 21. Insect

1	2	3	4		5	6	7
8					9		
10					11		
			12	13			
14	15	16					
17				18	19	20	21
22				23			
24				25			

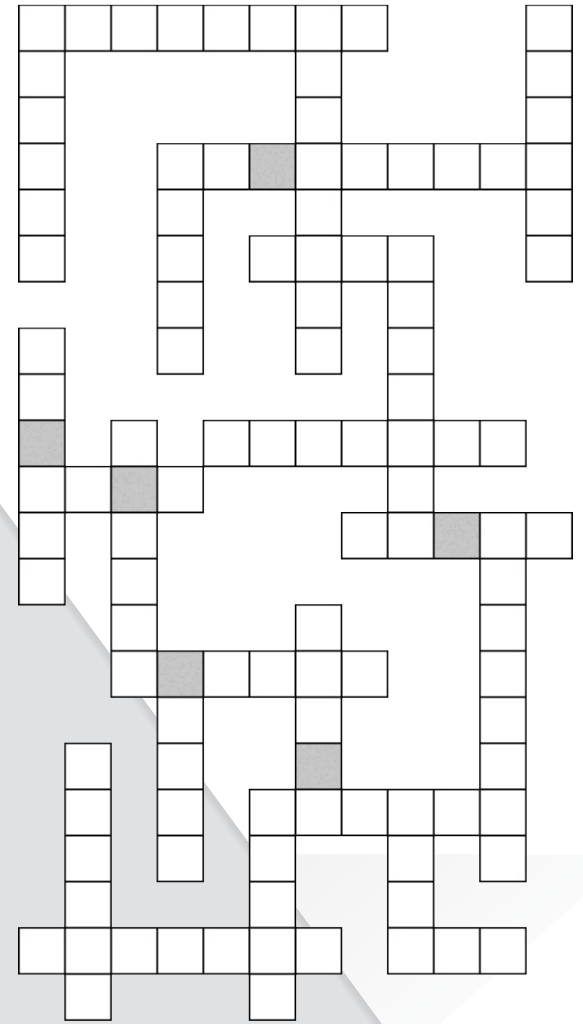
Can you fit the words correctly into the grid? The letters in the gray boxes will spell out another word.

3 letter word
SUN

4 letter words
MARS
MOON
STAR

5 letter words
COMET
EARTH
PLUTO
SPACE
VENUS

6 letter words
COSMOS
GALAXY
METEOR
NEBULA
PULSAR
SATURN
URANUS



7 letter words
JUPITER
MERCURY
NEPTUNE

9 letter word
SUPERNOVA

8 letter words
ASTEROID
MILKY WAY
UNIVERSE

Crossword - Go Green

Across

- 1 Pop ingredient, once
- 5 Press down
- 9 Idyllic places
- 14 Newspaper page
- 15 Hodgepodge
- 16 Corporate symbols
- 17 Stack
- 18 Clappers
- 19 Mosque officials
- 20 Acid rain cause
- 23 Gush
- 24 Romulus or Remus
- 25 Ingenious
- 29 Puts up
- 33 That girl
- 36 They're temporary
- 38 Buffalo's lake
- 39 One's impact on global warming
- 43 Jason's ship
- 44 Church officer
- 45 "Wanna ___?"
- 46 Vacation spot
- 49 Puts on cargo
- 51 Empty a boat
- 53 Bohemian dance
- 57 Global warming cause
- 62 Bicker
- 63 Go quickly
- 64 Streets in Strasbourg
- 65 Bergamot and perilla, e.g.
- 66 Like a pocket protector, perhaps
- 67 Fencer's item
- 68 Nice!
- 69 Close race decider
- 70 Slippery ones

Down

- 1 Small woods
- 2 Kind of den
- 3 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument
- 4 Experts
- 5 Bean curd
- 6 Winglike
- 7 Obey
- 8 Put forward
- 9 Magical drink
- 10 Tyrannize
- 11 "Yikes!"
- 12 Seward Peninsula city
- 13 Leaky tire sound
- 21 Conversation starter
- 22 Be behind
- 26 Charged particle
- 27 Bistro
- 28 Small hill
- 30 Nursery item
- 31 Fork feature
- 32 Cobblestone
- 33 Mark for life
- 34 Fabled racer
- 35 Units of work
- 37 ___ cracker
- 40 Idiot box
- 41 A Kennedy
- 42 Warms up
- 47 Least refined
- 48 Hermano de mi mama
- 50 Evening do
- 52 Ushered
- 54 Jeweler's glass
- 55 Show respect, in a way
- 56 Beasts of burden
- 57 Ship's company
- 58 Shrek, for one

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21					22					
23								24						
			25		26	27	28		29			30	31	32
33	34	35		36				37		38				
39			40						41	42				
43						44						45		
46				47	48		49			50				
			51			52			53		54	55	56	
	57	58					59	60	61					
62						63					64			
65						66					67			
68						69					70			

59 Hand in Honduras
60 Bothers
61 Eye affliction

62 Checkup sounds

Crossword - Food...

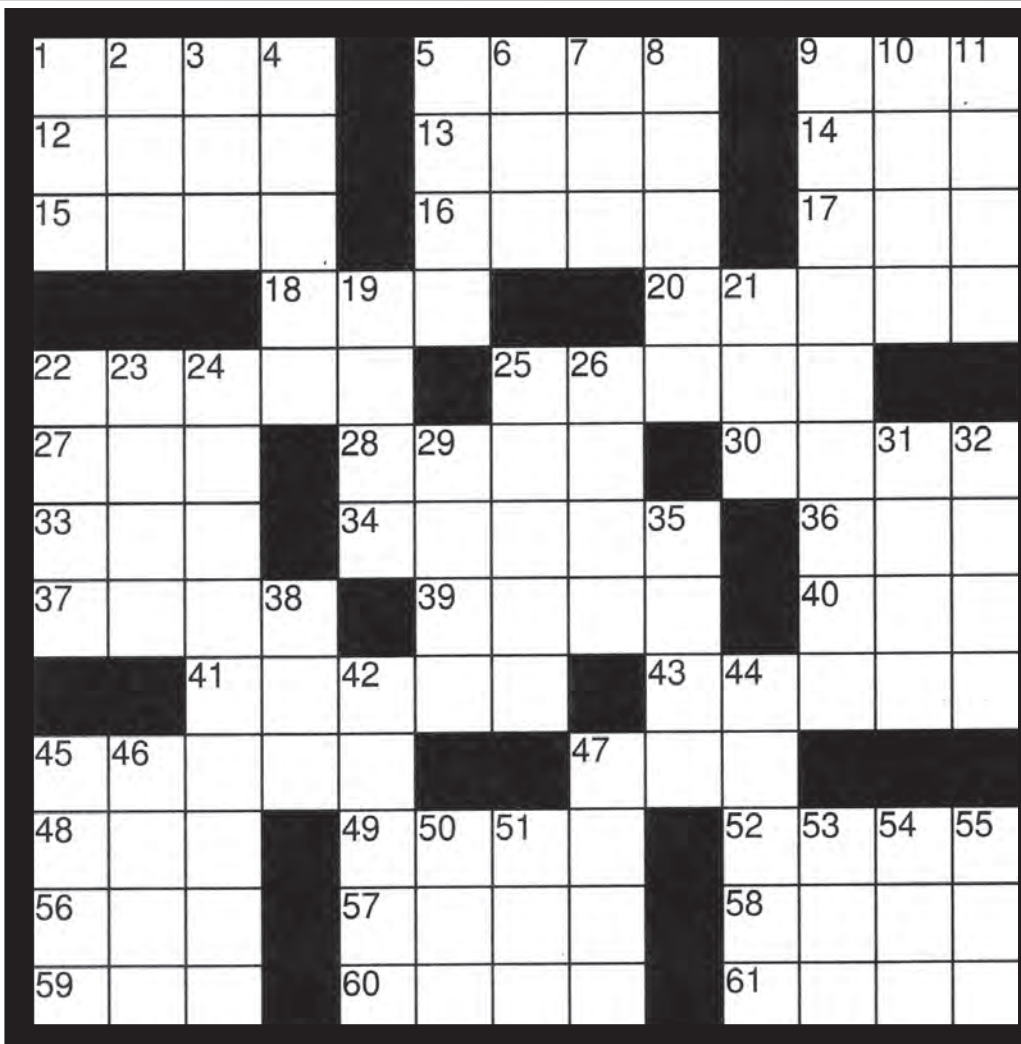
ACROSS

1. Dutch cheese
5. Brewer's yeast
9. Absorb, like gravy
12. Part of IPA
13. Recipe words
14. Another part of IPA
15. Italian cooking style?
16. Broil
17. Food school, for short
18. Recipe abbr.
20. Hungry-Man rival
22. Soy sauce
25. Red wine also called Shiraz
27. Way more than 18 Across
28. ___ Moco (a burger with a fried egg, rice, and brown gravy)
30. Spirit sometimes used in tapenade
33. Sushi tuna, often
34. Dos Equis, for one
36. Strong Brazilian coffee
37. Jicama or horseradish
39. ___ trout
40. Place often having a quaint restaurant
41. Frequent detail for Chinese food
43. Stovetop
45. Epicure's pride
47. Where to skim from
48. Sushi squid
49. A lubricating liquid

52. ___ apple
56. Sushi fish
57. Their tails are used in soup
58. Common fruit shape
59. Tea ___
60. More than merely dip
61. Keg tapper

DOWN

1. Farm spray watchdog
2. Indian legume or dish
3. ___ purpose flour
4. Like some beans
5. Food fish
6. Fruity drink
7. Advised quantities, for short
8. Seder spice
9. Artificial sweetener beverage
10. Aglio e ___
11. Fruit shaped like a light bulb
19. The "meat" of onion or garlic
21. ___ prik (hot sauce)
22. ___ fruit
23. Hostess product
24. Seasoning from a shaker
25. One without much meat



26. ___ Imperial apple
29. Seasons a pan, perhaps
31. Flan mold
32. Ice cream holder
35. UK candy bar
38. A "short shot" of a beverage
42. Red Bordeaux wine
44. Chef's garb
45. Bow ___ (farfalle)
46. Caribbean fruit resembling a peach
47. Loosely cover meat
50. Kitchen gadget
51. Black-eyed or goober ___
53. Caviar, for instance
54. ___ Tai (drink)
55. Shape for some kitchens

K P r e s s P u z z l e P l e a s u r e

C G R A P O N E P L R U Y
 H R E R T A O Y A A I N T N
 A A I R B T E V O A P E R
 E A L B E H A E E E W E O
 E E A F E D L R L R O P E
 S C Y L L I R A M E R E A
 O N A L P E R R U C H T I L
 E C R I E T E R B A W E L
 I K O A A I A E S R E T A Y
 N E T T L N D D D S O Y C W
 R E O U S A O E Q H L I M H
 H O E A R W O L A R N I L
 A L N L H A T S I I G O R
 C H I O T S Q W E E E M P Y

Your Word List Goes Below

Score

Insert the proper consonant into each empty circle to create the maximum number of 4-letter words. In the example, "V" would form the words "hovel," "verse," and "vying," but "T" (as shown) forms the words CATCH, HOTEL, TERSE, and TYING, for a total of 4 words. If you choose the right letters, you'll hit the 52-word Score. Use each consonant only once.

- C
D
G
H
K
M
P
R
T
V
Z

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 Ref.22342 PRICE: \$3,590 MITSUBISHI PAJERO IO Year 2001 AT 1,990cc PETROL Mileage 71,000km Color White	 Ref.23329 PRICE: \$4,340 NISSAN X-TRAIL Year 2002 AT 1,990cc PETROL Mileage 65,000km Color Silver	 Ref.22027 PRICE: \$2,370 MAZDA DEMIO Year 2004 F 1,340cc PETROL Mileage 27,000km Color Silver
 Ref.22562 PRICE: \$2,850 TOYOTA IST Year 2004 AT 1,290cc PETROL Mileage 93,000km Color Silver	 Ref.22577 PRICE: \$3,590 TOYOTA COROLLA Year 2003 AT 1,490cc PETROL Mileage 52,000km Color Beige	 Ref.22810 PRICE: \$2,170 HONDA FIT Year 2003 AT 1,330cc PETROL Mileage 82,000km Color Gray
 Ref.22899 PRICE: \$4,440 FORD ESCAPE Year 2004 AT 2,960cc PETROL Mileage 81,000km Color Black	 Ref.23312 PRICE: \$2,410 NISSAN MARCH Year 2008 AT 1,240cc PETROL Mileage 77,000km Color White	 Ref.23023 PRICE: \$2,730 NISSAN SUNNY Year 2003 F 1,490cc PETROL Mileage 63,000km Color White
 Ref.22419 PRICE: \$3,480 MITSUBISHI AIRTEK Year 2004 AT 1,990cc PETROL Mileage 78,000km Color Silver	 Ref.23321 PRICE: \$3,860 NISSAN BLUEBIRD SYLPHY Year 2006 AT 1,990cc PETROL Mileage 94,000km Color Blue	 Ref.21787 PRICE: \$3,290 HONDA CIVIC Year 2008 MT 1,790cc PETROL Mileage 65,000km Color Silver

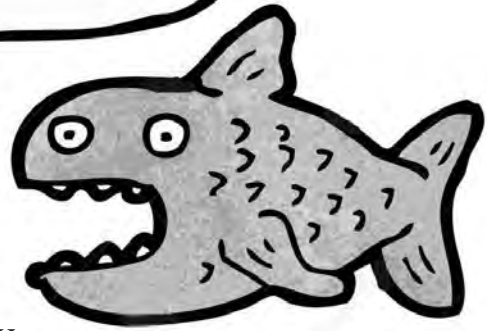
*Price Include Car Cost & Freight up to Pohnpei, Yap, Kosrae or Chuuk

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FSM NORMA building fisheries management capacity with World Bank Support

FSM National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA) with support from the World Bank has seen an increase in opportunities for building its capacity to manage the tuna resources it oversees. With the World Bank-funded Pacific Regional Oceanscape Program (PROP) Project based in NORMA, NORMA has seized the opportunity to build institutional capacity of the Authority, including that of its staff and partners through on the job trainings and formal training opportunities in FSM and the Pacific region.

The PROP Project has recently supported opportunities to increase staff knowledge on the vessel day scheme which has been applied on the purse seine fishery over the past few years but is now starting to be applied on the long-line fishery this year. FSM Observers who get placed on purse seine fishing vessels are also getting refresher trainings to ensure they are up-to-date on their certifications to effectively monitor fishing vessels.

Other important roles of NORMA and its partners to be supported by the PROP Project include fisheries enforcement, negotiations, economic appraisals, food hygiene and information management.

“The PROP Project will play a crucial role over the next five years for NORMA as it will support the many improvements we wish to undertake following several self-assessments we have undertaken recently. Not only will the Project build NORMA capacity but we are looking at a Whole-of-Government approach to managing our important tuna resources.” says NORMA Executive Director, Mr. Eugene Pangelinan. “As we gain more control over management of our resources, our skills and knowledge will need to match the capacity required to ensure we do things the right way by ensuring maximum economic benefit to our people while also ensuring long term conservation of these important resources”.

The PROP Project is a six-year project funded with a Grant from the World Bank International Development Association that covers oceanic and coastal fisheries. NORMA oversees the oceanic fisheries component of the project. Pacific countries participating in the PROP are Marshall Islands, Tuvalu and Solomon Islands. Other Pacific countries are expected to join the Program over the next few years.



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Opinion Editorial

Pohnpei Celebrating MAD-Moms Day

Kolonia, Pohnpei- On January 9, 2016 at approximately 6:30 a.m. the mile-a-day (MAD)-moms of Pohnpei commenced their fun-walk from the PICS track & field to the causeway and back, commemorating this day as MAD-Moms Day. According to their Nike Running apps, it took them about 5 miles to complete the walk. It was an awesome day for all the MAD-moms of Pohnpei for they were able to walk their miles and commemorate MAD-mom Day with its Founder Marmelyn Panuelo. Her inspiration and motivation led to the establishment of the MAD challenge which captivated many women in the Federated States of Micronesia and abroad. The number is growing immensely every day with new challengers and runners among the MAD-moms groups. The MAD-moms activities not only focus on walking or running miles a day but have sparked other forms of healthy life-style challenges such as 30-Days-No-Rice, Abs challenges,

squats, charity walks, and promoting healthy fruits and green vegetable smoothies. Last month some of the MAD-moms joined the World Winter's Run streak challenge for 37 days which started on Thanksgiving Day and ended New Year Day. Some local Sponsors even challenged MAD-moms by paying their miles for the 37 days Run streak for good causes, for instance, donating fund to school and providing basic necessities to dorm students. The most current MAD-moms challenge is to walk/run for 100 miles in 30days. Aside from all these, MAD-moms are inspiring and encouraging each other physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually with the goal to promote healthy living and life-styles for women. MAD-moms welcome anyone, women and men, young and old who wants to join this healthy challenge. Come one, come all, and make today your first MAD challenge. WOOHOO!



Photo Courtesy Dar'ingelap

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

In the month of September, 2015, I wrote a letter to you regarding the prices of a barrel of crude oil worldwide for the past four months beginning in June until September, 2015. The average decline was three times lower at fifty dollars (\$50.00) compared to the peak price worldwide. The peak price for a barrel of crude oil was one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00). The peak price at our pump stations per gallon was six dollars and twenty cents (\$6.20). I assumingly pointed out that the price of a gallon of gasoline here in pohnpei should be somewhere above two dollars (\$2.00 plus) taking into accounts the increases as well the decreases that we have experienced relating to the world market prices and the price of a gallon that we have ever witnessed here in pohnpei at its highest. At that time in September, the price per gallon was four dollars and sixty-five cents (\$4.65). Thankfully though, there were two slide drops that took place at the pump stations. The prices went down from \$4.65 to \$4.40 and to \$4.20 at some stations and \$4.15 at other places.

The prices per a barrel of crude oil since September at \$50.00 continued to sharply fall to \$40.00 down to \$30.00. As of yesterday, January 14, 2016, the price of barrel of a crude oil worldwide was significantly reduced to \$20.00. The price now per a crude oil worldwide is over seven times lower.

What will be the price of a gallon of gasoline at the pump stations when the crude oil price on the world market is over seven times lower? What will be the charge per kilowatt hour for cash power at PUC considering the significant reduction?

The FSM Petro Corp is by law responsible to bring in petroleum products into the FSM replacing MOBIL. The purpose and goal for replacing MOBIL with the FSM Petroleum Corporation is to make sure we are able to control and maintain the costs of petroleum products imported as well as the operational cost of the Offices are controlled and maintained at their minimal as this is an agency of our five Government run and operated by our own people as the governing Board of Directors. The offices in each of the state are required by law to establish their own separate accounts so that the operation in a state does not subsidize the operation of the other states.

Is Petro Corp still in the line with this mandate? What keeps the price of a gallon of gasoline stagnant for so long? Considering the expansion made by Petro Corp in the name of Vital which is a plus for the FSM as far as I am concerned, is this not a compelling factor why we could not realize the price we deserve to pay at the pump stations and PUC as well.

**Ni Wahu,
Ausen T. Lambert**



Administrative Assistant, Geoscience Division

The **Pacific Community** is the principal scientific and technical organisation in the Pacific region, proudly supporting development since 1947. We are an international development organisation owned and governed by our 26 country and territory members. In pursuit of sustainable development to benefit Pacific people, our unique organisation works across more than 25 sectors. We are renowned for our knowledge and innovation in such areas as fisheries science, public health surveillance, geoscience, and conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

The **Geoscience Division** has three technical work programmes: Geoscience for Development, Water and Sanitation, and Disaster Reduction. Its services to SPC's members include assessments of the potential of ocean and onshore mineral resources, maritime boundary data collection, coastal protection and management, geo-hazard assessment, and technical advice and assistance in the areas of water, waste water, sanitation, disaster risk management, mapping and surveying (including GIS and remote sensing), and natural resources economics.

The **Administrative Assistant** will provide administrative support to both the Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific Project (BSRP), and SPC's Land Resources Division (LRD), at **SPC's North Pacific Regional Office**. This will include filing, soliciting quotations, obtaining invoices, preparing requests for purchase orders and payment vouchers, making necessary payments, monitoring funds spent, maintaining communication with vendors, suppliers and contractors, and maintaining the inventory register.

The position will also encompass the following responsibilities:

- Provide administrative support to the BSRP project and LRD projects, to ensure their effective implementation in the north Pacific region. Assist with the preparation of routine correspondence, such as letters and memoranda. Process local purchase requisitions and liaise with SPC's Corporate Services to ensure that these are actioned in line with relevant rules. Ensure that quality and accuracy checks are carried out, and that receipts are sent to respective organisations in a timely manner.
- Provide support to GSD and LRD to ensure transparency and accountability in dispensing funds. Assist with the maintenance of projects databases, including asset registers. Assist with weekly, monthly and annual reporting. Manage and maintain documentation and filing relating to the projects, and assist with project finance acquittal reports.
- Assist with logistical support in organising project activities and event management. Assist with the preparation of budgets and the organisation and logistical preparation of meetings, workshops, seminars, presentations, visiting missions, field trips and other project-related events and activities, including travel logistics and preparing per diems for project staff and participants.
- Assist with reporting on projects activities in accordance with SPC's rules and regulations.— Monitor the scope and progress of the projects and provide information about the projects in an effective manner, especially in the absence of the Project Advisors.

Key selection criteria

1. Qualifications

A diploma in financial management or administration management-related field.

2. Technical expertise

A minimum of three years of experience in project administration at the national or sub-national level. Demonstrated experience in financial management.

3. Essential skills

Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, and the ability to maintain effective working relationships with member country governments, and other regional and international organisations and stakeholders. A demonstrated ability to take initiative and work without supervision. Demonstrated organisational and administrative skills, with the ability to prioritise workload and complete outputs under pressure and to meet deadlines. Experience in a computing environment, including all Microsoft platforms, especially applications such as MS Word, MS Excel and Project.

Application procedure

Applicants must apply online at <http://careers.spc.int/>

Hard copies of applications will not be accepted and, accordingly, will not be considered.

Closing date: 08 February 2016 (close of business, New Caledonia time)

Education Corner: Richard Womack, Ed.D

Making Relevant Curriculum-Science

As was mentioned in the last EC Womack and Associates (2105) is going around to Pohnpei Elementary Schools and surveying each elementary school classroom for curriculum materials that can be use in teaching and learning science. This is done together with the classroom teacher and school principal. The small project also are inventorying social studies materials and EC will speak to that next month.

Moreover and most importantly, when our teachers sign their contracts they agree to teach the standards found in the Pohnpei Department of Education Curriculum Frameworks. In the "Frameworks" it shows that every teacher in every grade must teach five (5) different sciences. All elementary teachers must be prepared to teach

- Science as Inquiry: This is not a subject taught by itself but together with every science
- Life and Environmental Science: Certainly these are related but they are not the same science
- Earth and Space Science: Again there is a relationship but they are usually taught separately
- Physical Science and Technology: The study of the non-living environment and overlaps Earth/Space

- Marine Science: Overlaps with and can be looked at as Life and Environmental Science in and around water

Dear EC Readers: Teaching our students all of these different sciences every year in each grade is not only a challenge but an almost unrealistic expectation. This difficulty is the major topic of the W&A (2015) Associates and one which we have only partial solutions.

Moreover and critically important are the questions: Do the teachers understand these sciences well enough to teach them and do the teachers know the proper ways to teach all of these sciences? EC will speak to these questions in the next EC. We decided this issue should have something to which all the EC readers can relate. That is if you have been to school you know students should have some curriculum materials as textbooks for student and teachers or at least some other materials as some references, visuals (pictures), charts, graphs and other materials relating to the specific science subject to be taught and learned. In summary every student should have materials at his or her grade level to see. As with all school subjects, students learn sciences by hearing, seeing and doing. A student cannot just hear about science-science must be seen and done.

So with this idea in mind we began a room by room inventory of science materials. This

is the measure teachers and principals are using as we all complete the survey.

Curriculum Inventory Matrix Key

A or 4= There are texts or books that can be used by teachers and students in this subject and other curriculum materials that can be used to teach the standards at this grade level. Everything needed to teach the Standards at this grade level in this subject at a high level

B or 3= There are some texts or books that can be used for this subject by teachers and students and some other curriculum materials. With some sharing and copying (Xeroxing) there are enough curriculum materials to teach the standards at this grade level.

C or 2= There are some curriculum materials available to teach this subject but not nearly enough. Additional materials in this subject area must be acquired before the subject can be taught at any acceptable level.

D or 1= There are only a few bits of curriculum material available. There is at least something in the classroom that relates to the subject. However without some major input of curriculum materials it is doubtful any acceptable lessons can take place at this level at this time

F or 0=No curriculum materials for this content area subject could be found. It is not

right that teachers are suppose to teach and students learn about this subject when there is nothing found in the classroom that relates to the subject.

We will publish the complete results for you in mid-March and you will see what we have already seen. There are far too many zeros and ones found and far too many to handle at least all at once. Your PDOE is not faced with whether or not children need science curriculum materials-this we know already. For now PDOE will prioritize which are the most important needs and make a beginning. Remember our materials must be at a grade level that fits our students reading ability. A \$100 text books written at U S 10th grade level is useless to a 7th grade student in Pohnpei. It is just pouring our meager resources down a bottomless hole. So please follow along with EC and see what improvements can be made. This is what the Data for Decisions Making (DDP) is all about.

Lastly, EC and Womack and Associates (2015) mourn the loss of Mr. Rainer Jimmy on January 25th. We extend our sympathy to Mr. Jimmy's family and all of Pohnpei. The Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) under Executive Director Jimmy moved into the forefront of Pohnpei Education. "Go Local" now has real meaning and for that we will always remember with great respect- Rainer Jimmy

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