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# 11 students and six crew members stranded in Chuuk after CIA flight irregularities

By *Bill Jaynes*  
 The Kaselehlie Press

June 11, 2020

FSM—11 students of the College of Micronesia FSM who left aboard a Caroline Islands Air (CIA) flight on Wednesday, June 9 with the intention of returning home to Yap are now stranded in Chuuk due to irregularities with the flight.

According to CIA Board Chairman, Alik Jackson, CIA’s CEO, pilot, and mechanic Alex Tretzoff breached COVID-19 National and State Task Force requirements of prior notice and temperature checks at all embarkation and disembarkation points. The Pohnpei Port Authority was not notified of the flight and none of the passengers or crew paid departure fees prior to departing from Pohnpei. The Chuuk Airport authorities also were not notified of the flight.

Jackson said that the Board has no idea by what means the flight was arranged. That matter is still under investigation.

See “CIA” on page 4



CIA plane on the runway in Woleai, Yap

# Sihlo Andrew to serve 31 years in jail for burning Pohnpei AG and Supreme Court buildings

In this EDITION of the KPress:

Japan donates \$3.5 million USD to the FSM for medical equipment from Japan

Page 3

Xavier High School graduates win full scholarships to Sophia University

Page 1

By *Bill Jaynes*  
 The Kaselehlie Press

June 12, 2020

Pohnpei—The Pohnpei Supreme Court has found Sihlo Andrew to be guilty of all but two charges filed against him in connection with the arson burnings of the Pohnpei Attorney General’s Office building and the Pohnpei Supreme Court buildings. He will spend all but 15 years of a 46 year sentence in the Pohnpei State Jail.

In the early morning hours of June 18, both government buildings burned down and have since been condemned. The offices of the Court’s Chief Clerk are now located downstairs in the Pohnpei Executive Branch building. Court hearings are now held in Land Tenure courtroom. The Attorney General’s offices are now located in rented space in China Town that was previously occupied by The Salvation Army.

Pohnpei prosecutors filed charges against Andrew on July 12, 2019. Trial began on September 9, 2019 and concluded on November 25, 2019. The final trial judgment was issued in writing on June 8, 2020.

See “Arson” on page 4

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# Japan donates \$3.5 million USD to the FSM for medical equipment from Japan

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

June 12, 2020

**Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM**—On Friday morning, Sobashima Hidenobu, Ambassador of Japan to the Federated States of Micronesia, officially exchanged notes with the FSM government on a Japanese Economic and Social Development Program. The government of Japan has agreed to provide 382 Japanese Yen, approximately \$3.5 million to the FSM for the purchase of medical equipment made in Japan.

FSM Secretary for Foreign Affairs Kandhi Elieisar thanked Ambassador Hidenobu and the government of Japan, saying that true friends are not just there when times are good but are also there when times are difficult.

Ambassador Hidenobu described the world wide COVID-19 pandemic as an unprecedented human security crisis. He said that though many developing countries are making efforts to cope with the situation, most are faced with shortfalls in medical services and also in the impact on the economies of those nations.

“Japan has been promoting the universal health coverage,” he said. “Under the current crisis where the countries with vulnerable health systems are facing particularly large impacts, we would like to emphasize the importance of strengthening health systems in addition to specific countermeasures for the patients.”

It is with this in mind that Japan decided to aid in the FSM’s support during the crisis.

“In the present world where the visits of people and the transportation of goods are developing globally, the fight against COVID-19 is the fight that the whole international community should cooperate to engage. Japan intends to play a leading and active role in overcoming this crisis in cooperation with the international community, including through this cooperation it is offering now,” he said. “In conclusion, I hope that this cooperation, along with the cooperation from other partners, will help the FSM win the fight against COVID-19.”



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Bill Jaynes  
Managing Editor

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**July 1, 2020**

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

**Friday, June 26, 2020**

# U Corona Volunteers develop COVID-19 plan

By Mason Albert

## Background

The COVID 19 is a virus that does not discriminate in that it is very contagious and can infect anyone coming in contact with it. It is passed from person to person by the transfer of bodily fluid mainly through sneezing and coughing. Studies have shown that the virus can live on surfaces up to 72 hours, making its transfer in closely situated communities highly likely.

Pohnpei has a population of 36,000+ citizens scattered throughout our State. The Municipality of U is recorded with around 3,192 residents, around 8-9% of the total population according to the 2010 Census. The average household member is 5.4 with a total household units of around 591. Based on a recent assessment conducted by the U Corona Volunteers (UCV), we came up with 532 households, which results an average of 6 people living under one roof. The average rooms per household is about 2, in other words two rooms provide shelter to 6 people.

Like other communities on Pohnpei, we have our fair share of people statistically classified under the vulnerable groups category. They include the elderly, disabled, unemployed, farmers and fishermen. Assessment of the vulnerable groups based on current household units revealed that out of the 532 households, 300 units have at least one vulnerable person residing in them. While our Food Security project is aimed at the vulnerable groups, our Quarantine Plan covers all residents of U, regardless of vulnerability. This is because of the nature of the virus which does not discriminate and can transfer from a healthy person to any of the vulnerable groups. Our key objective, however, is to put measures in place to help protect and lessen the spread of the virus to those who are within the vulnerable group categories.

## Facts

The Pohnpei State Covid 19 response plan is divided into 4 response stages, which are COV. CON 4 (0 confirmed cases), COV. CON 3 (1 to 10 confirmed cases), COV. CON 2 (10-100 confirmed cases), and COV. CON 1 (100 and above confirmed cases). The presumption is that once we reach COV. CON 1, the government's

capacity to quarantine those that are infected will be overwhelmed, thus at such time all quarantined cases, except those under ICU, will be released back into their respective communities to self quarantine at their own places of residence. In our municipality of U, what this means is that any infected person released from Misko Beach, or Nett School if we ever utilize the facilities, will return to a household of 6 individuals with 2 rooms to self quarantine.

Based on available stats from the WHO, an infected person takes about 2 weeks to recover while someone with poor health may take 3-6 weeks. It is also found that out of 20 individuals who contract the virus, 1 may not recover- 1 infected person out of 20 (5%) may die.

## Likely Scenarios

With U accounting up to 9% of the Pohnpei Population, upon reaching Cov. Con 1, hypothetically, could mean 9 infected individuals returning to 9 different household units thereby exposing 45 other family members to the virus. Based on the average household occupancy of 6 individuals, a total of 54 residents of U may possibly end up with the virus in a very short period of time. With a mortality rate of 5%, 3 out of the 54 infected will potentially lose their lives, not taking into consideration the high rate of chronic illnesses so common in our communities. If you have 100 infected in U, we will likely see 5 pass away. Again with our high rate of diabetics, asthma and high blood pressure the death rate will be exponentially higher. If half the population gets infected, in a very short period of time we may be looking at burying over a hundred deaths in our Municipality. The way we live, our customs and traditions, our communal way of life will only amplify the spread at a rate faster than one can ever imagine. Our situation is dire now, hence massive preparations must be made without delay.

When the virus eventually reaches our shores through the two entry points, by sea or by air, we will be able to manage it through the quarantine sites available if early detection is made. The entire population of Pohnpei will put its hopes and prayers on those medical staff and security personnel committed to put their lives at risk to care for the sick and safeguard against

the transmittal of the virus to the rest of the population. There will be no room for trial and error, no option available to correct mistakes, and there will no test of performance, qualities and suitability of someone in taking on this huge responsibility. They are basically our last line of defense and a tiny crack in the system will be catastrophic.

UCV proposes a COV. CON 0, an expansion of our last line of defense to the communities willing to step forward.

## U Quarantine Plan

Saladak Elementary school is located at an isolated place far off from the main road and close to our new Dispensary soon to be operational. We also have the Awak School, facing the ocean and accessible only through a locked fence. It is also hundreds of feet from the main road. Both schools have new facilities with good ventilations, clean water and toilets. They can be easily converted into decent shelters for quarantined individuals who do not need to be placed under ICUs.

Our plan will accommodate 40 individuals, divided equally between the schools. We wish to seek funding for the following items: 1. Military Cot (portable beds) (\$69 per), 2. Mattress (\$80 per), 3. Pillow (\$25 per), 4. Sheets (\$15), 5. Standing fan (\$25), 6. Free Wifi (\$33 per month). Total funding we seek is \$9,000 for the materials with an additional \$26,400 to provide food and safe drinking water for the duration of the quarantine period of month. We will seek additional funding from our own local government to supplement the food budget.

The incubation period for COVID-19, which is the time between exposure to the virus and symptom onset, is on average 5-6 days, however some can take up to 14 days. During this period, also known as the "pre-symptomatic" period, some infected persons can be contagious. Therefore, transmission from a pre-symptomatic case can occur before symptom onset. In a lockdown period of two months, we believe the bulk of the cases will be traced and identified in the first 30 days, depending on the State's ability to quickly trace and isolate victims. The last half of the lockdown period is the critical stage because this is where we will know for sure whether potential infections may

surpass the 100 infections mark or not. Once it does, then each Municipality is on its own as all quarantined individuals are to return to their own homes to self-quarantine. For the residents of U, instead of returning to their homes, our plan calls for them to be relocated to our quarantine sites. This is our last resort in our attempt to protect the communities.

## Budget

Medical support we need can be provided by the new Dispensary staff that should have a doctor assigned. We believe that each Municipality should be allocated a certain number of health worker to be activated should we reach this stage. UCV will support by preparing food and water 3 times a day for one month and we have qualified cooks ready to support this initiative. Budget for this totals \$35,400 using this funding breakdown:

Morning meal- \$5 per patient of 40  
Lunch- \$7 per patient of 40  
Dinner- \$10 per patient of 40

Meal cost per day (x) number of patients (x) number of days = funds needed to implement food plan

22x40x30 = \$26,400

Materials- \$9,000

Total: \$35,400

To fund this plan, we hope to get this funding from the National Government. If the plan is extended to all the local governments on Pohnpei proper, we are talking only \$214,400 to protect the communities directly. If all Municipal governments and Town have 40 beds each, it amounts to an additional 240 beds available to help relieve overcrowding of Misko Beach Quarantine Sites once we reach COV.CON 1.

We believe the if \$1 Million is set aside from the FSM Health Fund to assist the local governments, specifically with those whose plans are approved, FSM will be in a much better position to control this pandemic at the community level. Investing in the protection of lives directly at the community level is the smartest path forward. We ask that the Government of FSM to take on the responsibility to make sure communities are well prepared by directly assisting them through approved plans.

# 21st FSM Congress extends public health emergency declaration to July 31st, 2020

## FSM Information Services

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—On May 30th, 2020, the 21st Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) adopted Congressional Resolution 21-149, which extended His Excellency David W. Panuelo's Public Health Emergency Declaration to July 31st, 2020. While for most citizens and residents the most substantive change is implementation of the social distancing standards and measures developed by the FSM National and State Governments, the Resolution also calls for the development of a repatriation plan of FSM citizens, students, residents, and members of the Diplomatic Corps once quarantine and isolation facilities meet "acceptable standards."

Whereas Congressional Resolution 21-138 advised that rare exceptions for travel to the FSM may include capacity-building personnel and medical referral

patients, Resolution 21-149 expands this potential list to include human remains and the medical and family attendants thereof, as well as Government officials whose duties are "vital and indispensable." While screening and quarantine procedures would remain in effect, and said travel might only be allowable given the sound advice of the FSM National Task Force and the relevant State Task Force, the Resolution allows the potential repatriation of some categories of individuals under some specific circumstances.

The Government is aware that the Nation's citizens stranded abroad are keen to return. The Resolution calls for the National and State Task Forces to cooperate in developing a plan for the repatriation of citizens, students, residents, and members of the Diplomatic Corps once quarantine and isolation facilities meet "acceptable standards." When this plan is developed and implemented, the Panuelo-George administration is likely to require any potential repatriating citizen or resident to submit to a COVID-19 test prior to arrival in the Nation, followed by another test during and at the conclusion of their mandatory quarantine period upon arrival.

President Panuelo, who has been meeting with the Nation's Governors on a weekly basis through video-teleconferencing, will continue to discuss repatriation of the FSM's stranded citizens with an aim to bring those stranded home in the safest possible manner.

Congressional Resolution 21-149 can be read in full here: [https://gov.fm/files/CR\\_21-149\\_Engrossed.pdf](https://gov.fm/files/CR_21-149_Engrossed.pdf)

## ...Arson

*Continued from front page*

According to testimony, Andrew was scheduled to appear at the Court on the morning before he burned the buildings down. He didn't show. "When asked why he did it (burned the buildings), he answered that it was because he has a case in Court," the trial judgment document said.

The Court did not find sufficient evidence to convict Andrew of Criminal Conspiracy or Criminal Solicitation. It did find sufficient evidence to convict him of two counts of Burglary for which he was sentenced 10 years imprisonment for each count. It sentenced him to 8 years imprisonment for each count of Arson. For each of the two counts of Fraudulent Destruction, it sentenced him to five years in prison. The Court ruled that he would serve those sentences consecutively.

The Court also found sufficient evidence to convict him of two counts of reckless burning for which it sentenced him to five years on each count. It sentenced him to one year for each of two counts of trespassing, and two six month terms of imprisonment for Malicious Mischief. Those years will be served concurrently with the other counts.

It also assessed a \$6000 fine against Andrew payable at the rate of \$50 a month for the 15 years of his suspended sentence after he has served his 31 years of incarceration. If he violates certain conditions during the term of suspended sentence he will be returned to jail for the remainder of his term.

Andrew testified that he was "coerced into saying that he was the one setting fire on the two buildings. He was forced to say that and that otherwise the police were going to beat him up," the court document said.

The prosecution based its case on testimonies from police investigators, people who were on site at the time of the burning, testimony of interactions with him after the buildings were burned and physical evidence, including a wound on Andrew's back that the court agreed was sustained during the arson.

Associate Justice Mayceleen JD Anson wrote in her ruling, "It is imperative to prevent these devious behaviors and criminal acts from ever happening in Pohnpei. Two very important government structures were burned, where cases, office equipment and other legal documents were kept. This is a crime against the entire Pohnpei government and its people."

"This case is hereby disposed," the trial judgment document concluded.

## ...CIA

Continued from front page

The trip could not be continued and the 11 students and six crew members are currently being housed at the L5 Hotel in Weno, Chuuk.

Jackson said that the CIA board had been debating the merits of renewing Tretnoff's contract but that Tretnoff wanted a larger compensation package. The board chose not to renew the contract which expired on June 11. CIA is currently left with one pilot but the Harbin Y-12 requires two to operate. Jackson said that CIA is currently working to recruit a replacement for Tretnoff who is no longer an employee, but said that it might take "a couple of months" to do so.

Meanwhile the students and crew members are staying at the L5 hotel but not at their own expense. Jackson said that the CIA board is currently working with the Office of the President, the FSM Department of Justice, and COM-FSM to try to secure funding for the unplanned expense. He said that CIA will also be paying some of those expenses.

We were unsuccessful in contacting Tretnoff for comment on the matter.

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# Three FSM citizens bring good news amidst the corona-virus

*Martin Jano*

In the midst of all the bad news about the pandemic, three Micronesians – Class of 2020 recently had their online-virtual college graduation in the United States, putting the FSM in the limelight. They did not only receive their bachelor's degree, but also, they graduated with flying colors – Magna Cum Laude.

Bernis Pernes comes from Sokehs, Pohnpei, FSM. His parents are Ioanis Pernes and the late Seledahd Pernes. He first made a name for himself when as a sophomore student at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School (OLMCHS) in 2011, he won both the State Debate and the FSM National Law Day Debate, besting the senior students from all the high schools in the FSM. After high school, Bernis took his Associate Degree from COM-FSM, had Political Science at the University of Guam (UOG) then went to finish his Bachelors Degree at the University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO). Last May 8, 2020, Mr. Pernes graduated and received his Bachelor's Degree in Multi-Disciplinary Studies, Magna Cum Laude. Bernis plans to pursue his Master's Degree in Political Science before coming back to the FSM. For Bernis, "Resiliency is the key. Even though the road to success might seem impossible

sometimes, keep taking baby steps and you will eventually get there. Furthermore, put your plans in God's hands. He's got you!"

Carisma Jano comes from Nett, Pohnpei, FSM. Her parents are Martin Jano and the late Elizabeth Ciupan. Like Bernis, Carisma was a former Pohnpei State and FSM National Law Day Debate Champion during her high school years at OLMCHS. She also attended the Junior State of America Summer Program 2015 at Stanford University, California, USA. Carisma graduated as Salutatorian of OLMCHS Class of 2016. After high school, she attended Creighton University, a Jesuit University in Nebraska. Last May 17, 2020, Ms. Jano graduated and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism and Public Relations, minor in Legal Studies, Magna Cum Laude. Carisma plans to pursue her childhood dream – to become a lawyer, before coming back to the FSM. To the Micronesian youth of today, especially the high school graduates, Class of 2020, Carisma's advice is: "Make college a priority. A good education will take you places."

Last, but definitely not the least, Asmara Pretrick. She comes from Sokehs, Pohnpei, FSM. She is the daughter of Samson Pretrick and Lavernie Nanpei-Pretrick. Like Bernis



**BERNIS PERNES**



**CARISMA JANO**



**ASMARA PRETRICK**

and Carisma, Asmara was also a former Pohnpei State Debate Champion and FSM National Law Day Debate Champion in Kosrae way back in 2016. She was awarded the US Department of Interior Scholarship and attended the JSA Summer Program 2015 at Stanford University, California. Ms. Pretrick graduated Valedictorian of OLMCHS Class of 2016. She went to Mount Mary University in Wisconsin for her college. Last May 17, 2020, Ms. Pretrick graduated and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology, minor in Communication, Magna Cum Laude. To the FSM youth of today, Asmara has something to share: "Take advantage of your resources and never be afraid to ask for help. Get involved

in as many things as you can including volunteering, not because it'll be good to add to applications/resumes (that's a bonus), but because it'll help you find your interests and ultimately make you comfortable with the decision making process. It's important to be honest with yourself in the decision making process to your next steps after high school. No matter what they are, the next steps after high school are important and if you feel like it's not the right one, it's okay. There's no single path you're supposed to follow, you have time to learn and grow as you go."

To Bernis, Carisma, and Asmara, congratulations!

## "To those of you who are aiding our stranded citizens abroad: thank you,"

*FSM Information Services*

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—On June 10th, 2020 His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) discussed in his weekly meeting with the Governors of the States of Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae, among other matters, how the Nation and its States are assisting FSM citizens stranded abroad through a one-time financial assistance package. During the meeting, the Governors rightly noted that, though the financial assistance package is both well-intentioned and based in well-reasoned analysis, countless individuals—some of whom are FSM citizens permanently residing in Guam and Hawaii or the U.S. mainland, and some of whom are U.S. citizens and even citizens of other countries permanently residing in those jurisdictions—are assisting in the housing and feeding of our citizens stranded abroad. The Governors noted that they would appreciate it if a communication representing all of them and the Nation at large were prepared to thank these individuals and families for their aid to the FSM's citizens stranded abroad.

the State Governments of Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae express their explicit and genuine appreciation to all individuals and families for helping our citizens stranded abroad during these challenging times.

In a statement, President Panuelo said, on behalf of himself, Vice President George, the Honorable Henry S. Falan, the Honorable Johnson S. Elimo, the Honorable Reed B. Oliver, and the Honorable Carson K. Sigrah: "To those of you who are aiding our stranded citizens abroad: thank you, thank you so much. We acknowledge your generosity of spirit and kind hearts, and thank you for making these challenging times a little easier for our citizens who are stuck and not yet able to return home. While we are doing all we can in the FSM to prepare for the eventual repatriation of our citizens, we acknowledge that you are sacrificing your own time, resources, and financial capacity to care for our citizens. Thank you for expressing our Nation's values of sharing peace, friendship, cooperation, and love in our common humanity to our citizens."

The FSM National Government and

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**(Date of Issuance: May 6, 2020)**

YAP STATE PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION (YSPSC)  
WATER TANKS ENGINEERING DESIGN CONSULTANT SERVICES  
YAP STATE, FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA RFP NO. 2020- 001

On behalf of the Yap State Government, Federated States of Micronesia, the Office of Planning and Budget/**Project Management Office (PMO)** invites proposals for the provision of professional consultant services to perform Engineering Design for the repairs and refurbishment of existing two atmospheric one million gallons (MG) potable water steel tanks and Engineering Design for a new two hundred fifty thousand gallons epoxy coated carbon steel potable water tank located in Colonia, Yap State.

Respondent may request a clarification or inquiry of any of the Request for Proposals (RFP) documents in writing addressed to: Samuel E. Luzano, PMO Manager, Project Management Office, YCA Complex, P.O. Box 970, Colonia, Yap FM 96943 at (691) 350- 2324 or emailed to [seluzano@yapstategov.org](mailto:seluzano@yapstategov.org)

All Proposals will be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**RFP No. 2020-001, YSPSC Water Tanks Engineering Design**" and must incorporate the name and address of the Respondent on the outside of the envelope addressed to:

The PMO Manager  
Project Management Office  
YCA Complex, P.O. Box 970  
Colonia, Yap FM 96943

Proposals must be submitted to the above address no later than July 7, 2020 at 3:00 p.m., local time to be eligible for consideration. Proposals received after the deadline shall be rejected.

Whenever Proposals will be sent via FedEx, UPS or other mail carrier, Respondent will ensure that the outside mailing package is also clearly marked "RFP-YSPSC Water Tanks Engineering Design" with the name and address of the Respondent. Packages and envelopes not marked with the name of the proposal may be misidentified and will be rejected.

Proposals can also be submitted in electronic copies by E-mail. Electronic copies of proposals sent through E-mail shall be in PDF and submitted to:

Samuel E. Luzano  
PMO Manager  
[seluzano@yapstategov.org](mailto:seluzano@yapstategov.org)  
[seluzano@gmail.com](mailto:seluzano@gmail.com)

# President Panuelo announces winning entry of the FSM & Blue Prosperity Coalition naming contest; “Blue Prosperity Micronesia” selected

FSM Information Services

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—On World Oceans Day 2020 (June 8th, 2020), His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), announced the winning entry for the contest to select the name for the partnership between the FSM and the Blue Prosperity Coalition (BPC). “I am proud to announce that, henceforth, our Nation’s partnership with [BPC] shall be called Blue Prosperity Micronesia,” President Panuelo said. “Together through Blue Prosperity Micronesia, the FSM National Government and the States of Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae will work hand in hand with the Waitt Institute, National Geographic Pristine Seas, Oceans 5, and Micronesia Conservation Trust, to conserve and protect our nation’s marine environments.”

More than 140 citizens and residents of the FSM participated in the naming

contest. Micronesia Conservation Trust will be contacting the winner and the runners-up regarding their prizes, kindly sponsored by BPC. The winners and their entries will also be posted on the Facebook Page for Blue Prosperity Micronesia here: <https://www.facebook.com/BlueProsperityMicronesia>

Blue Prosperity Micronesia’s work will include the development of a Marine Spatial Plan and a Blue Economy Plan, the conducting of scientific assessments, and the creation of proposed legislation for the FSM Congress’ review to build upon existing conservation commitments and Sustainable Development Goals to protect at least 30% of the Nation’s waters. Over the next five years, Blue Prosperity Micronesia will work directly with Micronesians across the FSM to help make a brighter future for the Nation.

# Pacific honors Kiribati Tuna Observer Eritara Aati Kaierua

Pacific PNA

We as Pacific PNA have been deeply saddened by the news of the death of one of our fellow countryman, Eritara Aati Kaierua from Kiribati, whilst working as a PNA MSC trained observer on board of the Taiwanese purse seiner Win Far No. 636. Our prayers, thoughts and deepest condolences are with his family.

Our PNA people have few resources and have taken on the vital task of daily caring, managing and closely monitoring their tropical tuna, caught by many vessels from foreign nations in our waters – an area that covers a surface 40% larger than Europe. The fact that the tunas in our waters are acknowledged as the healthiest and most sustainable globally, is a tribute to people like Eritara Aati Kaierua. Eritara who was part of a team of over 800 men and women observers, who cover

100% of purse seine operations by living on board, diligently observing and reporting on all fishing and on-board activity. Something hardly seen in EU or UK waters or in fact any other tuna RFMO globally.

Although not policemen, being on board comes at tremendous risk for observers. A sometimes dangerous and often challenging duty. These PNA citizens are away from their families for months at a time to fulfill their mission of custodians. Their work is vital in helping ensure that the tuna catch operations meet the MSC standard - the world's highest standard for sustainable wild fishing.

Upon news of the tragedy and pending police investigations, PNA had immediately suspended the Win Far No. 636 from our MSC scheme, any catch from this vessel cannot become PNA MSC eligible.

We trust that the Kiribati authorities will do their utmost to determine the exact cause of death, and in case of a crime prosecute those responsible. Our team is following this very closely.

In the meantime, our observers will continue to be our eyes and ears at sea. They also report on social issues, however, we need to do more at a national level to enforce national laws, effect international social standards on purse seiners, and improve observer communications while at sea. We have fast-tracked a project to upgrade our current on-board Pacific social guidelines for crews towards an enforceable standard for all at sea crew or observers. This will be subject to regular onboard audits.

We greatly appreciate, the dedicated efforts of PNA observers who work on about 250 purse seiners in the waters of our PNA Islands nations and in our ports, and we are thankful for all the media and NGO attention to this tragic event. We invite you to visit our observer page at [pacific.com/observers-voice](http://pacific.com/observers-voice) and share it on your social media accounts.



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Yap State Government  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Office of Planning and Budget  
Project Management Office

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**Colonia Wellness Center Furniture**  
**RFP NO. 2020-003**

The Yap State Office of Planning and Budget/ Project Management Office (PMO) is soliciting proposals for the supply of Furniture for the Colonia Wellness Center Project, to be received until 4:00 p.m. on August 17, 2020, local Yap time. Interested parties are requested to get in touch with the undersigned on the contact details listed below for the List of Gym Equipment.

Arch. Samuel E. Luzano,  
Project Manager- PMO  
YCA Complex, P.O. Box 970  
Colonia, Yap State FM 96943  
Tel. Nos. (691) 350-2324/2576  
E-mail: [pmo@yapstategov.org](mailto:pmo@yapstategov.org)

# Congratulations

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## IFIT SCHOLARS 2020

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- JOAQUIN COOK, President & CEO



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Marianas High School - Saipan



**POHOKU ERI  
KATHLEEN ROBY**  
Xavier High School - Chuuk



**CARMEN SAMO**  
Xavier High School - Chuuk



**VICENTE B. TAIJERON**  
St. John's School - Guam



bankofguam.com



# IOM donates smartphones to Pohnpei COVID-19 Task Force

*Pohnpei Enginkehlap*

*Pohnpei*—On Monday, June 8, 2020, Mr. Nathan Glancy and Mr. Dudley Lorrin from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) - Micronesia office donated 30 Samsung J2 Core smartphones to the Pohnpei State COVID-19 Task Force. The smartphones will be used by the community outreach awareness team to primarily collect data and mark GPS locations for future outreach and contact tracing efforts via an Android application called Akvo FLOW (Field Level Operation Watch) when conducting house-to-house awareness for COVID-19.

The smartphones were received by Governor Reed B. Oliver and Task Force Chairman, Mr. Wincener David. The smartphones have been tagged and inventoried by the Department of Treasury and Administration, and issued to members of the community awareness team. Our UNICEF partners will assist with downloading the Akvo FLOW app and provide training for our community awareness team on the use of the app. The information collected will not only help with our current COVID-19 response efforts but will provide important information that can be later used by the various Departments such as Health and Social Services and Public Safety for emergency services.

Thank you to our IOM-Micronesia and UNICEF partners for their kind donation of smartphones and technical training.

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KOLONIA**

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JUNE 15

  
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## Bids & Tenders

Opening Date: June 10, 2020

Closing Date: June 30, 2020

RFQ 2020-2

"Exterior and Interior Repainting Services for the FSM Petroleum Corporation Headquarters in Kolonia, Pohnpei"

RFP 2020-3

"Various Insurance Policies for FSM Petroleum Corporation"

RFP 2020-4

"Various Insurance Policies for Vital Energy, Inc. - Nauru and Guam"



For more information, visit our website at: [www.vitalenergy.fm/bids-tenders/](http://www.vitalenergy.fm/bids-tenders/)

# FFA convenes talks on impacts of climate change on Tuna

11th June 2020

**HONIARA** – The Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) has hosted a one-day online discussion today, on the impacts of Climate Change on Offshore Fisheries.

The meeting is part of the Secretariat’s work programme emanating from Forum Fisheries Ministers. At their meeting held in Pohnpei, FSM in June 2019, Ministers agreed that this work would include:

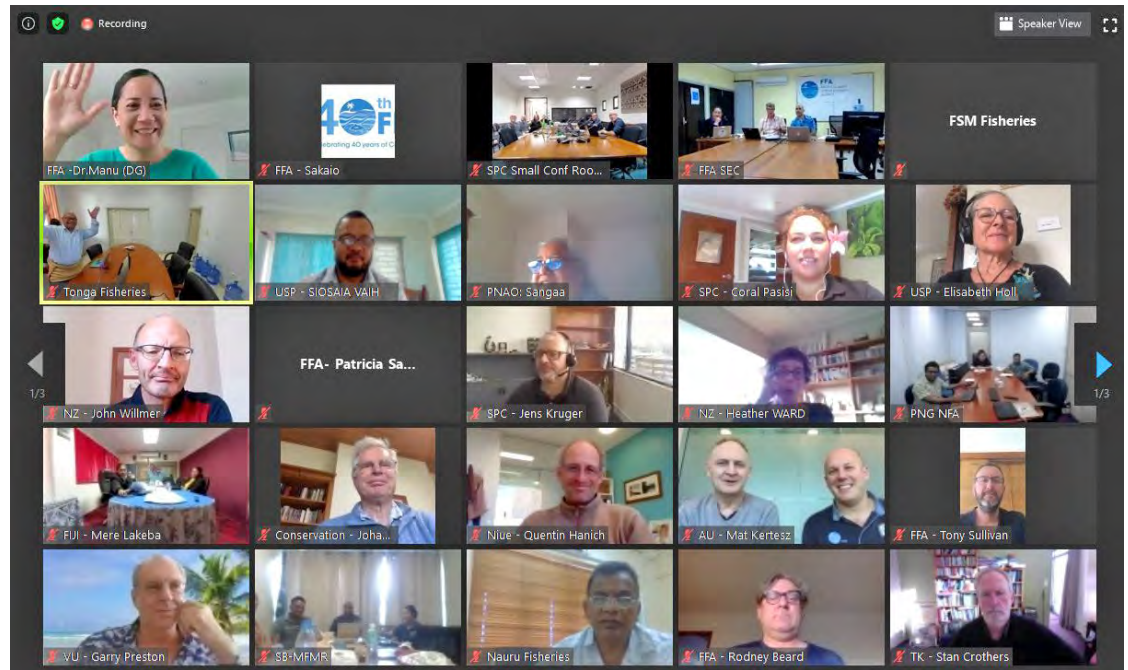
- (i) adaptive management regimes
- (ii) working with a consortium of partners to secure maritime boundaries in the face of sea-level rise and
- (iii) managing tuna stocks to support their contribution to the food security of Pacific Island communities.

FFA hosted the meeting with its partners from the Parties to the Nauru Agreement Office (PNAO) and the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP).

The objective of the meeting was to inform tuna fisheries-focused discussions on climate change impacts by providing the broader context for discussions on climate change as well as the scientific advice on the predicted short and long-term effects of climate change on the WCPO tuna fishery.


FFA Director General Dr Manu Tupou-Roosen expressed the Agency’s sincere gratitude to its Partners from the PNAO and CROP, namely SPREP, SPC, PIFS and USP, for their willingness to collaborate in the delivery of the meeting.

“Our CROP Partners all play a critical role in tackling the




impacts of climate change, and they will present Members with the activities they undertake in this area and the link to fisheries, particularly tuna fisheries. The important information provided by our Partners will help FFA Members understand the important linkages with the broader work undertaken on climate change and the science to help set the scene for tuna fisheries-focused discussions on the impacts of climate change on this critical regional resource,” she said.

“The PNAO’s consideration of how PNA tuna management arrangements can adapt to the impacts of Climate Change will also be presented. Their valuable insights will greatly assist FFA Members in their discussions,” added the FFA Director General.



IN CELEBRATION OF WORLD TUNA DAY MAY 02, 2020

FSM GOVERNMENT THROUGH NORMA IS ACCEPTING ENTRIES FROM FSM CITIZENS AND RESIDENTS FOR



## 3 CONTESTS: DRAWING, ESSAY WRITING, MUSIC AUDIO/VIDEO

### OVERALL THEME: “TUNA FOR OUR FSM”

<p><b><u>DRAWING CONTEST CATEGORIES:</u></b></p> <p>CATEGORY 1: AGES 06-09</p> <p>CATEGORY 2: AGES 10-13</p> <p>CATEGORY 3: AGES 14 &amp; ABOVE</p> <p><b><u>ESSAY CONTEST CATEGORIES:</u></b></p> <p>CATEGORY 1: AGES 14-17</p> <p>CATEGORY 2: AGES 18-21</p>	<p><b><u>PRIZES FOR DRAWING CATEGORIES</u></b></p> <p>(GIFT CERTIFICATES):</p> <p>1ST PRIZE: \$150.00</p> <p>2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE: \$100.00</p> <p>3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE: \$75.00</p> <p>4<sup>TH</sup> PRIZE: \$50.00</p> <p>5<sup>TH</sup> PRIZE: \$25.00</p>	<p><b><u>PRIZES FOR ESSAY CATEGORIES</u></b></p> <p>(GIFT CERTIFICATES):</p> <p>1ST PRIZE: \$200.00</p> <p>2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE: \$150.00</p> <p>3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE: \$100.00</p> <p>4<sup>TH</sup> PRIZE: \$75.00</p> <p>5<sup>TH</sup> PRIZE: \$50.00</p>	<p><b><u>PRIZES FOR MUSIC AUDIO/VIDEO</u></b></p> <p>(GIFT CERTIFICATES):</p> <p>1ST PRIZE: \$250.00</p> <p>2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE: \$200.00</p> <p>3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE: \$150.00</p> <p>4<sup>TH</sup> PRIZE: \$100.00</p> <p>5<sup>TH</sup> PRIZE: \$75.00</p>
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**MUSIC AUDIO/VIDEO CATEGORIES:**


ALL AGES CAN ENTER

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JUDGES MAY ASK FOR PROOF OF AGE/CITIZENSHIP/RESIDENCY OF WINNING CONTESTANTS.



## Xavier High School graduates win full scholarships to Sophia University

**TOKYO** – Two graduating seniors at Xavier High School in Chuuk have been awarded full scholarships to study at historic Sophia University in Tokyo. Ms. Ampelina Maikal Sidney Johnson, better known as AM Sidney, of Pohnpei in the Federated States of Micronesia, and Mr. Kato Olmou Remeliik of Palau will attend Sophia University on APIC Scholarships.

The Association for Promotion of International Cooperation (APIC), a private foundation based in Tokyo, and Sophia University jointly fund the full-ride scholarships. The scholarships cover the four years required to complete an undergraduate degree at Sophia University, assuming the scholarship recipients remain in good standing.

“We’re pleased to offer AM Johnson and Kato Remeliik APIC Scholarships to study at Sophia University. They are now part of a growing tradition of close ties between the Micronesia region and Japan, strong relations based on academic excellence,” said APIC President Peter Yoshiyasu Sato.

Six Xavier High School graduates on APIC Scholarships will be enrolled at

Sophia University this fall. The scholarship has been offered since 2014.

Johnson, who is of Mokilese ancestry, is an honor roll student who was active in a wide variety of student leadership positions at Xavier High School. She also participated in numerous community service programs, volunteering over 400 hours during her four years at Xavier High School. The recipient of the School Spirit Award, Johnson has been accepted into the new Sophia Program for a Sustainable Future.

Remeliik, who will enroll in the Faculty of Liberal Arts and will major in International Business and Economics, received Xavier’s Leadership Award. He was also active in community service programs, putting in over 400 hours during his four years at the Jesuit mission school.

Xavier High School, which has been co-ed since the mid-1970s, has prepared many of the Micronesia region’s top



leadership since opening its doors in 1952. Sophia University in Tokyo is one of Japan’s top research universities. Founded in 1913, it has nearly 14,000 students. Classes are taught in English and Japanese. Xavier High School and Sophia University are both affiliated with the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits).

APIC is a private foundation, based in Tokyo, whose mission is to strengthen Japan’s ties with nations of the Pacific and Caribbean. It offers a wide range of programs for both senior and up-and-coming leaders in both regions. It is particularly active in the Micronesia region.

## Attention FSM citizens stranded abroad: You are entitled to \$1,000 per single adult or \$1,500 per family application; here’s how you apply

### FSM Information Services

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—On June 10th, 2020, the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) finalized its procedures for providing financial assistance to FSM citizens who were traveling back to the FSM but, due to the Nation closing its borders, became stranded abroad, typically in the U.S. Territory of Guam and the U.S. State of Hawaii. As His Excellency David W. Panuelo announced in his State of the Nation address, eligible FSM citizens stranded abroad are entitled to financial assistance streamed from a \$300,000 fund for this purpose, which translates to \$1,000 per single adult or \$1,500 per family application. This release will describe who is eligible to apply for this assistance, and what individuals must do to obtain this assistance.

Eligible applicants must be FSM citizens carrying an FSM passport.

Citizens stranded due to relocation (i.e. their travel was booked and began prior to the Nation’s borders closing) are eligible to apply for assistance.

Citizens stranded due to returning home (i.e. whose travel was booked and originated from the FSM, and were returning to the FSM due to no residency elsewhere) but became stranded abroad are eligible to apply for assistance.

Citizens who have already received financial assistance through other U.S. Federal, FSM National, or Insurance coverage may not be eligible for assistance, but are encouraged to apply as each case will be individually considered and cross-checked through official channels.

Applicants must first complete an application form, provide a copy of their passport biopage for the main applicant (and each additional family member included in the application), and a copy of the itinerary receipt and/or ticket for the main applicant (and each additional family member included in the application). The FSM National Government may request further information if one’s application requires further support and review.

The application form can be found

here: <https://dofa.gov.fm/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/FSM-STRANDED-CITIZEN-APPLICATION-FORM.pdf>

Applications and supporting documents can be submitted online to [covid19stranded@dofa.gov.fm](mailto:covid19stranded@dofa.gov.fm).

However, if a stranded citizen does not have access to the internet they may apply in person at the FSM Consulates in Hawaii and Guam. Staff at each Consulate will assist with the completion of forms and scanning of relevant documentation.

The FSM Consulate in Hawaii is located at 3049 Ualena Street, Suite 412 in Honolulu. Their phone number is (808) 836-4775.

The FSM Consulate in Guam is located at 1755 Army Drive Route 16 in Harmon. Their phone numbers are (671) 646-9154 and (671) 646-9155.

Successful applicants can receive either a direct deposit to their Bank of the FSM or Bank of Guam accounts, or a physical check through their local

FSM Consulate.

For more information on financial assistance for FSM citizens stranded abroad due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions, please visit: <https://dofa.gov.fm/assistance-to-stranded-citizen/>

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## FSM citizen is appointed to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy

*Embassy of the United States of America  
Kolonias*

On June 6, Ambassador Carmen G. Cantor attended the Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School (OLMCHS) graduation to present the United States Coast Guard Academy certificate of appointment to Andrew "Andy" Sipos. Andy is the fourth citizen from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) to be accepted into the prestigious school. He plans to major in Marine and Environmental Science at the USCGA. He is the son of Mr. Michael Sipos and Mrs. Maiumy Halbert Sipos.

Prior to attending OLMCHS, Andy graduated from the Pohnpei Catholic School (PCS) with first honors and was also a distinguished student in the Principal's list. He is also a talented tennis player that has competed regionally and internationally in Guam and Fiji. His accomplishments

include being awarded a scholarship in 2018 by the U.S. Department of Interior to participate in the Junior State of America (JSA) advanced placement courses at Stanford University in California. In 2019, Andy also participated in the Habel & U.S. Department of Interior Robotics Competition and was awarded second place. He was also recognized by Pohnpei State Department of Education with the Outstanding Academic Excellence Award.

Under the Compact of Free Association, the government of the FSM may nominate candidates to compete for admission at each of the U.S. Service Academies: the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, the Coast Guard Academy, the U.S. Army's Military Academy (West Point), and Merchant Marines' Academy (Kings Point). The program offers a bachelor's degree full scholarship for citizens of the FSM that are selected.



*Ambassador Carmen G. Cantor with U.S. Coast Guard Academy Appointee Andrew Sipos and parents Michael Sipos and Maiumy Halbert Sipos.*

## DAP Grant for COVID-19 masks

The Australian Embassy congratulates Sokehs Pah Women Group (SPWG) as a recent grant recipient of our Direct Aid Program (DAP). Charge d' Affaires, Vy Duong and Second Secretary Takuro Steele presented a cheque of \$11,826.45 to Kalesia A Lawrence, Vice President of the group. SPWG consists of 20 members from within Sokehs municipality who will continue to sew fabric cloth masks in preparation for COVID-19. The masks will be made of three layers of cotton fabric material which is CDC certified and comfortable to use, washable and reusable. The DAP grant provided will assist SPWG in the purchase of raw materials, portable sewing machines and related instruments, storage containers, product labels and sanitation materials for the project. The group will embark on sewing 6000 masks in the next three months, which will be sold to corporate organizations, government departments and other institutions within Pohnpei state.



DAP is a flexible, small grants scheme for development activities for up to USD \$20,000. DAP applications can be submitted year-round. For more information and to apply online, visit [www.fsm.embassy.gov.au](http://www.fsm.embassy.gov.au)

FEDERATED STATES OF  
MICRONESIA  
DEVELOPMENT BANK  
P.O. Box M  
Kolonias, Pohnpei FM 96941  
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2840/2419/5300/5223/2624 Fax.  
(691) 320-2842  
Email: [info@fsmdb.fm](mailto:info@fsmdb.fm) | Website:  
[www.fsmdb.fm](http://www.fsmdb.fm)

### POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 2020-002 and 2020-003

**Opening Date:**

**June 11, 2020**

**Closing Date:**

**July 11, 2020**

It is the policy of the FSM Development bank that FSM citizens be given first priority for employment consideration, with other Micronesians, U.S. citizens, and other nationals utilized in positions for which no qualified citizens are available.

**POSITION:**

Loan Officer, Grade 4 ( 2 positions)

**LOCATION:**

FSM Development Bank, Headquarters  
Kolonias, Pohnpei FSM

AND

FSM Development Bank, Chuuk Branch Office

**SALARY:**

\$16,515.20 minimum per annum,

Higher Salary may be Considered Depending on  
Qualification

#### GENERAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (Illustrative only):

1. Provides information regarding the Bank's services, functions, loan procedures and business advantages to potential customers and clients.
2. Interviews applicants for loans and compiles all necessary data regarding the client's proposed project. Informs clients regarding the Bank's requirements and standards for loans. Negotiates and explains terms and conditions of loans to applicants. Issues applications and other lending documents.
3. Assists applicants in completing the loan applications, related documents and/or direct them to appropriate agencies for assistance. Ensures that all loan applications are properly documented.
4. Assesses the economic and financial viability of proposed projects in terms of management experience, technical abilities, marketing, and financial capabilities. Conducts detailed feasibility studies regarding proposals as necessary.
5. Compiles information and prepare loan packages in standard formats for review by the Credit Committee.
6. Administers the disbursement of loan funds to approved projects.
7. Ensures that borrowers fulfill the terms and conditions set out in loan document and lending guidelines. Monitors projects progress via reports and with visits to the project.
8. Pursues the collection of loan payments on current and delinquent loans. Provide assistance to clients with problem accounts within the established policies and procedures of the Bank. Reports progress regarding such loans to the Senior Loan Officer and the Senior Vice President/COO and implements instructions accordingly.
9. Promotes Bank's business and develops recommendations to market the Bank's services in the local community.
10. Performs other duties as assigned.

#### QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS:

Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Finance, Business Administration, Economic or related field from a four-year college or university; plus one to two years related work experience and/or training. Ability to read, analyze, and interpret general business proposals, technical procedures, or governmental regulations. Ability to perform economic and financial analysis on loan packages. Ability to write reports, business correspondence, and procedure manuals. Ability to effectively present information and respond to questions from clients/customers, and the general public. Ability to work with mathematical concepts such as fractions, percentages, ratios, and proportions to practical situations. Ability to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in writing, oral diagram, or schedule form.

#### FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

All applications, curriculum vitae, and at least three letters of reference shall be completed and submitted to: FSMDB Corporate Office in Kolonias, Pohnpei, or any of the FSMDB Branch offices in Chuuk, Kosrae and Yap State. You may mail to: FSM Development Bank HQ, P.O. Box M, Kolonias, Pohnpei FM 96941; or fax to 320-2842 or by email to: [loverh@fsmdb.fm](mailto:loverh@fsmdb.fm), on or before July 11, 2020.

# Be part of a safe and healthy future in the FSM

**Dr Takeshi Kasai, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific**

These days, many countries, including the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), are making complex decisions about how to live with COVID-19, or adapt to what some have called the ‘new normal’. Governments are reviewing the measures put in place to control the outbreak in its initial phase, and looking at which of these may be lifted.

The FSM has not had a single confirmed case of COVID-19 to date, and that’s no accident. Bold decisions taken by leaders of the FSM have helped to protect their people. But the job is not done. A single case can threaten lives and devastate the fragile economy. Vigilance, adaptability and partnership, as well as the latest science, must guide the country’s actions as it moves forward to adjust to the new normal.

The truth is, we are all learning as we go, and we may not get it perfect the first time. If the virus starts to spread in the community, governments may need to bring back measures that have been eased. The important things are that we remain flexible, and everyone works

together to get through this.

The sacrifices you’ve made over the past few months have made a huge difference. With school closures, stay-at-home orders, restrictions on travel and postponement of religious and cultural events, the FSM people have done and endured a lot. These measures and your adherence to them have made a difference.

But “lockdown” measures have also made life very difficult for people of the FSM at home and abroad. Many have lost their jobs and are struggling to support their families, especially the poor. Those with “essential” jobs have worked tirelessly to maintain lifelines and health services for the rest of us.

While some measures may now be lifted, this is not a signal that the fight is over. Unfortunately, this is going to be a long battle. In the interconnected world in which we live, as long as the virus is still circulating, and until there is a safe and effective vaccine available to everyone, no country is safe from new cases and waves of infection.

The challenge before us now is to protect public health and maintain

readiness for new waves of COVID-19, while at the same time, restarting the economy and our lives. It’s a mistake to choose between these. In fact, we need to improve the health of people and economies, by working together across all sectors of society.

The saying “we either swim or sink together” applies to this pandemic, and fortunately, we have seen a lot of “swimming” over the past few months. New and creative initiatives have been unleashed in the wake of COVID-19. For example, a much wider range of products and services—from farmers’ produce to new ways of offering health care—are literally being delivered on our doorsteps. Some of these new initiatives may provide solutions for problems we have been struggling with for a long time, for example civil society and youth groups now reaching people who have previously been missed out. In the FSM, you have started to decentralize essential services, making them available to people in their own communities. These are very positive developments.

The ‘new normal’ also requires us to continue COVID-19 prevention practices, like physical distancing

in public places, frequently cleaning our hands, and staying home if we’re sick. It’s about changing behaviours and changing our attitudes. In the new normal, each of us is responsible not just for ourselves, but also for the health and wellbeing of our families, colleagues and broader community. It’s all of our jobs to listen to the science, stick to the prevention policies even as they shift, and support the vulnerable around us.

The FSM has a strong sense of community and a strong culture of supporting the vulnerable. I urge everyone in FSM—from fishermen, farmers, teachers and parents to church, community, and political leaders—to remain focused and engaged. The road ahead will require solidarity, unity, vigilance and patience.

Please join us in adapting to a new way of living, working and interacting. The more each of us does our part, the more we can bring back economic and social life, while staying safe. Ultimately, it’s up to all of us to build a healthy, safe and liveable future in the FSM.

## GENERAL PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

No. 20-01  
(June 2020)

§ 215 of 37 FSMC requires the FSM Insurance Board (“Board”) to publish a list, amended from time to time, of: (1) all applications filed for license and registration, (2) all approved licenses, (3) all registered foreign insurers, (4) all denials of applications for license and registration, (5) all cancellations and suspensions of licenses and registrations, (6) information relevant to the winding up of any insurance business, and (7) any other information in the public interest and not in violation of laws or regulations on confidentiality or privacy.

Furthermore, the general public should take note that §301 of 37 FSMC requires no ‘insurance business’ be carried on in the Federated States of Micronesia unless the person or company engaging in insurance business is registered or licensed by the Board. Hence the publication required under §215 of 37 FSMC for the benefit of the general public. Any person or company engaging in ‘insurance business’ in the FSM not in compliance with the provisions of 37 FSMC may be subject to the applicable violation and penalty provisions of 37 FSMC.

### I. Pending Application for Licensure and Registration:

1. Calvo Insurance Underwriters (FSM), Inc. – an applicant seeking licensure as a general insurance agent to represent National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburg, PA for property and casualty insurance lines.
2. National Union Fire Insurance Company (Application for Registration as Foreign Insurer)

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| II.  | Following are Registered Insurers and Respective Licensed Agents in the FSM: |
|      | <b>Registered Insurers:</b>  |
| 1.   | DB Insurance Co., Ltd.   |
| 2.   | First Net Insurance Company  |
| 3.   | Liberty Mutual Insurance Company   |
| 4.   | NetCare Life and Health Insurance Company                                    |
| 5.   | Pacific Indemnity Insurance Company  |
| 6.   | Plateau Insurance Company  |
|      | <b>Licensed Agents:</b>  |
|      | Moylan’s Insurance Underwriters (FSM), Inc.                                  |
|      | Moylan’s Insurance Underwriters (FSM), Inc.                                  |
|      | Moylan’s Insurance Underwriters (FSM), Inc.                                  |
|      | Actouka Executive Insurance Underwriters                                     |
|      | Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia                                   |
| III. | Licensed Domestic Insurer:   |
| 1.   | Individual Assurance Company (FSM), Inc.                                     |
| IV.  | Following are Licensed Brokers in the FSM:                                   |
| 1.   | Micronesia Insurance Brokers Company, Ltd.                                   |
| 2.   | Oceania Insurance Company, Inc.  |

No registration or license has been cancelled, suspended or revoked. The Board is also not aware of any winding-up or liquidation in progress of a registered, licensed insurer or intermediary.

FSM Insurance Board/Commission  
 VB Building No.1, Suite 2A, Pohn Umpomp Place, Nett, Pohnpei FM 96941  
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 Phone: (691) 320-3423 or 5426; Fax: (691) 320-1523  
 www.fsminsuranceboard.com

# Engrave the collective memory and share China's experience in an effort to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic by working hand in hand

*Huang Zheng PRC Ambassador to the FSM*

COVID-19 is the most extensive pandemic to afflict humanity in a century, posing a grave threat to human life and health. The battle to prevent and control the spread of the virus was launched in China first. Under the personal command and planning of President Xi Jinping, China adopted the most extensive, stringent, and thorough containment measures, and has for now succeeded in cutting all channels for the transmission of the virus. Having forged the idea that the world is a global community of shared future and in an open, transparent, and responsible manner and in accordance with the law, China gave timely notification to the international community of the onset of a new coronavirus, and shared without reserve its experience in containing the spread of the virus and treating the infected. China has done all it can to provide humanitarian aid in support of the international community's endeavors, including those of the FSM, to stem the pandemic.

Thanks to the valuable support and assistance by the FSM and the international community, through more than 4 months of painstaking efforts and tremendous sacrifice, and having paid a heavy price, China has succeeded in turning the situation around and securing strategic achievements in the battle against the pandemic. In doing so, China has protected its people's lives, safety and health, and made a significant contribution to safeguarding regional and global public

health. As of 24:00 of May 31, 2020, a cumulative total of 83,017 confirmed cases had been reported on the Chinese mainland, 78,307 infected had been cured and discharged from hospital, and 4,634 people had died. This demonstrates a cure rate of 94.3 percent and a fatality rate of 5.6 percent.

The test of fire along the Chinese people's fight against COVID-19 and the great victory we struck is an important part of the collective memory of the entire human race in this endeavor. In order to engrave this precious piece of collective memory, to share China's experience with the rest of the world, and to clarify its ideas on the global battle against the virus, on June 7th, 2020, the Chinese government released a white paper titled: Fighting COVID-19: China in Action. Its full text can be found at the website below: [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-06/07/c\\_139120424.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-06/07/c_139120424.htm)

Though bearing the first impact of the novel coronavirus pandemic, China has managed to contain the pandemic in a relatively short period of time. The success is accredited to the following 4 keys:

I. The strong leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC). The CPC has a strong leadership core, a people-oriented governance philosophy, and well-established organization and operation mechanisms. Under the personal command and planning of CPC General Secretary Xi Jinping, it quickly made the right decisions in response to the crisis. Under its leadership, efficient and powerful response measures were

implemented. Within a short time, across-the-board crisis-response mechanisms were established down to the community level, motivating all those involved across the country to follow instructions and act as one. With the pandemic putting people's lives and safety in danger, CPC members have acted as the vanguard. After weathering the pandemic, the Chinese people have keenly realized that the CPC leadership is the most reliable shelter against storms. Their trust in and support for CPC have increased, along with their confidence in China's political system.

II. The conviction that human life is of utmost importance. The CPC and the Chinese government decisively place people's lives above economic growth. When the novel coronavirus struck, China decided that it would protect the lives and health of its people even at the cost of a short-term economic downturn and even a temporary shutdown. The government took strict and comprehensive control measures, never tried before, in the city of Wuhan and Hubei Province. The movement of people across the country was tightly restricted as well. To save lives at all costs, China made raising the cure rate and lowering the fatality rate its top priority. The best doctors and nurses were rapidly dispatched to the front line of the fight against the virus. Employing proactive, science-based, and flexible ways of treatment, they did everything possible to treat each and every patient.

III. A tight prevention and control system involving all sectors of society. The Chinese government quickly mobilized the whole of society and galvanized the people into a nationwide response. A targeted, law- and science-based approach was adopted, and public health emergency response measures were rolled out on an unprecedented and extensive scale across the country, such as defining a set of requirements: early detection, reporting, quarantine and treatment with a focus on the four categories of vulnerable people (confirmed cases, suspected cases, febrile patients who might be carriers, and close contacts). The Chinese government had also taken measures to ensure that they were hospitalized, treated, tested or quarantined as appropriate, doing everything in its power to reduce infections to the minimum. The community-based line of defense was well guarded. China also implemented such other non-medical means as applying a region-specific, multi-level approach to pandemic prevention and control across the nation, which has effectively blocked its transmission routes.

IV. Mobilizing the whole country to fight the pandemic. After the outbreak, the entire country acted promptly. Relying on its overall national strength, China mustered the support of the whole country to assist Hubei, and particularly Wuhan, to combat the disease, halting the spread of the pandemic in the shortest period of time. China mobilized all its medical resources to support the efforts in Wuhan and other locations in Hubei, the largest medical assistance operation since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949. With wide range of public participation encouraged, we by all means increased the production and supply of medical supplies and

medical support services, while coordinating and ensuring the supply of daily necessities.

Nevertheless, the situation is causing great concern as the novel coronavirus continue to rage all over the world. Both the fight to rein in the virus and the endeavor to fend off a deepening global recession call for the international community to stand in unity and engage in cooperation. They also call for multilateralism, and commitment to building a global community of shared future. Solidarity and cooperation are the most powerful weapons available to the international community in the war against the pandemic. China calls on all countries to act promptly to conduct effective international cooperation on joint prevention and control, manage the pandemic's impact on the world economy through cooperation, assist vulnerable countries and regions, and build an efficient and sustainable global public health system for the benefit of all humanity.

China deeply appreciates and will remember forever the valuable support and assistance provided by the FSM government and people when the situation in China was at its most difficult. We are now doing all we can to reciprocate with the same goodwill, helping empower the FSM in response to the pandemic in various ways. For instance, China has made 3 consecutive batches of donation to the FSM national government and Pohnpei State government respectively, adding up to USD 170,000 in cash and tens of thousands of medical supplies worth around USD 150,000. The FSM was invited to participate the Vice Ministers' Special Meeting on COVID-19 between China and Pacific Island Countries and another similar video conference among health officials and specialists. We also shared an online Knowledge Center for China's Experiences in response to COVID-19. China will continue to provide more assistance to aid the FSM against COVID-19 to the best of our abilities.

On the other hand, as Comprehensive Strategic Partners, China and the FSM resolutely opposes any attempt at stigmatization, politicizing or labeling the virus, support the leading role of the World Health Organization in promoting global cooperation against COVID-19. China has suffered tremendously but has contributed generously to the global efforts to combat the virus. Its efforts should be duly recognized, and it should not be criticized groundlessly and illegally.

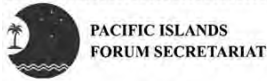
Chinese President Xi Jinping, in his speech at the opening of the 73rd World Health Assembly, put forward 6 proposals and 5 measures to promote international cooperation against the pandemic and building a global community of health for all. China will actively implement the said new proposals and measures by President Xi Jinping, work with the international community including the FSM, support each other and join hands to contain the spread of the virus, and protect the health and well-being of people across the globe, to the end of building a community of shared future for humanity and a global community of health for all.

Yap State Government  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Office of Planning and Budget  
Project Management Office

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Colonia Wellness Center Gym Equipment RFP NO. 2020-002

The Yap State Office of Planning and Budget/ Project Management Office (PMO) is soliciting proposals for the supply of Gym Equipment for the Colonia Wellness Center Project, to be received until 4:00 p.m. on August 3, 2020, local Yap time. Interested parties are requested to get in touch with the undersigned on the contact details listed below for the List of Gym Equipment.

Arch. Samuel E. Luzano,  
Project Manager- PMO  
YCA Complex, P.O. Box 970  
Colonia, Yap State FM 96943  
Tel. Nos. (691) 350-2324/2576  
E-mail: [pmo@yapstategov.org](mailto:pmo@yapstategov.org)



## Vacancies

### International Legal Adviser

#### The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Forum Secretariat) is the region's premier political and economic policy organisation, with a vision of helping to create a region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion and prosperity, so that all Pacific people can lead free, healthy, and productive lives.

The international organisation works to achieve this vision by fostering cooperation between governments, collaboration with international agencies, and by representing the interests of its members - including directly engaging with community members in order to identify pressing needs of the region.

The work of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) is guided by the Framework for Pacific Regionalism (FPR) as:

The expression of a common sense of identity and purpose, leading progressively to the sharing of institutions, resources, and markets, with the purpose of complimenting national efforts, overcoming common constraints, and embracing sustainable and inclusive development within Pacific countries and territories and for the Pacific region as a whole.

The FPR is underpinned by the Blue Pacific narrative, endorsed by Forum Leaders in Samoa in 2017, which calls for a long-term regional commitment to act as one "Blue Continent" as the means to achieve its development aspirations. The Leaders vision was that it would serve as the platform to reinforce and inspire the region in its shared stewardship of the Pacific Ocean, and to reaffirm the connections of Pacific peoples with their natural resources, environment, culture and livelihoods.

#### The Opportunity

The Forum Secretariat is looking for an International Legal Adviser to join the team in Suva, Fiji. Reporting to the Director Governance & Engagement, this role is responsible for providing legal policy advice and analysis on regional issues covered by the Secretariat.

To facilitate the above, the incumbent will be responsible for:

- Providing legal analysis and advice on regional policy;
- Convening of Forum Meetings and Representation of the Forum's interests to relevant international bodies;
- Management of the Forum's treaty depositary role and assistance in the provision of other in-house legal advice and services; and
- Team Performance & Leadership.

The Secretariat seeks a strategic and proficient individual with an advanced degree in law (preferably combined with international relations and/or diplomacy). Candidates must have a sound knowledge of the international concerns and interests of Forum members and of the regional positions on these concerns and interests. The ideal candidate will have substantial years of experience and demonstrated success in the coordination and organisation of high level inter-governmental and non-governmental regional and international meetings.

#### The Benefits

The appointment carries a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. The starting salary will be in the range of SDR 36,640 to SDR 42,297 per annum. At the 1 May 2020 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to FJD113,401 to FJD130,910. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free. To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of a Forum member country\*. Applicants must be willing to travel periodically via economy class.

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply through our website: [www.forumsec.org](http://www.forumsec.org) where an information package containing the job description and remuneration details is also available. Candidates must include in either their application or Curriculum Vitae the full contact details of three referees. The Forum Secretariat is an Equal Opportunity Employer. **Deadline for applications is at 5pm (Fiji time), 26 June 2020.**

\* Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

## Assisting Yap State manage water supply through the current drought

### SPC and water authority staff measuring water levels in a monitoring bore.

*Pacific Community (SPC)*

1 June 2020

**Yap State, FSM** - Residents of Yap State, the westernmost state of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), are experiencing their fourth month of extreme drought, and face critical challenges in maintaining a safe water supply for their communities. The Pacific Community (SPC) is now working with public water authorities in the state to make more efficient use of existing infrastructure and help identify new water sources.

The work is being conducted as part of the EUR 4.5 million European Union – North Pacific – Readiness for El Niño (RENI) project, which is focused on securing food and water resources for vulnerable communities ahead of droughts.

"The European Union is committed to helping the Small Island Developing States of the Pacific address the ever-increasing risks posed by climate change and natural disasters. Understanding the nature and underlying cause of these complex phenomena is an important precursor to implementing solutions. This is fully in line with the European Green Deal – the EU top priority for the years to come," said Ambassador of the European Union for the Pacific, HE Sujiro Seam.

Starting in May 2019, a technical team from SPC visited Yap proper to assess groundwater resources and meet with the managers of the four water authorities and the utility company.

During a month-long follow-up visit in September 2019, the team undertook an assessment of the largest underground water reserve, the Gagil-Tomil Aquifer, and carried out pumping tests to determine the impact of current extraction rates on the aquifer and between wellfields.

"Dry conditions began to impact Yap in October 2019, and April 2020 marked Yap's fourth consecutive month of extreme drought with precipitation totals below 4 inches of rain. This drought now ranks as the tenth most severe on record," said the Staff Meteorologist of the Yap Weather Service Office, Mr. Javez Mooteb.

Yap residents are being encouraged to use water conservation measures as the water authorities are facing challenges maintaining the water supply.

Since September 2019, an SPC technical team has been supporting Yap government's groundwater monitoring in the Gagil -Tomil area. During a virtual meeting with Yap Water Authorities on 13th May 2020, SPC shared their main findings.

SPC'S Water Resources Monitoring & Assessment Coordinator, Peter Sinclair, highlighted the need for implementing long term drought planning saying, "The aquifer is very capable of meeting water demand during normal rainfall, but during extended dry conditions, such as the present drought, continuous extraction is causing significant stress to the aquifer. Monitoring the aquifer will assist local water authorities in balancing both water demand needs and aquifer limitations".

Ms Christina Fillmed, Executive Director of Yap State Environmental Protection Agency, stressed the importance of the project for the people of Yap, "As we continue to face the loss of crops, the drying up of vegetation and ongoing water shortages, we are very grateful for the scientific advice and analysis provided by SPC through the RENI project, which is helping us cope with this present drought and plan for future droughts".

Drought periods have been occurring more regularly and lasting longer in recent years, putting increasing stress on Yap communities. However, careful monitoring and scientific research on local water systems can greatly reduce the impact of these droughts.

SPC's Director-General, Stuart Minchin, highlighted the value of this work in helping to build understanding of Pacific water systems and supporting the people of Yap maintain access to safe water, "The Pacific Community is a scientific and technical organization and all our work is focused on improving lives and supporting resilient, sustainable communities across our region. This project is a great example of that principle in action."

# College of Micronesia-FSM

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www.comfsm.fm

## COM-FSM is accepting admission applications for Fall 2020 until July 31, 2020

### Admission Requirements for first-time college students:

1. Have graduated from high school or have a General Educational Development (GED) certificate.
2. Have a minimum high school grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 as measured on a 4.0 scale.
3. Accepted by the College's Committee on Recruitment, Admission, and Retention.

### Admission Procedure:

1. Take the COM-FSM Entrance Test (COMET) and place into a program.
2. Complete the Application for Admission form (<http://www.comfsm.fm/oar/application-for-admission-Final.pdf>) and attached the following documents.
  - Completed Health Examination Form
  - Acceptance Letter
  - Copy of high school diploma

### Submit or mail the documents to:

Office of Admissions, Records & Retention (OARR)  
College of Micronesia-FSM  
P.O. Box 159 Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941

3. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and mail to the address indicated. Students may also file their FAFSA electronically at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

Submit the following documents to the Financial Aid Office (FAO)

- Copy of either passport or birth certificate
  - Copy of 2018 wage & tax statement (W2 Form for working parents). If parents are not working, obtain an Untaxed Income Form from FAO or college website at [www.comfsm.fm/?q=financial-aid](http://www.comfsm.fm/?q=financial-aid) and have it completed
  - COM-FSM application for Financial Assistance (COMAFA). Obtained at FAO or at <http://www.comfsm.fm/fao/forms/2020-2021-COM-AFA.pdf>
  - Verification Worksheet for Federal Student Aid Programs. Obtained at FAO or at <http://www.comfsm.fm/?q=fao-verification>
4. Request that official high school transcript or General Educational Development (GED) scores are sent to OARR. High school seniors should submit a seven-semester transcript.



"If you have the courage to begin,  
you have the courage to succeed."