



Republic of Palau *Office of the President*

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Executive Order No. 379

To create a National Coordinating Mechanism to facilitate and coordinate the Government of the Republic of Palau's efforts to combat the occurrences and impacts of Non-Communicable Diseases in the Republic of Palau.

WHEREAS, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are the leading causes of deaths, illnesses, and disabilities in the Republic of Palau, undermining health and sustainable development in our small island nation; and

WHEREAS, the global community including the Republic of Palau has recognized the devastating impacts of NCDs and has declared NCDs a crisis that requires a whole of government and society approach to address the issue; and

WHEREAS, the Government of the Republic of Palau has progressed from political commitment to action by setting national targets, specific goals, objectives, and evidence based and cost effective strategies in the revised NCD Prevention and Control Strategic Plan of Action 2015-2020 (the "Palau NCD Plan"); and

WHEREAS, collaboration across all sectors and between the government and civil society is key to the effective implementation of the Palau NCD Plan to prevent and control NCDs, promote and protect public health, and attain national health targets; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to establish a governance framework that can coordinate strategies and interventions across sectors to address NCDs, allowing stakeholders among these sectors to work together to develop and implement appropriate and effective strategies, policies, and procedures; and

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Health has a leading role in responding to the NCD challenge; however, other government sectors, civil society, and the /private sector have to be part of the response to ensure mobilization of sufficient resources as they have essential roles in creating environments conducive to positive health behavior and outcomes; and

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in the President under the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Palau, I hereby direct that a standing National Coordinating Mechanism be created with the following membership, functions and responsibilities:



- (a) The membership of the National Coordinating Mechanism (the “Committee”) for responding to the NCD challenge shall come from governmental/semi-governmental ministries and agencies, who may then engage appropriate civil society organizations and private sectors.

Governmental/semi-governmental ministries and agencies include:

- (1) A representative from the Ministry of Health, who shall serve as the Chairman of the Committee for the first year.
- (2) A representative from the Ministry of Education designated by the Minister.
- (3) A representative from the Ministry of State designated by the Minister.
- (4) A representative from the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs designated by the Minister.
- (5) A representative from the Ministry of Justice designated by the Minister.
- (6) A representative from the Ministry of Finance designated by the Minister.
- (7) A representative from the Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Industries and Commerce designated by the Minister.
- (8) A representative from the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism designated by the Minister.
- (9) A representative from the Palau Community College designated by their President.
- (10) A representative from the Healthcare Fund designated by the Chairperson.
- (11) A representative from the President’s Office designated by the President.

The Committee shall seek to collaborate with appropriate parts of civil society, NGOs, and the private sector to ensure the whole of society approach to the NCD response, including, but not limited to, the Council of Chiefs; Mechesil Belau; Ulekerreuil a Klengar; Coalition for a Tobacco Free Palau; Omellemel ma Ulekerreuil a Bedenged; Palau Community Health Center Governing Board/Councils; Palau Early Childhood Comprehensive System; Palau Behavioral Health Advisory Council; Palau HIV/AIDS/STI Advisory Group; Kotel a Deurreng; Governors’ Association, Palau National Youth Congress; Chamber of Commerce; Palau Community Action Agency; Head Start Program; Palau Red Cross Society; Palau National Olympics Committee; Belau Tourism Association; Palau Conservation Society; Palau Farmers’ Association; Belau Families, Schools & Communities Association; Palau Bar Association; Rotary Club; Cheldebechel (Sechal me a Redil); and other development partners & technical advisors.



(b) The Committee shall have the following duties and functions:

- (1) Facilitate the implementation, integration, and alignment of the Palau NCD Plan, and related NCD plans and commitments, with the WHO FCTC and its guidelines, with the Ministry of Health's strategic plan, and with national development plans and policies;
- (2) Develop annual action plans (based on the Palau NCD Plan) in coordination with the Ministry of Health which list outputs, activities, responsible agencies or organizations, and budget allocation,
- (3) Develop appropriate internal and external communication protocols and ensure uniform communication;
- (4) Coordinate regular monitoring, evaluation, and reporting on the national response to addressing NCDs, including the implementation and updating of the Palau NCD Plan;
- (5) Advocate for funds and other resources to support the functioning of the Committee operations, Committee secretariat, and implementation of the Palau NCD Plan;
- (6) Facilitate capacity building for Committee members so they understand their roles and responsibilities in addressing the NCD crisis;
- (7) Coordinate internal and external monitoring and self-evaluation of the Committee;
- (8) Develop an explicit code of behavior for how all members of the Committee interact with industry representatives;
- (9) Utilize existing data and recommend relevant statistics to be developed and streamlined for better assessments and analysis including the evaluation of the Committee's efforts;
- (10) Have Committee members abide by the explicit code of conduct developed by the Committee, attend all meetings and capacity building activities, incorporate the Palau NCD Plan into their respective organization's plans, and provide feedback to the Committee.

(c) The Committee's membership requirements and organization:

- (1) Members will serve on a rotational basis of two years, unless appointed again by the relevant member organization;
- (2) The Committee Chairman will serve on a one year rotational basis and will be selected from the representatives of the ministries who are members; a representative from the Ministry of Health will serve as the Committee Chairman for the first year;
- (3) The Committee secretariat is a 5 person committee, serving on a two year rotational basis, appointed by the Committee members; however, members



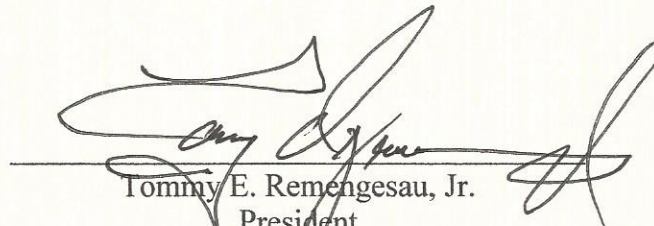
of the secretariat will not be Committee members and two permanent members will be from the Ministry of Health; and

(4) Ad hoc committees may be formed as needed.

(d) Reports.

(1) The Committee shall report to the President and stakeholders semi-annually.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal on the 8th day of May, 2015 at Koror, Republic of Palau.



Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President
Republic of Palau