

KASELEHLIE PRESS

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Pacific Island leaders reach compromise for PALM 8 Declaration



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By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 19, 2018

Iwaki, Fukushima—Presidents and Prime Ministers of Pacific Island Countries (PICs) gathered in Iwaki, Fukushima, Japan for the 8th triannual Pacific Island Leaders Meeting (PALM 8). As new full members of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), this was the first time for leaders from French Polynesia and New Caledonia to participate in the PALM. The other countries are Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Fiji, Republic of Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Republic of Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Samoan Prime Minister Tuilaepa Aiono Sailele Malielegaoi, who served as the co-chair for the meetings held a press conference following the acceptance of the Leaders' Declaration. They said that the nations had been able to reach a point where they could send out a unified message on a number of topics of mutual interest and cooperation.

The Prime Ministers did not mention that the process of pounding out a unified Leaders' Declaration was not necessarily an easy one. Draft copies of a proposed Declaration had been circulating among the PALM leaders for several months for each to comment on and propose revisions. As the meetings neared, there were still some sticking points regarding the wording



in the statement in regards to support for the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy", and strong wording that Japan wanted included in the statement regarding North Korean tensions. Whole sentences were struck from the last draft before all members would vote affirmatively on the statement.

According to FSM leadership, in the end the Declaration was a compromise for all countries involved but it was a declaration that could all stand behind.

See "PALM8" on page 19

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LOWEST FARES

Nauru Airlines

IN THIS ISSUE

PUC schedules one month of "load shedding" while generator repairs are made

May 21, 2018

Pohnpei—PUC has announced that due to warranty repairs on two of their generators they will be forced to shed power load beginning on May 29 and continuing until June 29. Depending on where customers are located they can expect power to be off for four hours in the morning, four hours in the afternoon, or four hours in the evening for all of next month.

The following are times and areas that will be affected by the repairs on the two generators:

From 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon:
Pohnumpwompw, all of Ace Commercial areas, Daini to Public Market, Dausoklele to Pohnlangas, Madolenihmw, Kahmar, Meitik and Eirike areas, Nantehlik

Restaurant and Apartments, Kangaroo Court and Lewi to Nanpil, Nett.

From 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm:
From Spanis Wall to Kepinle, Komwonlaid, Yakipa, Ninseitamw, Pohnrakied, Mapwsi and Likinkel areas, Joy Hotel to Ohmine. From Paies to all of Kitti areas and up to Pohnlangas, Madolenihmw. From Sekere Mormon Church to Pahnasang, all of Sokehs Island, Rusty Anchor to Best Buy Store, all of Nanpatapat Nanpohnmal, Nett and Sokehs, from Pwunso to Nanpeper areas, and from Social Security Office to Kolonia Elementary School

From 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM:
All of Dekehtik Island, Government facilities at Peilapalap, FSM Capitol

Complex, WCPFC Complex and all outages. businesses with standby generators.

As a precautionary measure, PUC also advises all of its valued customers to use power surge protectors for appliance to protect against unexpected surges during

If you have any questions regarding the announcement, do not hesitate to contact the PUC Customer Service Office at 320-2374.

College holds 67th Commencement Exercises



The College of Micronesia -FSM

May 18, 2018

Palikir, Pohnpei – The College celebrated its 67th Commencement Exercises on Friday May 18, 2018, at the Main Gym of the FSM-China Friendship Sports Center.

Guest speaker at this year's commencement exercises was an Alumna of the classes of 2011 and 2012, Sylvia Elias, who is the Student Activity Coordinator for Upward Bound-Pohnpei.

College President Joseph M. Daisy Ed.D. provided the welcoming remarks at the ceremony, and Ms. Reileen B. Joel delivered the Valedictory Address. Conferring degrees to graduates was Board of Regents Chairman, Dr.

Tuslensru Waguk, and accepting the graduates was the Secretary of the FSM Department of Education, the Honorable Kalwin Kephas.

In attendance were the college's Board of Regents, members of the diplomatic corps, leaders from both the local and national governments, and members of the college community at large.

A total of 113 graduates from the National Campus, 46 from the Career & Technical Education Center (CTEC) formerly Pohnpei Campus, 19 from Chuuk Campus, and 9 from Kosrae Campus. The Yap and FSM Maritime Fisheries Institute (FMI) Campus will hold their commencements later this month.



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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Prime Minister Shinzo Abe minces no words at the PALM 8 meetings

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 19, 2018

Iwaki, Fukushima—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe pulled no punches during his opening speech at the PALM 8 (Pacific Island Leaders Meeting) in Iwaki, Fukushima, Japan. He referenced the new concept of the “Blue Continent” established by members of the Pacific Islands Forum during the meeting in Samoa.

“It means the ‘Pacific Ocean’. It is an expression, isn’t it, brimming with great respect for the vast blue ocean. Let us all champion ‘saving the blue’ more, embracing the same passion by which we urge people to ‘save the green’. That is because the ocean is crying out in despair,” he said.

He went on to describe some of the travesties that are currently occurring in the Pacific Ocean.

“PCBs are being detected in high concentrations in creatures dwelling at a depth of 10,000 meters below the ocean surface. The medium for this? Some say that’s microplastics.

“Plankton and shellfish have decreased in number, because seawater has gotten less alkaline, and that’s because humankind has had the oceans absorb an inordinate amount of carbon dioxide.

“And, in a mere 40 years, marine resources subjected to illegal and reckless overfishing have also increased to three times the previous level. This is taking place not only in the high seas but also with your own EEZs, with lawless foreign fishing vessels continuing their indiscriminate activities.

“Then there is the issue of deep sea bed

resources. Even though the development of such resources might well damage marine ecosystems in an irreversible way, we have yet to have a governance system that needs to be put in place.

Acidification of the ocean and sea level rise impact PALM nations directly. And should the seas become a lawless place, the nations of PALM will suffer a serious blow.”

He challenged the leaders to consider the PALM process a venue for finding solutions to the problems the countries jointly share. “In order to prevent the degradation of our seas and the trampling of the rule of law, shall we not take a step forward towards action,” he asked.

He reminded the gathered leaders that the pledges that Japan had made to the Pacific Island Countries during the PALM 7, three years previous had all been met including ground breaking on the Pacific Climate Change Center on the campus of SPREP headquarters in Samoa. That center will be a resource to Pacific Islands to access funding under International agreements for Climate Change and for access to data on Climate Change.

“Resolute in our determination that safeguarding the sea and safeguarding the planet and human kind are one and the same, my country will continue to make efforts with you all,” he said.

“Where Japan wishes to place emphasis from now is, first of all, in establishing the rule of law in maritime order... Japan will be unstinting in its assistance towards improving countries’ capacity to ‘protect the sea’, including each country’s legal enforcement capabilities,” he committed.

He asked all of the leaders to give special consideration to Japan’s fishing activities saying that he believes that Japan has a role that it can play, “with confidence and pride.”

“Second, Japan will work to develop quality infrastructure in both ‘hard’ and ‘soft’ aspects so that you are able to realize the sustainable prosperity in a self-reliant manner.

Of particular importance to Japan during the PALM 8 was the “Indo-Pacific Strategy” and Prime Minister Abe spent the last moments of his speech discussing it and trying to garner support for the concept.



“My friends,” he said, “it is nothing more than an artificial, expedient custom to distinguish between one stretch of water we call the Pacific Ocean and another we deem the Indian Ocean. The two are one and the same, as a matter of course.

“It was the ancestors of the PALM peoples that in the long-distant past brought about the ‘confluence of the two seas’ through trade,” he said and gave an anecdote about Pacific island products finding their way to the east coast of Africa.

“The ‘Blue Pacific’ where we make our home is one and the same as the ‘Blue Indian Ocean’. Opportunities and possibilities coexist in these two seas, and the questions to be worked out and the growing crises stretch across both oceans, unable to be separated.

“On this occasion, shall we not—each and every one of us—take on an expansive oceanic identity by which we view the two oceans holistically?

“That will expand our field of the vision geographically. It will impart to us a viewpoint by which we look at the system of the vast seas with a very long term perspective,” he said.

He concluded his speech by equating the PALM process to a long-distance relay race with each runner passing the baton to another as they run. He expressed his thanks to the tireless efforts of the runners who had come before.



Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs covers the cost of eight Pacific Islands journalists to report on PALM8

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 23, 2018

Pohnpei—Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) invited eight Pacific Islands Journalists at Japanese government expense to cover the recently concluded PALM 8 in Iwaki, Fukushima. The journalists were free to report on the events without censorship.



The journalists came from the FSM, Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, and the Marshall Islands. As journalists the participants had widely varying levels of experiences with some veterans and others who were just beginning their journalistic careers. Their ages ranged from 20 to 55. They were Polynesian, Melanesian, Micronesian and even one long-time resident American but they had in common a love for the Pacific region and the issues that affect their everyday lives in their home countries and a desire to better understand the relationships and the complicated processes of negotiations between their small island countries and with Japan.

MOFA, through its contractors and employees ensured that journalists' needs were covered from the basics all the way up to helping to organize interviews with government officials or arranging side visits when that was possible. Because of flight schedules, some journalists arrived earlier than others. Others departed later but most journalists were left with at least some free time either before or after the PALM. Some journalists like me chose to spend some of that free time on their own. I chose to visit cultural sites with my cameras, negotiating the Tokyo train system for the first time unaccompanied. The Tongan journalist chose to spend his advance free time interviewing a Tongan rugby player now playing in Japan. Others stayed with the group. MOFA was accommodating to most wishes and organized tours including a tour and information on the towering Tokyo Sky Tree.

Though I arrived on Sunday evening, May 13, the program didn't begin in earnest until the morning of May 15. It began with a program orientation briefing in an MOFA conference room, followed by a briefing on Japan's Initiative on Climate Change. Even lunch had a purpose. We were taken to a restaurant run by Kinki

University where all of the fish we were served was harvested from fish farms in innovative ways.

After lunch there was a briefing by Country Assistance Planning Division of the International Cooperation Bureau and JICA on Japan's official development assistance to the Pacific Island Countries, assistance policies, outcomes and future perspectives. The day ended with a briefing on the objectives and motivations for the PALM 8 from the perspective of Japan.

The next day began with a briefing at the Reconstruction Agency on reconstruction efforts, seven years after the devastating earthquakes and tsunami that killed over 19,000 people. Over 6,000 people were injured and over nearly 2600 were missing. Over a million buildings were damaged; over 10,000 that were completely collapsed, 280,000 that were partially collapsed and nearly 750,000 that were partially damaged. Many people have yet to return to their homes even these seven years later, and 2.7% of Japan's third largest prefecture cannot due to the melt down at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power station.

The damage from that meltdown has far reaching economic consequences for the reputation of products coming from Fukushima. The Japanese government has established stringent measuring standards for radiation for products from the prefecture that far exceed the safety levels of most countries. Still, there is skepticism from some consumers that is effecting Fukushima's economy.

In the afternoon, some bilateral meetings occurred between the foreign ministers of some Pacific Island countries and Japan's Minister of Foreign Affairs. MOFA organized individual tours for journalists whose countries were not involved that afternoon.

Later in the day a Senior Policy Coordinator of MOFA briefed journalists on Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy.

In the morning journalists were transported to cover an Economic Seminar where Pacific Islands Leaders heard about best practices of some major Japanese corporations. PALM Leaders also made speeches extolling the virtues of investment in their home countries.

Journalists next covered the beginning moments of a banquet hosted by the Japan-Pacific Islands Parliamentary League before having their own quick lunch on the 30th floor of Tokyo's first earthquake resistant building.

After lunch the journalists made their way to the Imperial Palace where Pacific Island Leaders would have a reception with Emperor Akahito and Empress Michiko and his family. Such a reception is an honor forwarded only to heads of state. A few of us were allowed to photograph the reception line and then were escorted around the building to take photos as they said goodbye to the Pacific Island leaders.

Most photographers never get an opportunity to photograph the Emperor and Empress. This was my second opportunity and will be my last. Emperor Akihito, who is 84 years old, will be the first Emperor to abdicate his throne in 200 years. The last Emperor to abdicate was Kokaku in 1817. In the spring of 2019, Emperor Akihito's son, the Crown Prince Naruhito will become the 126th occupant of the chrysanthemum throne and will assume his father's responsibilities. If legendary monarchs are included, Emperor Akihito's line of succession stretches back 2,600 years.

After the reception, journalists covered the opening of a welcome reception by

Foreign Minister Kono before heading to the train station for a two and a half hour journey to the Spa Resort Hawaiian in Iwaki, Fukushima arriving late at night.

The next day, the PALM 8 began in earnest. Journalists covered the arrival on a special train in Iwaki of the Pacific Islands Leaders followed by a memorial for the victims of the tsunami that unfortunately provided no translation for the leaders or journalists.

PALM Leaders arrived at the Spa Resort Hawaiian on that afternoon, greeted by Fukushima school students waving flags as the various entourages arrived. Most leaders took the time to greet the students and to pose with them for photos.

Some of the journalists had not covered a regional meeting before and were surprised at the stringent guidelines for media practitioners there. Some took the guidelines as a form of censorship. Rather than a form of censorship, the arrangement provided the best camera angles for many photographers and videographers, and also allowed space for pen and paper journalists while also accommodating the needs of the participants in the events. Still, some Pacific Islands journalists railed at having been contained in "media areas".

That evening, the famous Hula Girls put on a special show with stylized costumes representing each country represented at the Pacific Islands Leadership Meeting.

The Prime Ministers of Japan and Samoa gave a press conference on the PALM8 Leader's Declaration, after which some of the journalists departed to Tokyo in preparation for departure to their home countries, having learned a great deal about regional negotiations, and having established great friendships with colleagues from other Pacific Island countries.

Governor orders the creation of a Domestic Violence Act Task Force

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

May 17, 2018

Pohnpei—On May 14, Governor Marcelo Peterson signed an executive order establishing the Pohnpei Domestic Violence Act Task Force.

The Pohnpei Domestic Violence Act said that provisions regarding protection acts would not take effect until a task force has reviewed and studied the provisions and made recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature no

later than six months after the provision became effective.

The Executive Order says that the primary duty of the Task Force is to review and study the utilization of protection orders in section 1-109 to 1-117 of the Pohnpei Domestic Violence Act and submit recommendations to the Governor no later than six months after the Act became effective. It gives the Task Force very little time since the Act became effective after the Governor signed it into law in December of last year.

The Task Force will be responsible for providing advice and to make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature, either on its own initiative or by request from the Governor on matters relating to the implementation of the Act. It will also be required to facilitate an annual review of implementation of the Act in the form of a report to Legislature on the achievements and challenges with implementation of the Act.

The Executive Order did not name specific people to be assigned to the

Task Force. It said instead that it would consist of representatives from the Department of Health Services which will chair the Task Force. Other members would be representatives of the Department of Public Safety, the Attorney General's Office, Micronesian Legal Services, and the Pohnpei Women's Council.

The Task Force held its first meeting on May 17.

FSM Supreme Court releases first person successfully convicted of Human Trafficking after only six months

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

May 8, 2018

Weno, Chuuk—On May 8, Associate Justice Larry Wentworth amended his October 27, 2017 written Judgment of Conviction against Cortez Benedicto to correspond with the oral sentence Wentworth issued.

Benedicto, and Rieta Eram were the first people to have been successfully convicted of the crime of human trafficking involving the abuse of a girl who was at the time of the crimes only 14 years old. The crimes could have landed the defendants in jail for up to 45 years with the possibility of \$75,000 in fines. But the written sentence that Wentworth handed down required Benedicto to pay a \$5000 fine, to spend his weekends in jail, and to be confined at the GPPC Construction camp when he was not working for a period a total of 15 months. Eram was sentenced to only 15 months of probation for knowingly providing a minor in her custody for the purposes of sexual exploitation in exchange for cash and other material benefits.

Justices are not required to define reasons for their sentences and no reason was given for the light sentences at that time. And now, at least in the case of Benedicto, the already light sentence is even lighter. During sentencing, Wentworth said that if Benedicto had abided by all of the conditions of his sentence, including the payment of the \$5,000 fine, and if his employment ends in April 2018, he would be permitted to leave the FSM at that time.

The May 8 Order Confirming Sentence said that since Benedicto had complied with all of the terms of his sentence, once his travel arrangements were made the court would return his passport the day before his flight. Until then, Benedicto was subject to the sentence imposed on him including weekends in jail.

He gets to go home to the Philippines after paying a fine and serving a light sentence for six months.

FSM's Human Trafficking law was designed to serve as a significant deterrent to the crime for those people who might consider violating the human rights of others. However, the law does not prescribe a minimum sentence.

"We have to respect the Court's decision because that is how the criminal justice system works.

We will work within the law and keep on enforcing it. If we need the law to be amended for more strict minimum punishments we can ask Congress to consider that possibility as an amendment," said Jose Gallen, FSM's Secretary for the Department of Justice after

the initial sentence was handed down in October of last year.

Meanwhile, Eram still will continue to serve her light sentence of 15 months of probation.

The victim's sentence is not court appointed.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL AND QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

Professional Consulting Services for the

"Construction Management Services for the College of Micronesia – FSM (COM-FSM) Infrastructure Projects"

NOTICE

The Project Management Unit of Department of Transportation, Communication & Infrastructure, National Government of Federated States of Micronesia is hereby soliciting Statements of Professional Qualifications from interested entities for the purpose of implementing the Construction Management Services for the COM National Campus – Student Center and Pohnpei Campus – Tech. Building. Work will be funded by Infrastructure Sector Grants under the Amended Compact of Free Association between the United States and FSM.

The duration of the consulting services is 24 calendar months starting from the date of Notice to Proceed issued to the selected consultant. Further details of this RFQ may be obtained by submitting a written letter of interest to Mr. Lukner Weilbacher, Secretary, DTC&I, P.O. Box PS-2, Palikir, Pohnpei, FM 96941 at email sectci691@gmail.com with the subject heading:

"Statement of Qualifications for the Construction Management Services for College of Micronesia, COM-FSM Infrastructure Projects."

The RFQ may also be directly obtained from the Department's website: www.ict.fm

In order to be considered, Statements of Professional Proposal and Qualifications must be submitted to the above contact address no later than 4.00 pm, Pohnpei, FSM time, June 29, 2018.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE KASELEHLIE PRESS WILL BE RELEASED ON:

June 11, 2018

Deadline for submission of articles or advertisements for this issue is the end of working hours on:

Friday June 6, 2018

Ray of hope for local pastors' home heavily damaged during landslides

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 22, 2018

U, Pohnpei—As the torrential rains that caused flooding and multiple landslides continued to fall on Pohnpei in March, Susan and Rickson Kihleng and their five children decided it would be safest to evacuate their home. On March 17, neighbors gave them the news that the large mango tree behind their house had uprooted and brought the entire hillside crashing into the back of their home.



The landslide blew out the double French doors before burying their kitchen and living room in deep mud. It broke windows and finally settled against the house to a depth of approximately six feet. When the rains subsided, they had a massive mess to clean up and a home that they weren't sure was safe to occupy. Since then, they have been cooking and washing dishes on their front porch and living in combined sleeping quarters. Every time it rains, the water comes straight down the hillside and into their home.



While the Kihlengs, who are pastors at Ambassador Church in U that they planted 15 years ago, have lost many of their possessions, they have their lives, they have each other, and they have their faith. As of today, they have some good news as well.

Several contractors have looked at the work that needs to be done at their home. One contractor gave a quick quote that was in the low six figures. Some have said that their home was a total loss. Others said that their earth moving equipment was too big to access the hillside. Others never showed. But yesterday one person said that they he has access to smaller sized equipment and can do the job. He is set to begin doing it as early as today.

It's a ray of hope the Kihlengs haven't had for a long while.

The Kihlengs have received a lot of help from their friends, neighbors, and church members who have helped them to dig out as much as it is possible to do by hand. As of last weekend, community volunteers were able to dig down to the level of the water pipes that had broken during the land slide. The Kihlengs now have running water after weeks without. Volunteers also dug a temporary drainage ditch that will at least partially alleviate the problem of the house flooding every time it rains.

They've also had a bit of help from outside the FSM. A contractor who once employed Rickson in the United States came to Pohnpei to evaluate and help the Kihlengs understand exactly what would be needed. Susan said that he will be leaving a detailed plan of everything that will need to be done. He coordinated the volunteers who dug out and repaired the Kihleng's broken water pipe and dug the temporary drainage ditch.

Susan said that they have at least enough money to get started and will go from there. She said that the Kihleng family is grateful that the Pohnpei State government has begun the process for possible disaster assistance based on the State and National disaster declarations. That paperwork has been filed but at press time, they hadn't yet heard anything.

US Defense reviewing strategic importance of Freely Associated States

By *Giff Johnson*
Marshall Islands Journal

22 May, 2018

Majuro—The US Defense Department is reviewing the strategic importance of the Compacts of Free Association for the United States as part of a major study of security issues related to the freely associated states (FAS). The study is also evaluating the implications for American defense and foreign policy interests of the People's Republic of China economic aid in the Freely Associated States.

The study was mandated by the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act passed late last year by the US Congress.

It is to be submitted to defense committees of the House and Senate no later than December 1 this year. The report is to be issued in unclassified form but may include classified attachments.

What is significant is that this is the first study of its kind during the Compact Two period by the Defense Department at the direction of the US Congress.

The US Government Accountability Office (GAO) has conducted several evaluations of US aid and other issues related to the Compacts of Free Association since the start of the second Compact funding period in 2004. It is currently wrapping up a study on use of US funding by the RMI and FSM, and transition issues for the governments as

they gear for use of trust fund money when US grants end in 2023.

The Congress directed Defense to address security, defense and foreign policy issues related to the Micronesia area. Concern over the impact of China in Micronesia is an underlying issue of the study. China maintains diplomatic ties with the Federated States of Micronesia.

The terms of the study include:

- The role of the Compacts of Free Association in promoting United States defense and foreign policy interests, including the United States defense posture and plans.
- The status of the obligations of the United States and the Freely

Associated States under the Compacts of Free Association.

- The economic assistance practices of the People's Republic of China in the Freely Associated States, and the implications of such practices for United States defense and foreign policy interests in the Freely Associated States and the Pacific region.
- The economic assistance practices of other countries in the Freely Associated States, as determined by the Comptroller General, and the implications of such practices for United States defense and foreign policy interests in the Freely Associated States and the Pacific region.

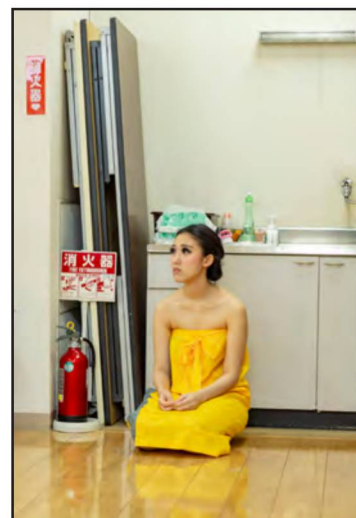
Spa Resort Hawaiian “Hula Girls” prepare special performance for Abe and Pacific Island leaders

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 18, 2018

Iwaki, Fukushima, Japan—At 11:00 in the morning, on May 18, stern faced and serious “Hula Girls” at the Spa Resort Hawaiian worked on their blocking in their dance studio at Spa Resort Hawaiian in Iwaki, Fukushima for a special “one off” performance for Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the Presidents and Prime Ministers of Pacific Island nations.

Though many were already wearing makeup and false eyelashes for the 1:30 PM show and the later one at 7:30 PM they were not in costume. They were in dance rehearsal clothes. They were very serious about what they were doing. Smiles were subsequently rare. Each dancer was concentrating on knowing their spots and giving the best performance they could for the visiting dignitaries including their own Prime Minister



But when their regular daily show at the world famous Spa Resort Hawaiian began at 1:30 in the afternoon, their faces lit up with huge smiles as they performed dances from several Pacific Island nations. It’s was the same at the regular 7:30 pm show. They’ve done those shows many times but the special show for the leaders was a one-time event. Costumers created stylized outfits for them that represent each of the 19 Pacific Island countries that were present at the show at the 8:45 pm show. On the stage, each country’s flag was represented.

The dancers lined the stage at the beginning of the special show and waited. A voice from the stage announced to the large gathered crowd that Prime Minister Abe and the leaders of the Pacific Islands whose indigenous dances have been portrayed on that very stage are in the balcony. Hotel guests, dressed in the “uniforms” left in the rooms of each guest appeared to be shocked and amazed at the presence of the leaders and rushed forward to the stage to turn and look up to balcony to wave and take photos of their leader and his colleagues from the Pacific Islands nations.



The standing ovation went on for nearly 10 minutes before the show started with a special added

performance by the visiting under 18 Samoa Rugby team who were in Japan to play a friendly match with a similarly aged team in Japan.

When the show was over, the Pacific Island leaders took to the stage to take a bow and to greet the dancers representing their countries.

Many people are not aware that, though hula dancing certainly did not originate in Japan there are far more hula dancers there than there are in Hawaii. Estimates on the number of people in Japan who take part in hula classes or are members of a halau range anywhere from 500,000 to 2 million people, while in Hawaii there are approximately 50,000 practitioners.

In Hawaii, many hula instructors and musicians have found it difficult to make a living. Many

of them make several trips to Japan each year where their talents are monetarily appreciated.

Japan’s love affair with Hawaii is not a new thing having its roots when the first Japanese settlers began to arrive over 100 years ago. King Kamehameha welcomed eight nearly starving Japanese sailors whose ship was found drifting in 1806. A visit to Japan by the king of Hawaii to meet with Emperor Meiji Mutsuhito in 1881 further solidified the relationship between Japan and Hawaii.



In 1966, the first Hawaiian themed resort in Japan opened in Iwaki, Fukushima with center pieces of hot springs and hula dancers. It was first called the Joban Hawaiian Center but changed its name to Spa Resort Hawaiian in 1990. By 1971, the resort was averaging over one and a half million visitors per year and that number was maintained through 2004. In 2005, a movie about the founding of the resort brought in another surge of visitors.



Iwaki was once a coal mining town but when demand for coal decreased in favor of oil, the economy was in danger. The town leaders founded the resort as a way to rescue Iwaki’s economy.

The resort was damaged in an aftershock of the earthquakes of 2011 and was forced to close. While the resort was closed, the world famous hula dancers toured Japan performing at earthquake refugee shelters and other venues. The resort re-opened in 2012 but fear of radiation from the damaged Fukushima Daichi nuclear plant kept tourists away. The effects of the fears on Iwaki’s reputation as a tourist destination were even more difficult than the closing of the mines in 1966. Fukushima is still working on that problem.



But in the last few years, tourists have begun to return in large numbers, partially due to the promotion and good will of Japan’s famous hula girls. In two shows each day, the dancers perform not just hula but dances from New Zealand, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa, Tahiti, and of course, Hawaii.

PMK Fish Market says goal is sustainable fishing and safer markets not competition with local markets

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

May 18, 2018

Pohnpei—The mission of the PMK (Pohnpei Menin Katengensed) Fish Market is a noble one. The non-profit market hopes to protect Pohnpei's fishery from unsustainable fishing practices while simultaneously providing fishers with the best prices for their sustainably caught fish.

The market is beautiful and clean. Surfaces gleam and all of the caught fish are cold and inviting. Fresh fish on ice are only display for one day before they are filleted and vacuum packed. PMK Market buys fish only from its members, each of whom pay annual dues of \$10 and commit to fishing only by sustainable methods. The market does not buy night caught fish nor does it buy net caught fish. It buys only fish caught by line and adheres strictly to the law in terms of size limits and seasonable bans on spawning fish.

It provides training for member fishers on sustainable catch methods and on proper fish handling techniques both in terms of cold storage and in terms of safe release methods for fish that are caught under size. It does not buy crabs that have eggs and never buys crabs that are undersized. All fish are thoroughly inspected before purchase.

The market does not buy Skipjack tuna but only because the meat does not do

well when vacuum packed.

The Menin Katengensed is also offering free training to local fishers for catch-and-release of undersized fish, safe handling and sanitation for fishers and market owners, and catching and on-board handling and processing of sashimi-grade tuna. Member fishers will also be receiving discount ice, engine oil, and the use of long-storage coolers to ensure fish are kept onboard at safe temperature and to reduce overhead costs.

Francisco T. Sohl, the manager of PMK Fish Market and the Secretary for the Menin Katengensed Fisher and Market-Owner Association, said that though the PMK association currently has five members in each of the municipalities, some fishers have chosen not to participate due to PMK's ban on night time fishing. Still he says they hope to attract 10 more fishers from each municipality. He thinks that may happen when fishers realize that PMK Market pays on average 33 percent more for fish than do most local markets. He invites all fishermen to join for the benefit of Pohnpei coastal fishery and for their own livelihoods.

Sohl said that it is not the goal of the non-profit market with outside funders to drive other local operated markets out of business. He said that the market has three main goals. It hopes to serve as a model for other markets to emulate in terms of safe fish storage and sales and sustainable fish purchasing. It hopes also to provide a living wage for fishers and

to minimize over fishing.

Unfortunately, the method used in February to roll out the message of the new fish market did make it seem that the new market was the only safe place for customers to buy fish in Pohnpei. An

email message was sent out on a Google group whose membership consists mainly of expats announcing the new market. On the following day a message was sent out on the same group announcing the results of testing that showed the presence of harmful bacteria such as e. Coli in a small survey of fish from each of five fish markets.

"I guess all I can say is that the timing of the article release was unintentional and the timing probably hurt the new MK market opening as much as anyone else," wrote Dr. Kevin Rhodes who conducted the study and released the emails. Rhodes is an adviser to PMK, who for twenty years has conducted research on coastal fisheries in Pohnpei and released several beneficial studies with the goal of improving the lives and livelihoods of the people of Pohnpei. He says that is still the goal.

Sohl says that PMK has a meeting in the middle of each month and encourages local market owners to come to one of them and talk about how they can work together to improve market safety of seafood sold in Pohnpei and to discourage overfishing. He said that he encourages any community member with questions to attend one of the meetings. The next meeting will be on June 15.

Contact PMK Fish Market at 320-3697 for time and venue for the meeting.



Japan Foreign Minister Kono asks for FSM cooperation on a variety of issues

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

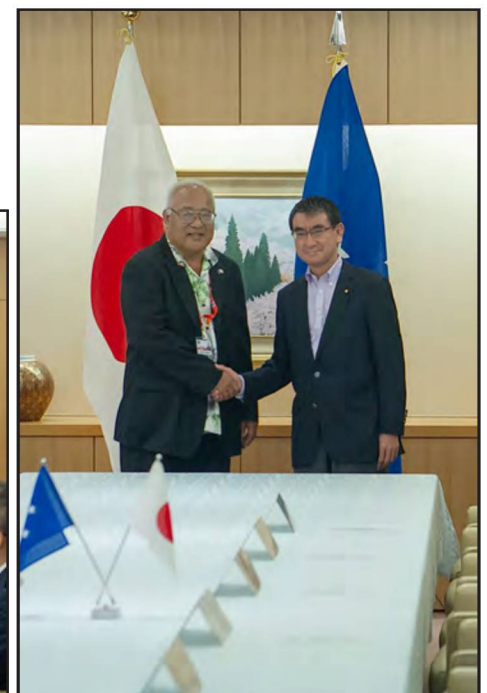
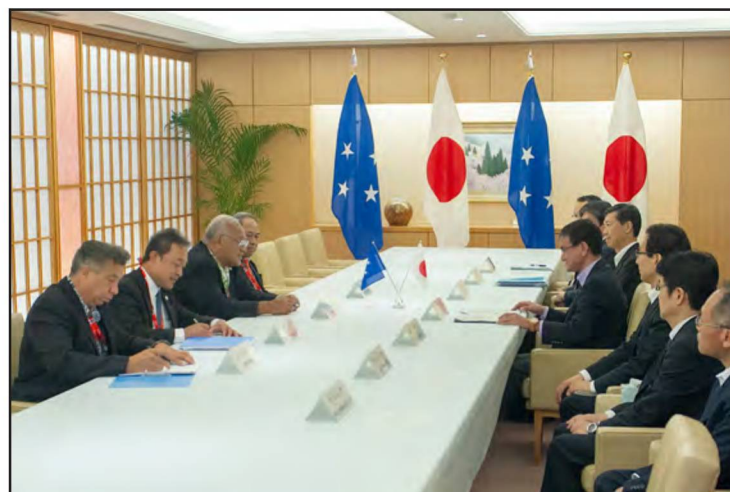
May 16, 2018

Tokyo—This afternoon FSM Secretary for Foreign Affairs Lorin S. Robert met with Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs Taro Kono in a conference room in Tokyo in conjunction with the PALM 8 (Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting) which has been held every three years for the last 21 years.

After exchanging pleasant greetings, the media was escorted from the room while the heart of the meeting progressed.

A press release in Japanese from the Ministry of Foreign affairs said that Minister Kono asked for consideration for the stable operation of Japanese fishing vessels and also requested cooperation in the recovery of the remains of Japanese people buried in the FSM.

The Ministers also expressed their opinions on cooperation for the success of PALM 8, cooperation based on the "free and open India-Pacific strategy", regional affairs including North Korea, and cooperation in the international field in a wide number of issues.



FSM President Peter Christian speaks to PALM leaders on Cooperation in the International Arena

“At the outset, I convey warm greetings from the leaders and people of the Federated States of Micronesia. I wish to join the previous speakers in expressing my appreciation to Prime Minister Abe and for the invitation, and to the leaders and people of Fukushima Prefecture and Governor Uchibori, especially Mayor Shimizu of Iwaki City for their very, very warm welcome and courtesies. I commend the organizers and all those involved in the preparations and arrangements.

“Co-Chairs, it is my pleasure to make a short comment on the assigned topic of Cooperation in the International Arena; and specifically, I would like to address the Korean peninsula issue.

“From a Pacific perspective, it is absolutely safe to say that all of us want to see peace on the Korean Peninsula, and in this region in general. Also, we know that this Peace we wish for is not to be found in a “one stop shop,” nor with the right of might. We know from recent events that this is simply wishful thinking.

“For peace in the Korean Peninsula to become a reality, it must be formulated from within and be embraced by those who live there; supported by all of us first as a people for peace, and even more so as members of the United Nations. Peace for the people of the Korea’s means peace for our region.

“The Democratic People’s Republic of

Korea and the Republic of Korea have made that first attempt—that first important step.

“I, like many other Pacific Islands leaders, applauded this effort to bend into the wind, or reach over a burning furnace to exchange a handshake that may usher in and embrace the start of meaningful and respectful dialogue; ultimately towards a lasting calm and peace for the Korean Peninsula, and for all of us who share with them the Pacific Ocean.

“First meetings are always difficult, and can be made more difficult if there are preconditions made to be met before any sit down. Preconditions can discourage, even derail any effort to meet.

“I am often amazed at how much is the “take away” from meetings from which no one expects satisfying results, and how surprisingly history will often record that those first meetings are pivotal.

“There are many more things that we who sit on the sidelines wish for, for all our sakes.

“First and foremost we wish that the climate and environment of the meeting be calm, and civility be its central décor. That after the noodles are done, and Mr. Trump and Mr. Kim are served their Chocolate dessert, both would realize how easier it is to speak softly across a table, rather than shout at each other their ideas of fire, fury, and total destruction across the Pacific Ocean. This only causes fear in those whose only role is to wish for peace.

“Little as our voice may be, the leaders of North Korea and South Korea acknowledged receiving a letter from the Federated States of Micronesia congratulating and encouraging the two leaders good effort towards possible reconciliation.



“As I speak from Micronesia and for the people of Micronesia, I cannot help but remember that my government has a very special relationship with Mr. Trump’s America. Like Republic of Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, The Federated States of Micronesia is more than just a diplomatic ally of the United States; we have a strategic defense and security agreement with the United States of America.

“A man I know little about advises us that with great power comes great responsibility. It was a paraphrase of Luke 12:28 that reminds us that to whom much is given, much is expected.

“The United States of America is strong. And the strong can and should afford to be humble with their strength and might. Sitting down for a few words with Mr. Kim is more than just an “America First” show of strength. It is an exhibit of the character that America is known for.

“We continue to hope first for calmness among peoples and nations. Mostly, I long for normalization and lasting peace for the Korean Peninsula. And in my humble opinion such a wish can only be realized by two countries—The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea), and the Republic of Korea (South Korea).”

Two Xavier High School students receive coveted APIC Scholarships to study at Sophia University in Tokyo

TOKYO – Two graduating seniors from Xavier High School in the Federated States of Micronesia have been awarded the coveted APIC Scholarship that covers all expenses related to full-time degree studies at Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan.

Chloe RoseAnn Arnold of Chuuk State and Paul Charley, Jr. of Kosrae State, both in the Federated States of Micronesia, will begin studying for undergraduate degrees at Sophia University this fall. They will join five other undergraduate and two graduate students, all graduates of Xavier High School, who are studying at Sophia University as earlier recipients of the APIC Scholarship program.

Arnold, who was part of a group of international student researchers that studied climate change in the Arctic last year, is class valedictorian. She has been on the honor roll for every semester she’s been at Xavier High School.

Charley, Jr., has been active in school and community activities from his freshman year. He’s also played leading roles in class and student body government activities.

“We are pleased to award this year’s APIC Scholarships to Chloe Arnold and Paul Charley, Jr. This scholarship program is one of the most successful in the Micronesia region. It recognizes the academic achievement and

leadership potential of the recipients, as well as the special role Xavier High School and Sophia University play in promoting learning and educational growth in their respective countries,” said Ambassador Peter Y. Sato, president of The Association for Promotion of International Cooperation (APIC).

The full-ride scholarship is sponsored by APIC, a private foundation in Tokyo dedicated to strengthening Japan’s relations with the nations of the Pacific Islands and Caribbean. The APIC Scholarship, which is awarded to two Xavier High School graduates each year to study at Sophia University, was organized by Ambassador Peter Y. Sato and Ambassador Shoji Sato, APIC’s

executive director.

Both men are retired career Japanese diplomats. Peter Sato’s last post was as Japan’s Ambassador to China. Shoji Sato served as Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia.



Paul Charley, Jr. Kosrae
Chloe RoseAnn Arnold Chuuk



Pacific Sub-Regional Office

CLOSING DATE: 31 May 2018
POST TITLE: Programme Associate
LEVEL POST NO: ICS7-00038830
DUTY STATION: Suva, Fiji
DURATION: Fixed Term - 1 Year initially

The UNFPA Pacific Sub Regional Office seeks to recruit a suitably qualified Fijian National for the position of a Programme Associate.

The Programme Associate position is located in the Sub-Regional Office and reports directly to the Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. The incumbent provides the lead responsibility for programme activities, research & networking and is part of the Programme team, which provides integrated programme and technical support within a systems strengthening approach fundamental to UNFPA's overall strategy. The incumbent also works in close collaboration with the International Operations Manager and the Operations team to ensure timely support to the sub-regional offices on programme/operational matters.

Job Purpose

The Programme Associate plays a key role in programme management to ensure activities are being performed, collecting data to analyze performance and reporting on progress. S/he also contributes to the development and implementation of effective sub-regional programmes by providing support in the design, planning and management of UNFPA's programmes in the following functions:

- Performance Oversight
- Research Support
- Financial Management
- Operations and Procedural Guidance and support

Qualifications

- Completion of secondary level or an equivalent high school education is required;
- First level university degree in Business Administration or a related field is preferable.
- Recognized training and/or certification in basic financial principles is an asset.
- Minimum of Seven (7) years of relevant experience in the data support management systems and financial management in the private, public sector and/or in an international organization.
- Fluency in English Language is required.
- Proficiency in current office software applications; good knowledge of administrative processes and spreadsheet software. Basic knowledge of finance.

General Terms & Conditions of Employment: Various benefits including health insurance, pension and annual/sick leave apply.

How to apply

Applications must be submitted electronically at <http://www.unfpa.org/jobs> where full details of the position is available. Applicants should provide all relevant information to the best of their ability.

Incomplete applications will not be considered and only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. UNFPA retains the right to contact referees directly.

Notice:

There is no application, processing or other fee at any stage of the application process. UNFPA does not solicit or screen for information in respect of HIV or AIDS and does not discriminate on the basis of HIV status, disability and gender. All applications will be treated with strictest confidence.

Japan Prime Minister Abe commits nearly \$2 million to FSM during bilateral meeting in Japan

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 18, 2018

Iwaki, Fukushima— This morning the FSM's President Christian met with Japanese Prime Minister Abe for a bilateral meeting at the Resort Spa Hawaiians in Iwaki, Fukushima, Japan. The meeting took place as a side meeting to the PALM 8, the Pacific Island Leader's Meeting that has been held every three years for the last 21 years.

After the country leaders conveyed their mutual greetings and expressions of support, the media was ushered from the room, a standard practice.

According to a translated press release, Prime Minister Abe noted that this year marks the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Micronesia. He would like to further strengthen the relations between the two countries and that at PALM8 he would like to discuss the issues that the region is commonly faced with such as maritime security, climate change, disaster prevention and others. He said that Japan intends to grant aid of 200 million yen (approximately \$1.8 million USD) to Micronesia to strengthen disaster prevention and reduction capacity.



In response to this, President Christian expressed appreciation for Japan's long-standing support and stated his respect for Japan's leadership towards the success of PALM8.

PM Abe stated that he would like to coordinate and cooperate with Micronesia under the "Free and Open India-Pacific strategy".

In response to this, President Christian expressed his intention to continue to closely cooperate with Japan.

In addition, Prime Minister Abe asked for cooperation towards the stable operation of Japanese fishing vessels, cooperation in the collection project of the remains of Japanese soldiers, and cooperation towards the early resolution of the abduction issue with North Korea.

President Christian expressed his willingness to discuss the North Korea issue with Japan.



Winners announced for two day 25th Annual Pohnpei Fishing Club Tournament

Pohnpei Fishing Club

May 12, 2018

Pohnpei—The 25th Annual Fishing Club Tournament was a very successful fishing tournament. We had two great days of fishing. While the first day was hot and sultry, the second day was overcast and rainy, and brought up a few big fish. Still the big fish of the tournament was caught on the first day by Walden Weilbacher, a 195 pound marlin.

We also want to thank our sponsors for this event. Ambros, Inc., provided the beer, t-shirts and the grand prize a trip for two anglers to Saipan along with entry to the July Saipan fishing derby—a great prize and one that was hard fought.

We also want to thank our other sponsors, Bank of the FSM, MRAG, Ace Hardware, LP Gas, Etscheit Enterprises, Blue Nile, Pohnpei Port Authority, Panuelo Enterprises, Panuelo Gas Station, POP Fishing & Marine, Pohnpei Surf Club, Mangrove Bay, FSM Telecom, CTSI. We had great support from our sponsors.

22 boats entered the two day tournament. It was a very good turnout and we had lots of prizes to give away.

Below is the list of winners:

Grand prize - most points from point fish by boat over the 2days
2 roundtrip tickets –Happier Hooker, Walden Weilbacher, Captain - total boat point fish- 290points

The grand prize was awarded as a boat prize with two lucky anglers from the winning boat going to Saipan.

The winner was determined by the most weight in point fish caught on one boat over the two day tournament. Happier Hooker won with 290 points which consisted of a 195 pound marlin, Walden Weilbacher, a 48 pound YF, Walden Weilbacher, a 25.5 pound YF, Thomas Beckmann, and a 21.0 pound GT, Damian Semens.

Congratulations to Happier Hooker.

The other prizes were for big fish. Since the grand prize was a boat prize, these same fish could be used in the individual categories.

TWO DAYS TOURNAMENT

Regular Prizes:

1st Biggest Fish: \$550 & \$100 Gift

Certificate (Gc) - Walden Weilbacher - 195lb Marlin

2nd Biggest Fish: \$450 & \$100 Gc - Jun Apis - 132.5lb Marlin

3rd Biggest Fish: \$350 & \$100 Gc - Marcella Hawley- 109.5lb Yellowfin

4th Biggest Fish: \$250 & \$50 Gc - Welber David - 82.5lb Yellowfin

5th Biggest Fish: \$200 & \$50 Gc - Mark Johnny - 78.2lb Yellowfin

6th Biggest Fish: \$150 & \$50 Gc - Marihno Mihkel - 59LB Yellowfin

7th Biggest Fish: \$100 & \$50 Gc - Mike Sorbel -56.5LB Yellowfin

Species:

1st Biggest Yellowfin: \$100 Gc - Walden Weilbacher - 48LB

2nd Biggest Yellowfin: \$50 Gc - Andy Musrasrik - 31LB

1st Biggest Skip Jack: \$100 Gc - Welber David - 21.5LB

2nd Biggest Skip Jack: \$50 Gc - Emerald Eperiam - 12LB

1st Biggest Wahoo: \$100 Gc - Konrad Englberger - 20.2LB

2nd Biggest Wahoo: \$50 Gc - Isaiah Hawley - 17.1LB

1st Biggest Mahimahi: \$100 Gc - Mark Fiqueras - 16.5LB

2nd Biggest Mahimahi: \$50 Gc - Tommy Reiher - 14.5LB

1st Biggest Barracuda: \$100 Gc - Robinson(Psc) - 42LB

2nd Biggest Barracuda: \$50 Gc - Esperanza Guiuan - 26LB

First Lady Angler: \$100 Gc - Niki Peterson - 41.8LB Yf

2nd Lady Angler: \$50 Gc & Small Cellphone - Esperanza Guiuan - 34LB Dogtooth

First Jr Angler: Mi Cellphone - Dane Nighswander - 20.2LB Barracuda

Second Jr Angler: Small Cellphone - Neelo - 12.5LB Barracuda

Congratulations to all the winners. The prizes were spread around pretty well. Every boat received a twelve pack of Budweiser for each day they went out. Also all anglers received t-shirts donated by Ambros, Inc. Many of our sponsors donated gift certificates which were distributed to the winners as shown above.

We also want to thank everyone who helped out including Bill, Paul, Tina and Praise, along with Kumer's guys and anyone else not mentioned. We can't do it without support from the club.

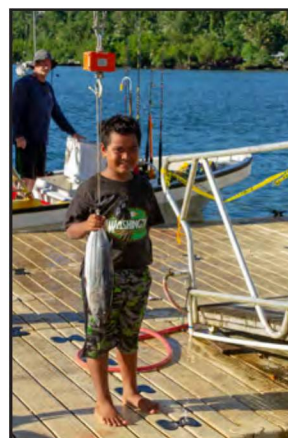
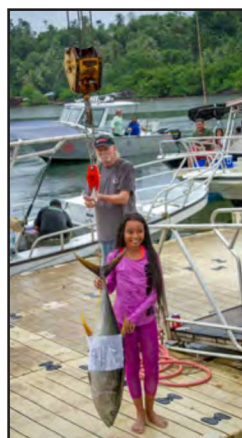
The boats also received hot dogs and there was more free food during the awards. There was a good party at Mangrove Bay, (thanks Mangrove) and the anglers all seemed to have a good time.

A final winner was announced, when we called up the boats that didn't win a prize. Each captain drew a lottery ticket and the prize was \$200.00 in gas donated by PPA. We won't disclose who won this prize, since we don't need to mention the boats that did not win a prize. It was good fun though.

Everyone had a good time, but I was pretty tired after two days of fishing. I think everyone got a well-deserved shower then curled up with their twelve pack of Budweiser.

We want to thank our sponsors again. Ambros, Inc. Bank of the FSM, MRAG, Ace Hardware, LP Gas, Etscheit Enterprises, Blue Nile, POP Fishing & Marine, Pohnpei Port Authority, Panuelo Enterprises, Panuelo Gas Station, Pohnpei Surf Club, Mangrove Bay, FSM Telecom, CTSI.

The next tournament is the Vital tournament on June 9.





**OVER
\$10,000 IN
FUEL
PRIZES!**



2018 VITAL ANNUAL FISHING CIRCUIT-POHNPEI

ONE-DAY
PRE-REGISTRATION
WITH THE
POHNPEI
FISHING
CLUB

**WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 6, 2018
6PM-8PM**

**AT MANGROVE BAY
BAR**

TOURNAMENT
DATE

**SATURDAY,
JUNE 9, 2018**

CHECK
OUT

**6AM-8AM
AT DEKEHTIK**

WEIGH
IN

**4PM-5PM
AT MANGROVE BAY
MARINA**

FOR MORE
INFO,
CALL

**VITAL FSMPC
at 320-6364**





**Karleen Samuel
Class of 2009**

Alumni Success

Karleen Samuel, from the island of Pohnpei, is a member of the Class of 2009 who graduated with an Associates of Arts in Media Studies. She has been employed at the college since 2000.

Mrs. Samuel's professional career began at the Development Institute in Pohnpei where she served as a Receptionist in 1992. She then became a Clerk at the Pohnpei State Attorney General's Office in 1993, then took a Clerical Assistant position with the college in 2000. From there she has been promoted through the ranks from Clerical Assistant, to Media Assistant in 2002, to her current position of MITC Coordinator which she has been in since 2011. She oversees the operations of the media center while also maintaining and developing the media collections of the Learning Resources Center.

After earning her associates and while working at the college, Karleen earned a bachelor's degree in Information and Library Science from the University of Maine at Augusta in 2016. Most recently she was part of the Second Library Education for the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific (LEAP) cohort at the University of North Texas (UNT) earning a master's in library

science with a focus on digital curation and data management, made possible by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). A graduation ceremony was held on May 4th at University of Hawaii Hamilton Library in anticipation of cohort members finishing their degree requirements in 2018.

Mrs. Samuel is married to Helper Samuel, and together are the proud parents of Helkarson James, Prayden James, Mellanie-Lee James, and Melody-Lee James.

The college congratulates Karleen on her recent achievements. She is an example of the success that the college strives to instill in its students. Karleen also serves a great role model for her peers and the youth that are striving to better themselves. Not only is she a success, but she also serves the college community to help ensure that "Student Success Is Our Success".

*Share your story by emailing us at
alumnisuccess@comfsm.fm
We want hear about your achievements!*

CTEC & National Campuses

5/23	9AM to 3PM	Registration for NMHS senior Students	NMHS
5/28	9AM to 3PM	Registration for PICS senior students	PICS
5/29	9AM to 3PM	Registration for MHS senior students	MHS
5/30	9AM to 4PM	Registration for new students	CTEC & National
5/31	9AM to 4PM	Registration for all students	CTEC & National
6/1	9AM to 4PM	Registration for all students	CTEC & National
6/1	1:30PM to 4:30PM	New, transfer & returning student's orientation	National
6/4		First day of instruction	

Chuuk & Kosrae Campuses

5/30	9AM to 4PM	Registration for new students	Kosrae & Chuuk Campus
5/31	9AM to 4PM	Registration for all students	Kosrae & Chuuk Campus
6/1	9AM to 4PM	Registration for all students	Kosrae & Chuuk Campus
6/4		First day of instruction	

Yap Campus

5/23-25	9AM to 4PM	Registration for YHS students	Yap Campus
5/29-30	9AM to 4PM	Registration for all students	YapCampus
6/1		First day of instruction	

College of Micronesia-FSM is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges,



**PELL Grant
Available This
Summer**

Continuing students who have exhausted Pell Grant award in fall and spring may be eligible to receive 150% of his scheduled Pell Grant. The student must be enrolled in a minimum of 6

College of Micronesia-FSM
P.O. Box 159
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Phone: (691)320-2480
Fax: (691)320-2479
E-Mail: national@comfsm.fm

Follow us online:



www.comfsm.fm

Volleyball served up by expert trainer in Yap

May 9, 2018

Colonia, Yap - Volleyball and beach volleyball technical training is on the calendar the week of May 6th in Yap as expert instructor Apenisa Saukuru of Fiji trains aspiring and experienced referees in how to officiate and coach teams during the lead-up to the 2018 Micro Games. Participants who complete 25 hours of training will be awarded certification.

The FSM National Olympic Committee is the sponsor of the training thanks to

an IOC Development of National Sport Structures grant of \$30,000. In addition to the overall cost of bringing Saukuru to the island for nearly three months prior to the Games, the FSMNOC is also using the grant to bring volleyball coaches from Chuuk, Kosrae and Pohnpei to join the Yap volunteers as they prepare for the popular sport that will have teams from all ten delegations participating in the competition.

Saukuru is a former Pacific Games Gold and Bronze medalist and Asian Volleyball Confederation certified referee with approval by the Federation Internationale de Volleyball, the governing body of Volleyball, to be the Expert Instructor.



Participants in Volleyball Technical Training Course prepare for 2018 Micro Games in Yap (L-R) Back row: Jensky Rikrik, Jerrick Loochaz, John Yinug Middle row: Jeremiah Buchun, Anthony Bualuay, Joab Paul, JR Gechig, Alokoa Sigrah Front row: Renster Diopulos, Daniel Ramngen, Desiree Garbuwaath, Julivene Fattinan, Theresa Kitin, Ameralis Rulyan, Apenisa Saukuru (trainer), Anthony Sigeyog Not pictured: Michael Wienczek, Fandila Waathan, Kimberly Cho PHOTO CREDIT: Joyce McClure



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



The Government of the Federated States of Micronesia's National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Pacific Regional Oceanscape Program, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward FOUR NATIONAL FOOD INSPECTORS based at the FSM Department of Health & Social Affairs (FSMDHSA) (ONE in Kosrae, FSM; ONE in Yap, FSM and TWO in Pohnpei, FSM) and reporting to the Head of National Food Safety Inspection Program or his designate. The National Food Inspector services include:

GENERAL SCOPE OF WORK

- To provide regulatory inspection and certification services to fishing industry vessels and establishments within Federated States of Micronesia in accordance with the National Food Safety Act (PL 7-116), Subsidiary Food Safety Regulations, associated amendments, as well as the National Control Plan (NCP) and other Competent Authority (CA) System documents;
- To provide advice to other organizations with regard to the safety of fish and fishery products.
- Perform routine inspection of food facilities and vessels engaged in receiving, storing or preparation of food and food products for commercial import or export and recommend regarding the formal approval of establishments and vessels;
- To perform sampling and testing as required in the NCP and the National Monitoring Plan and Regulation
- Effective and accurate recording and reporting of CA official control activities;
- Enter ports of entry, detain and search vehicles/vessels at such port of entry and examine and take samples of articles and anything which is capable of being used for such preparation, packaging, storage, sale or conveyance;
- Collect evidence, samples of suspected food, obtaining statements and preparing reports;
- Act as witness in support of the charges against offenders of the National Food Safety Act and Regulations;
- Assist in developing and implementing training programs in Sanitation Management and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) for the food industry;
- Assist States with relevant education activities, surveys/investigations during outbreaks, conduct food inspections/recalls.
- Other duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelors degree in food science, health, fisheries or related field. Associates Degree may be acceptable if proven extensive relevant experience.
- 2 years experience in food safety inspection, management, sanitation or related work
- Fluency in the English language.
- Good written and oral communication skills including basic computer skills.
- Proven ability to work independently and under limited supervision with strong attention to detail.
- Willingness to work outside conventional working hours.
- Good people skills
- Strong commitment to sanitation and hygiene.

The incumbent shall undergo one (1) year of field work to be administered by the CA Team Leader. The incumbent must also attend, complete and pass the biennial national food safety and health certification training course and examination.

DURATION and REMUNERATION

The position will be full-time for an initial two (2) year period. Salary will be based on the Local Labor Market Payscale and/or depending on qualifications under a Contract with FSM NORMA.

APPLICATION

The FSM NORMA invites submissions by electronic and/or hard copies of a) Letter of Interest, b) CV or resumè, c) support Degrees/Certificates and d) 3 reference letters to NORMA no later than MAY 31, 2018 or until filled. Selection will be in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers (January 2011 edition). Full Terms of Reference (TOR) can be obtained from:

NORMA, FSM National Government
Attn: OKean Ehmes, PROP Coordinator
POBox 122, Pohnpei, FM 96941
Office Telephone: 691-320-2700/5181
Email: moria.joseph@norma.fm. Copy to okean.ehmes@norma.fm

Japan achieved successes in Micronesia unlike any nation before or since, says noted Historian Francis X. Hezel, SJ

Association for Promotion of International Cooperation

May 9, 2018

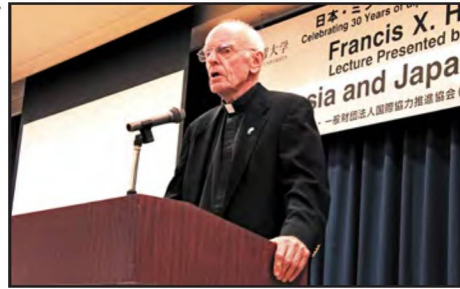
TOKYO – In the years before World War II, the Micronesian islands under Japanese rule were self-supporting, a level of economic independence never reached during the U.S. colonial period after the war or since independence in the mid-1980s, noted Pacific historian Francis X. Hezel, SJ, told a packed lecture hall at Sophia University.

Speaking to an audience of more than 130 -- including Palau Ambassador Francis Matsutaro, Federated States of Micronesia Ambassador John Fritz, and Marshall Islands Ambassador Tom Kijiner – Hezel said sugar cane plantations on Saipan, Tinian and Rota brought in more than 6 million yen, more than all other regional industries combined. Tuna fishing, which dried the fish and turned it into tuna shavings or katsubushi at factories on Chuuk, Pohnpei, Palau and Saipan, produced revenue of over 5 million yen annually, Hezel said.

“The sugar industry was bound to have an enormous impact on these islands. For instance, the Japanese and Okinawan population in the Northern Marianas exploded, from well under 2,000 in 1920 to more than 40,000 by 1937,” Hezel noted.

Hezel’s lecture was titled, “Micronesia and Japan – The Islands That The Japanese Forgot.” The Jesuit priest, who began serving in the Micronesian region in 1963, was invited to speak in Tokyo by Ambassador Peter Y. Sato, president of the Association for Promotion of International Cooperation, a private foundation that seeks to strengthen Japan’s ties with nations of Oceania and the Caribbean, and Chancellor T. Sakuma, SJ, and President Yoshiaki Terumichi of Sophia University, the historic Jesuit school. The lecture was also part of a yearlong series of events marking 30 years of diplomatic ties between the Federated States of Micronesia and Japan by the FSM Embassy in Tokyo.

In 1914, at the outbreak of World War I, Japanese naval forces steamed from island to island in the Micronesia region to oust German colonists. The Paris Peace Conference in 1919 awarded the Micronesian islands to Japan as part of the newly formed League of Nations.



Hezel said that under Japanese rule, Micronesians made gains in public education and religion. Japanese authorities established the first rudimentary public school system, and offered three years of basic education for all islanders who lived within walking distance of one of the 24 public schools built across the region.

And Hezel noted that Japan encouraged Roman Catholic and Protestant missionaries to establish missions in the Japanese Mandated Islands. For instance, Admiral Shinjiro Yamamoto, who was a Catholic, appealed to the Pope for priests and brothers to be sent to Micronesia.

“Soon Spanish Jesuits were sent to open a new mission in the islands. Four pastors from the Japanese Congregational Church also arrived to begin work in Chuuk and Pohnpei. German Liebenzell missionaries were invited to resume their work and set up new stations in the west. And so non-Christian Japan brought in missionaries to assist it in its ‘civilizing’ mission,” Hezel said.

The Jesuit priest, who has written a number of histories on the Micronesian region, also spoke about the Japanese who moved to the islands to set up trading companies. The first Japanese traders arrived in 1890 in Chuuk.

“They included Koben Mori, son of a samurai, and Mogahira Shirai, who had fought in the wars of the Meiji restoration,” said Hezel. Mori is the great-grandfather of Emanuel “Manny” Mori of Chuuk, who served two terms as president of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Hezel said islanders missed the Japanese era in the post-war years. “When I first came in 1963, Micronesians expressed their fondness for food (ramen, sushi, etc) and their nostalgia for the ‘old days’ of their Japanese schooling (including the strict discipline). On my first visit



to Palau, I heard popular songs with Japanese-like melodies. Japanese names seemed to be everywhere,” Hezel recalled.

He said the Japanese era achieved levels of success that were never matched by the U.S. during its post-war administration of Micronesia, or during the current independence era in the Marshall Islands, Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia, as well as the U.S. Northern Marianas Islands.

Hezel said during the Japanese period: Islanders were introduced to modern world, just as Japan itself had been a half-century earlier during the Meiji restoration. Not just dress styles, and songs, and rise of the towns, but through an education system.

Industry rose to new heights, with diversified exports. For one short period at least, the islands were able to pay their way in a global economy.

Island culture had been so transformed by its exposure to Japanese influence that the signs of this remain to the present.

Hezel noted that the Micronesian islands also affected a generation of Japanese who worked in the region.

“The islands had made their mark

on the Japanese and Okinawans who had lived and worked there during the 1920s and 1930s,” Hezel said. “Guntos were formed, regular meetings were held, and yearly books appeared with published accounts and photos of the old days. Pacific Island studies programs were established, and The Journal of the Pacific Society was published for years afterwards.

“Early tourism build up in the islands was Japanese, resulting from the historical and cultural ties. Saipan and Palau were the principal destinations– because they were closer to Japan, not just in geographical distance but culturally as well. The islands still bore the marks of Japanese presence,” Hezel said.

But that was then, Hezel added. He challenged the Sophia University audience asking, “What will be the next phase of the Japanese-Micronesian relationship that is now more than a century old?”



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Telecommunication and communication services; transfer of data by telecommunication; wireless access to the internet and communication networks; transmission of voice, data, graphics, sound, video images, and multi-media content via wireless communication networks and the Internet; voice over internet protocol (VOIP) services; broadcasting services and provision of telecommunication access to voice, data, graphics, sound, video, and multimedia content; teleconferencing; electronic transmission and streaming of data, audio, video and multimedia content; internet broadcasting services; electronic transmission and streaming of data, audio, video and digital media content for others via global and local computer networks; wireless broadcasting; providing electronic telecommunications connections through optical networks; telecommunications consulting services; providing on-line chat rooms and electronic bulletin boards for transmission of messages among users in the field of general interest; electronic messaging; telecommunications in International Class 38;

Training services in the fields of networks, network system design, network operation, network maintenance, network testing, network protocols, network management, network engineering, computers, software, microprocessors and information technology; entertainment services, namely, organizing exhibitions for computer gaming, providing on-line computer games, and organizing community sporting and cultural events; providing on-line publications in the nature of magazines, newsletters, journals, books and brochures in the areas of photography, imaging and related goods and services; education services, namely, providing seminars, courses and tutorial sessions in the field of digital imaging via global computer networks; computerized on-line education services, namely, providing classes, seminars, tutorial sessions, conferences and workshops in the field of computers, computer hardware, microprocessors, software and computer networks; educational services, namely, providing interactive tutorial sessions and courses in the nature of how-to guides, tips and techniques, expert guidance and advice, all relating to the purchase, use, care, maintenance, support, upgrading, updating and configuring of computer hardware, computer software, computer networks, teleconferencing and communications goods and services; educational services, namely, conducting classes, seminars, conferences and online educational forums in the field of computer and software use, navigation over global computer networks, computer science and technology, computer management, and distributing course materials in connection therewith; developing and disseminating educational materials designed to increase technology literacy among students; education and training services in the field of online business solutions; education; providing of training; entertainment; sporting and cultural activities in International Class 41; and

Computer network management services, namely, monitoring of network systems for technical purposes; hosting of digital content on the internet; computer network monitoring services, namely, providing information on the operation of computer networks; technical design consulting services in the field of computers and wireless computing; providing temporary use of non-downloadable software for enhancing and providing real-time transfer, transmission, reception, processing and digitizing of audio and video graphics information; providing temporary use of non-downloadable software for processing, storage, retrieval, transmission, display, input, output, compressing, decompressing, modifying, broadcasting and printout of data; providing temporary use of non-downloadable software for ensuring the security of computer networks, for access control and security, and for use in protecting computer networks from data theft or damage by unauthorized users; providing temporary use of non-downloadable software for the receipt, display, and use of broadcast video, audio, and digital data signals; providing temporary use of non-downloadable software for creating, facilitating, developing, maintaining and managing remote access to and communication with local area networks (lans), virtual private networks (vpn), wide area networks (wans) and global computer networks; providing temporary use of non-downloadable software for use in providing multiple user access to a global computer information network for searching, retrieving, transferring, manipulating and disseminating a wide range of information; providing temporary use of non-downloadable software tools for the facilitation of third party software applications; providing temporary use of non-downloadable software for wireless network communications; development, design, and consulting services relating to computer software and hardware; designing and developing standards for others in the design and implementation of computer software, computer hardware and telecommunications equipment; providing customers and technicians with information relating to computer project management; scientific and technological services and research and design relating thereto; industrial analysis and research services; design and development of computer hardware and software in International Class 42.

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Doctors and Dentists for Tomorrow graduates first class

Twelve future physicians and dentists have graduated from the Doctors and Dentists for Tomorrow (DDFT) programme at the College of Micronesia-FSM, having received their associate's degrees, and are now in the process of applying for medical and dental school for 2019 in Fiji and Papua New Guinea. The twelve Micronesian students represent the first class of DDFT students. A second class of twelve DDFT students will graduate in 2019, and it is hoped that additional classes will follow, as DDFT seeks to train the future Micronesian healthcare providers and leaders of tomorrow.

DDFT is a joint program of the College of Micronesia-FSM, the Pacific Island Health Officers' Association (PIHOA), and the John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of Hawai'i, in concert with local partners, such as the Pohnpei State Division of Health Services. DDFT is an intensive basic science preparatory programme for high-performing Micronesian high school graduates. DDFT students undertake two-and-one-half years of intensive applied basic science training on the campus of the College of Micronesia-FSM, before proceeding to medical school at a regional partner schools, such as the University of Fiji, Fiji National University, or the University of Papua New Guinea.

DDFT is unlike any other programme in the Northern Pacific. Students are taught using problem-based learning (PBL), which is the mode of instruction

at regional medical and dental schools. Instead of lectures and memorization, students learn pathology, biochemistry, anatomy, physiology, medical psychology, and medical microbiology through applied case studies. These applied case studies are nearly identical to the ward rounds that students will participate in when they arrive in medical school, and include high-pressure critiques from clinical faculty members, which many students describe as acutely stressful, but also a great learning experience. Through solving real-life medical problems, students learn not only the basic sciences, but also the medicine they will one day practice in Micronesia. Students also participate in rotations at Pohnpei State Hospital, Dental Services, and Public Health, where they see the material they are learning in application on real patients.

In referring to the unique nature and difficulty of the DDFT programme, Dr Paul O. Dacanay, stated that, "This programme is hard! As a faculty, we make it that way, because we only want the best and the brightest caring for the people of Micronesian in the future. The fact that these students have succeeded and are now applying to medical school is a testament to their hard work and dedication."

The twelve graduates were honoured at an awards dinner held on Thursday, 17 May 2018, where they received special awards and recognition. Also honoured at this dinner were the family and friends who have supported the students during their



time in DDFT.

Scarlett Lebehn was honoured as the DDFT Class of 2018 Valedictorian. She was also presented the first Dr Eliuel K. Pretrick Award for Academic Excellence in Health Careers, by Dr Gregory A. Dever on behalf of the Pacific Island Health Officers' Association. Dr Dever, in referring to all of the graduates, noted that, "You are the future of your country. You are treasures that your country and the region can look to for healthcare leadership in the decades to come as you treat and inspire the people of the FSM."

Additional academic honours awards were presented to Caroline Apaisam, who was honoured as the DDFT Class of 2018 Salutatorian; Bina Jackson, who received Upper Second-Class Honours, followed by Mira Pama, who received Lower Second-Class Honours, and finally, Joyce Panuel, who received Third-Class Honours.

Seamon Andreas, Jr., was presented the Positive Attitude award; followed by Quilan Cantero, who was honoured with the Enthusiastic Learner award; and then by Lucyle Eliou, who received the award for Excellence in Teamwork. This was followed by Joshua Gabriel, who was honoured with the award for Meritorious Improvement; to be followed by Jamie-Ann Noket, who received the Superior Problem-Solving award; and then BeeWee Tara, who received the award for Excellence in Leadership; being followed by Treza Thoses, who received the Outstanding Improvement award.

During the awards ceremony, Dr Brian P. Mangum, DDFT faculty member, noted, "We are intensely proud of the accomplishments of these students! They have worked hard for the past two years. But this is only the beginning of their journey to becoming the doctors and dentists for tomorrow. They will now

progress to medical school, where they will use the knowledge they have gained in the DDFT programme to excel in their studies, so that one day they can return and care for their own people, and thus ensure the future health and well-being of all Micronesians."

The following day, the DDFT students officially graduated from the College of Micronesia-FSM during its regular commencement ceremonies.

All twelve are applying for entry to both the University of Fiji and Fiji National University to begin their medical or dental studies in early 2019; and have committed themselves to returning to practice in the Federated States of Micronesia upon graduation. "These young women and men are committed to the FSM. They have learned about the health challenges facing the region, as well as both clinical and public health approaches to face these challenges," stated Mr Robert W. Spegal, programme manager, "and when they return, they will face these challenges head-on as the healthcare providers and leaders of the region."

The twelve graduates have already chosen which specialties they would like to pursue, based upon their clinical exposure, as well as research into which specialties are most need in Micronesia, including general surgery, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, psychiatry, pathology, and ophthalmology.

Three former DDFT tutors are already in medical school in Fiji, including two who are in their second year at the University of Fiji, and wish to return to Micronesia as general surgeons, and one who is in her first year at Fiji National University, and wishes to return to practice as a cardiologist one day.

FSM Petroleum Corporation announces further price increases for fuel expected

May 22, 2018
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia,
May 18, 2018 – Vital FSM Petroleum Corporation (FSMPC) announces to its valued customers the potential of further increases in wholesale gasoline, kerosene and diesel prices in the coming weeks. This will be the third price increase into the authorized reseller channel in the past 12 months and remains consistent with movements in regional markets.

FSMPC CEO Mr. Jared Morris states, "As of May 18, 2018, Pohnpei motorists continue to pay \$4.25 per gallon for regular, unleaded fuel. In Kosrae, pump prices are as low as \$4.15 per gallon. Guam pump prices increased another twenty cents in the past week, and are up to \$4.43 per gallon. In the past six months, the price has increased in Guam by \$0.57 per gallon, whereas we have

only seen a pass through in the FSM of around \$0.40 per gallon. We will do our best to cushion this as long as we can, but if prices stay high we will have to follow Guam."

According to the Guam Daily Post, a factor attributed to the region's rising costs of fuel is a decline in crude oil inventories since petroleum-exporting countries have reduced their combined output.



Prices at a Service Station in Tamuning, Guam on May 16, 2018

To Interested Apartment and Home Owners in Pohnpei.

THIS IS A CALL FOR APARTMENT AND HOME OWNERS TO SUBMIT THEIR INFORMATION IF THEY ARE INTERESTED TO MAKE THEIR APARTMENT OR HOME AVAILABLE FOR RENT TO PARTICIPANTS TO THE WESTERN CENTRAL PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN POHNPEI.

WHY:

THE WCPFC CONFERENCE WILL BE HOSTED BY FSM AND 400+ PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALL OR PART OF THE CONFERENCE IN POHNPEI. HOTELS ARE NOT ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE ALL PARTICIPANTS AS 500+ PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPECTED

WHEN:

CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD DECEMBER 1-7, 2018

HOW:

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE GIVEN A LIST OF HOTELS, APARTMENTS AND HOMES AVAILABLE FOR RENT ALONG WITH DETAILS OF THE PROPERTY AND CONTACT. PARTICIPANTS WILL CONTACT/BOOK/PAY DIRECTLY TO PROPERTY OWNER.

INFORMATION NEEDED:

- **DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY (PHOTOS IF ANY): TYPE (APARTMENT, CONDO, HOUSE, DUPLEX, ETC), FURNISHING, UTILITIES, BEDDINGS, TOILETRIES, ETC IF WILL BE PROVIDED.**
- **DATES PROPERTY IS AVAILABLE**
- **OWNER NAME AND CONTACT (PHONE, EMAIL)**
- **LOCATION (MAP ON GOOGLMAPS IF CAN)**

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**PLEASE CONTACT MS. LIMAN HELGENBERGER AT PHONE NUMBERS INDICATED ON THE LETTERHEAD OR EMAIL THE FOLLOWING NO LATER THAN MAY 28, 2018:
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Joab says that PATA speech clip on casino was taken out of context and was not an endorsement

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

May 18, 2018

Pohnpei—Senator Aurelio Joab said that 90 percent of the speech he gave during a meeting of the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) was about his preference for development of eco-tourism in Pohnpei. He said that only a small section of his speech discussed the Executive Branch's intention to submit a bill to allow a resort developer to operate a casino for foreigners in Pohnpei. It was that part of the speech that was posted to Facebook though that segment of the speech was only an introductory paragraph to a much longer speech in which Senator Joab made clear, his own preference for the development of eco-tourism.

He said that he wants to make it clear that any bill proposing to allow casino gambling in Pohnpei would come through the Standing Committee on Resources and Development that he chairs. His mentioning the proposed bill in his speech to PATA was not an endorsement or a condemnation of the Governor's proposed bill. He said that it is incumbent upon his committee to perform due diligence before making any recommendations regarding any proposed bill and that was a small part of the reason for the delegation's visit to Saipan. He said that there are no foregone conclusions drawn before research and hearings are complete.

"For as long as I can remember, tourism has been a favorite subject of our speeches in conferences and community gatherings", Joab said during his speech. "Tourism has been given a prominent place in our state and national development plans and in our legislative enactments as well. But how do all these plans, enactments and speeches translate into actual progress? Over the past two or three decades, we have seen vast advances in tourism in Guam, Palau and especially here in the Northern Mariana Islands. But for the eastern islands of Micronesia, true development in tourism has been disappointingly slow.

"To my colleagues in Pohnpei, I say that the time for rhetoric is over. Now is the time for action. From my travels throughout the region and in other parts of the world, I have observed that advances in tourism can come in many forms. As policy makers in the legislative branch of our government, I believe we should keep an open mind with respect of all forms of tourism development, but from my perspective and for my state of Pohnpei, I am partial to the support of eco-tourism," he told the PATA members.

"My friends, I am partial to eco-tourism because I am partial to what the environment means to us as islanders. The sunsets that span across our lagoons and into the deep Pacific and the glittering waterfalls that tumble down from the mountain tops of our rain forests to the valleys below are not just pretty pictures ---- they are the essence of who we are.

"Each of our islands is founded in folklore similar to the legends of Pohnpei. We each have a story to tell to the visitors to our islands. The Pohnpei Delegation is here to share our story of how we would like to promote tourism in Micronesia and to learn from you how you have come to maximize the marvels of our islands to sustain our families, our communities and our future generations. Thank you for letting us be a part of that process."

Joab said that the short video clip posted on Facebook was just the first two paragraphs of a much longer speech that clearly stated his preference for the development of eco-tourism. "I trust and hope that the social media can look at these proposed development dreams in a positive way and meaningful ways, and not jump to (any) conclusions," he wrote in an email.

...PALM8

Continued from front page

The full text of the PALM 8 Leader's Declaration, which finished at 52 paragraphs, can be found at http://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/ocn/page4e_000825.html.

The statement was divided into several main headings. In the first, the "PALM process and Strategic Vision for an Enduring Partnership", leaders "renewed their strong commitment to the robust partnership between Japan and the PIF Members, a partnership underpinned by historic bonds and mutual trust."

The leaders affirmed that long-term efforts to shape their partnership through the PALM process will be guided by a shared vision on four main pillars: maintaining stability through rules-based order, pursuit of enduring prosperity, strengthening the flow of and exchanges between peoples, and supporting regional cooperation and integration.

The next main heading was "Maritime Order based on the Rule of Law, and Sustainability of Ocean Resources". In it, the leaders underscored the importance of a free, open, and sustainable maritime order based on the rule of law in the Pacific and acknowledged that it will contribute to peace, stability, resilience, and prosperity of the region. With this in mind, the PIF leaders welcomed Japan's active and constructive contribution to cooperation and development in the Pacific region, including through new initiatives such as its "Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy". The FOIP strategy is built on three pillars: promotion and establishment of the rule of law and freedom of navigation; pursuit of economic prosperity through strengthening connectivity; and commitment to peace and stability such as cooperation in the fields of maritime safety and disaster risk reduction.

The next main heading is "Strengthening the Basis for Resilient and Sustainable Development". In it leaders reaffirmed their commitment to continuing cooperation towards the universal implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (S.A.M.O.A.) Pathway", the Paris Agreement adopted on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, and the Addis Abbaba Action Agenda on Financing for Development. They acknowledged the efforts by the PIF Members and regional agencies to progress the region's implementation of these commitments through the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development.

They said that Climate Change is one of the most pressing contemporary security challenges, especially for island countries

as stated in the Majuro Declaration, and that UN system, including the United Nations Security Council of which Japan was the President in 2017, should address those challenges. The Leaders expressed their intention to strengthen their leadership role in international negotiations to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius about pre-industrial level and to pursue the efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Discussion on various topics such as vulnerability of the Pacific region to natural disasters, sustainable development, management and conservation of the environment, the increasingly serious problems associated with shipwrecks and unexploded ordinance from World War II, solid waste management, health and medical services, and tourism development were discussed under this main section.

The Leaders thanked Japan for its ongoing support of Pacific Island Countries in all of those areas and others.

The next main heading in the lengthy Declaration was "Connecting Pacific Citizens". In it the Leaders discussed the importance of people to people exchanged within the region to foster understanding and to share strengths. They expressed support for a third flight service to Narita via Federated States of Micronesia by Papua New Guinea.

The PIC Leaders welcomed the decision by Japan to introduce multiple entry visas in relation to all of the PICs.

PM Abe expressed his appreciation for continuing cooperation of PIC leaders to continue cooperation to address issues related to their shared past including repatriation of the remains of war dead from World War II, clearance of unexploded ordinance, and maintenance of government-built monuments for the war dead as appropriate.

During the PALM 7, Japan committed to sponsoring 4000 people to people exchanges between PICs and Japan. They met that commitment and have now committed to that opportunity for 5000 exchanges within the next three years.

The next main heading was "Cooperation in the International Arena". Prime Minister Abe expressed support for PICs increasing presence in the international arena, including the upcoming Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

Economic Leaders Meeting to be hosted by Papua New Guinea along with other international meetings in the region.

Among other issues, leaders underlined their commitment to seeking further cooperation to address transnational security challenges, including nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and counter-proliferation, illicit trade in conventional weapons, terrorism and other transnational organized crime, violent extremism and cyber security.

The most difficult statement for the leaders to agree upon in a way that would reflect Pacific cultural sensibilities (see text of speech by FSM President Peter Christian) while also sending a message was in regards to North Korea. The final wording follows:

"The Leaders appreciated all the efforts to date by the international community towards the current developments surrounding North Korea. The Leaders welcomed 'Panmunjeom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity and Unification of the Korean Peninsula' issued at the Inter-Korean Summit in late April 2018, which confirmed their common goal of the complete denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula and expressed hope that the planned US-North Korea Summit in June would deliver North Korea's concrete actions for such goal. The Leaders strongly called on North Korea to immediately take concrete actions in accordance with UNSC resolutions. The Leaders expressed their commitment to exerting continued pressure on North Korea, including by fully implementing and enforcing the UNSC resolutions. In particular, the Leaders expressed deep concerns about North Korea's sanctions evading tactics including 'ship-to-ship transfers' and emphasized the need to accelerate their own efforts in accordance with the relevant UNSC resolutions, including by deregistering North Korean trading or fishing vessels

currently flagged on their shipping registers, with development partners supporting FICs in their efforts. The Leaders stressed the importance of seeking a peaceful and diplomatic resolution towards complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantlement of all weapons of mass destruction (WMD), including biological and chemical weapons, and ballistic missiles as well as related facilities of North Korea. The Leaders also expected that the announcement by North Korea to discontinue nuclear tests and intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) test fires and dismantle its nuclear testing facility would soon lead to its concrete actions in this regard. The Leaders emphasized the importance of addressing humanitarian concerns, including the immediate resolution of the abductions issue."

The last main heading of the Declaration was "Cooperation Activity during PALM 8 period.

Prime Minister Abe said that Japan had fulfilled its PALM 7 pledge by providing more than 55 billion Yen (approximately \$495 million USD), and implementing human resource development and people-to-people exchanges of 4,000 people with the PICs over the last three years.

Though at PALM 8, the Prime Minister did not commit to a specific dollar amount as he did three years ago, he announced Japan's commitment to "continuing implementation of robust development assistance as before, in keeping with the achievement" of the prior three years. He increased the commitment for people-to-people exchanges over the next three years to 5000.

The PALM leaders will hold a Ministerial Interim meeting in a year in a half that will be hosted by one of the PIC. The timing and venue for PALM 9 will be determined at that time.

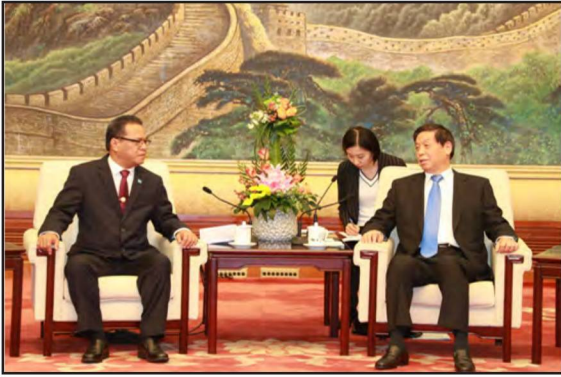


Speaker Simina meets with leadership of China Parliament

April 27, 2018

FSM EMBASSY, BEIJING

– Speaker Wesley W. Simina was in China recently where he met with the newly seated leadership of China’s parliament His Excellency Li Zhanshu, Chairman of the National People’s Congress and His Excellency Wang Yang, Chairman of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference.



Speaker Simina with Chairman Li

At the invitation of His Excellency

Chairman Wang of the (CPPCC), Speaker Simina of the 20th Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia paid an official visit to Beijing and Qingdao in China from April 23 to 27, 2018. The official visit to China has further reinforced the consensus reached between President Peter M. Christian and President Xi Jinping during their meeting in Beijing in March 2017. The Parliamentary Diplomacy from this official visit has reinforced the strong bilateral relationship that exists between the Federated States of Micronesia and the People’s Republic of China.

Speaker Simina sits down with Chairman Li of the NPC

On April 23, 2018, Speaker Simina and his delegation were received at the Great Hall of the People by the newly elected Chairman of the National People’s Congress (NPC), His Excellency Li Zhanshu. During their meeting, consensus between the two legislative leaders was reached to further foster and promote mutual trust between the two sides. Programs such as legislative exchanges will continue, and both sides have agreed to expand cooperation in a

See “Simina in China” on next page



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Government of the Federated States of Micronesia’s National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Pacific Regional Oceanscape Program, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for an Electronic Reporting Officer based in Pohnpei, FSM. The E-Reporting Officer services include:

General Scope of Work

- Collaborate with relevant NORMA staff to coordinate vessel and observer on-board E-Reporting.
- Assist with development of procedures and processes in NORMA for timely and effective e-reporting.
- Ensuring that NORMA can readily import electronic observer data into their national NORMA database system in collaboration with NORMA IT and statistics staff.
- Assist with selection, training, monitoring, debriefing and coordinating of observers in e-reporting and related work.
- Install and provide usage tutorial of relevant software/computer programs onboard participating vessels .
- Ensuring ER portal is operating on a day-to-day basis including identifying and advising of faults with the system.
- Assist with inventory and maintenance of e-reporting software and equipment provided for that purpose.
- Engagement of fishing companies in e-reporting.
- Providing technical assistance to and monitoring of vessels using e-reporting including by maintaining regular communication with vessel operators and service providers.
- Assist to ensure that NORMA can readily import the e-reporting data into their national database system and that relevant staff can readily use ER applications and data to support their work.
- Assist with ER access authorization and facilitate flow and use of ER data.
- Reporting to NORMA on all ER activities as per NORMA reporting requirements.
- Collaborate with regional and national fisheries management agencies and partners in the region participating in trials and implementation of E-reporting.
- Other duties as may be assigned by NORMA.

Minimum Qualifications and Short-listing Criteria

- Bachelors Degree in computer science or related field. An Associates degree could be considered if extensive relevant professional experience is proven.
- 2 years relevant professional experience.
- Relevant IT skills/experience with android based devices, operating database systems, Microsoft Windows, MS Office products and Internet Browsers. Ability to install applications, undertake troubleshooting and problem solving.
- Demonstrated ability to deliver in-house training and providing necessary guidance.
- Good written and oral communication skills, especially report writing.
- Proven ability to work independently and under limited supervision.

Additional Desirable Qualifications

- A general understanding of the technical aspects of E-Reporting.
- Experience working in Tuna fisheries sector and with Pacific Islands especially with Observer programs

Remuneration

- Salary will be based on the Local Labor Market Payscale and/or depending on qualifications.
- This will be a 2-year full-time position under contract with FSM NORMA subject to renewal based on performance.

Application

The FSM NORMA invites applicants to indicate their interest in providing the above-mentioned services by submitting electronic and/or hard copies of a) Letter of Interest, b) CV or resumé, c) support Degrees/Certificates and d) three 3 reference letters to NORMA no later than JUNE 08, 2018. Selection will be in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank’s Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers (January 2011 edition). Full Terms of Reference (TOR) can be obtained from: NORMA, FSM National Government. Attn: O’Kean Ehmes, PROP Coordinator, P.O Box PS-122, Pohnpei, FM 96941, Office Telephone: 691-320-2700/5181 Email: moria.joseph@norma.fm. Copy to okean.ehmes@norma.fm

...Simina in China

Continued from previous page

broad range of areas to support mutual economic development such as in science and technology, health and education, and tourism, to name a few.

The Chairman noted the economic development constraints faced by the FSM and stated that China will support the FSM to the best of its ability. Chairman Li welcomed the FSM's interest to

participate in the Belt and Road Initiative, more specifically, the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road program, and will give active consideration towards the FSM's interest to be a member of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).

CODEL meets with FSM students

In the evening at the Westin Hotel, Speaker Simina and his delegation were hosted to a dinner reception arranged by the FSM Embassy. The dinner reception allowed Speaker Simina and members of his delegation to meet with FSM citizens, most of which are Chinese scholarship students studying in Beijing.

Speaker Simina and members of his delegation took turns in providing advice and encouragement to the FSM students studying in China.

Speaker Simina and his colleagues, who are all members of the Congress Standing Committee on Education, noted the important role that the students played in the overall bilateral relationship between FSM and China and expressed their support towards all the 70 FSM students studying throughout China. The delegation encouraged students to do their best and return home after completion of their studies to contribute positively and meaningfully to development in the FSM.

On April 24, 2018, Speaker Simina and his delegation had an inspection tour of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), and the Yuetan Community Health Service Center. During these two site visits, consensus was reached to explore potential cooperation in the areas of agriculture and health.

Speaker Simina exchange ideas with Chairman Wang of the CPPCC

In the evening of April 24th, Speaker Simina was received by his host, His Excellency Wang Yang, Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. Speaker Simina extended greetings on behalf of the people and government of the FSM and extended the FSM's congratulations to President Xi Jinping and the entire Chinese leadership

for their successful elections last month.

Speaker Simina is the first foreign dignitary to be hosted by the newly elected Chairman of the CPPCC. During their meeting, Speaker Simina expressed his interest to complement and build upon the momentum set by the successful meeting between President Peter M. Christian and President Xi Jinping last year. The Speaker highlighted the FSM-China relations over the past 29 years and expressed his sincere appreciation for the support from China at all levels. Speaker Simina took the opportunity to also thank China for its unwavering position on climate change, a dire issue for small island states such as the FSM. In addition to the bilateral, regional, and multilateral forums that China and the FSM cooperate together on, Speaker Simina also suggested that the FSM and China work together through the parliamentary forums such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) to tackle issues of mutual interest.

Speaker Simina extended appreciation to Chairman Wang for China's bilateral and regional support to the FSM. Speaker Simina encouraged continued collaboration with China for the utilization of assistance towards revenue generating projects in tourism, trade, and investments to assist the FSM's economic and social developmental efforts. In terms of long term commitment towards the FSM-China relations, Speaker Simina has also lent his support towards the construction of a permanent chancery for the FSM in Beijing and sought the support of Chairman Wang for a parcel of land for the FSM when the new diplomatic district in Beijing is ready. The two sides will continue to work together on this long term endeavour.

CODEL visits Qingdao in Shandong Province

From April 25-27, 2018, Speaker Simina and his delegation visited Qingdao, Shandong Province; the sister-city of Kosrae State. In Qingdao, Speaker Simina inspected the Qingdao Bright Moon Seaweed Group Co, Ltd, a company investing in seaweed and other marine aquaculture products for medicine, food and other uses.

The delegation also visited the TGOOD Co., Ltd. to observe the company's innovative advancements in renewable energy. The two companies that were visited represent a few of the many strengths of Qingdao in the area of marine products and new energy, areas that the FSM is greatly interested in cooperating with Qingdao on.

Speaker Simina meets up with old friend Chairman Fu



Speaker Simina with Chairman Fu

In Qingdao, Speaker Simina was received by Mr. Fu Zhifang, who is the new Chairman of the CPPCC Shandong Provincial Committee. During their meeting, the two agreed to the following three suggestions: 1) both sides agreed to enhance economic cooperation between FSM and Shandong Province, 2) agreed to enhance cultural and education cooperation, and 3) agreed on maritime cooperation such as support for trade in areas of fisheries.



Speaker Simina with Chairman Wang

The meeting between Speaker Simina and Chairman Fu renewed the relations between the two leaders. They had first met in Pohnpei last September when Chairman Fu was part of a delegation from the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference that visited the FSM. Their meeting this time in Qingdao has highlighted the sister-city relationship

that exists between Shandong Province and Kosrae State and will further enhance the relations for mutual benefits. Both leaders noted the close geographic proximity between the FSM and China and have expressed interest for cooperation with Shandong province in the areas of education, trade, and energy.

The official visit by Speaker Simina and members of his delegation has further strengthened the political foundation of the FSM-China relationship. The meetings between Speaker Simina and Chairman Li Zhanshu of the NPC, Chairman Wang Yang of the CPPCC and Chairman Fu Zhifang of the CPPCC Shandong Provincial Committee has added greater value to the FSM-China relationship. Consensus was reached for deepened cooperation in various fields such as fisheries, agriculture, health, and tourism, which would further advance the strategic relationship that exists between the FSM and China. It was agreed that high level exchanges between FSM and China will continue. For economic and social development, the Chinese side has informed of the ongoing projects such as the Administrative building in Chuuk, and the Convention Center in Palikir. Projects in the pipeline include the secondary road projects and a passenger cargo vessel. The Chinese side welcomes the FSM to participate in the Belt and Road Initiative and supports the FSM's membership to the AIIB. A MOU relating to the Belt and Road Initiative is expected to be signed in the near future between FSM and China.

This year marks the 29th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the FSM and China. The FSM attaches importance to its bilateral relationship with China and supports the One-China Policy. Speaker Simina reaffirmed the FSM's commitment to the One-China policy and reiterated the continued support of the FSM Congress.

Members of Speaker Simina's delegation included the Speaker's spouse, Mrs. Ancelly Simina, Chairman of the Committee on Education Senator Joseph J. Urusemal, Chairman of the Health and Social Affairs Committee Senator Ferny S. Perman, Chairman of the Special Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Issues Senator Alik L. Alik, FSM Social Security Administrator Alexander R. Narruhn, and Congress Public Relations, Protocol & Public Information Officer, Mrs. Lynn Narruhn. Supporting staff from the FSM Embassy in Beijing included, Ambassador Carlson D. Apis, Deputy Chief of Mission Vincent K. Sivas, and First Secretary Francis G. Anefal.

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Operation To Eradicate Rats From Palau Atoll

Pacific/Regional News 16 May 2018

KOROR (RNZ Pacific/Pacnews) — A recently completed project to eradicate rats from Palau's Kayangel is expected to provide a boost to the atoll's ecosystem and increase local food production. The two-month operation established 45 kilometers of trails across which bait was spread while eliminating alternative food sources for the rats.

Kayangel is one of the several hundred islands that make up the nation of Palau, but one of its only two atolls. It's also home to a wealth of wildlife including the Micronesian scrubfowl, the Palau flying fox, and the critically endangered hawksbill sea turtle. These creatures were threatened by rats which began to proliferate at an alarming rate on the atoll after being introduced following a shipwreck in the 1980s.

A major storm in 2014 exacerbated the rat threat, affecting local wildlife, crops and contaminating the local water supply. The final outcome of the rat eradication project will be confirmed in 2019.



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