

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 17-09

RE: COMMITTEE TO WAIT ON THE PRESIDENT

NOVEMBER 10, 2012

The Honorable Isaac V. Figir
Speaker, Seventeenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Fourth Special Session, 2012

Dear Mr. Speaker,

Your Committee to Wait on the President, consisting of members Peter M. Christian, Wesley Simina, and Joseph J. Urusemal, and Yosiwo P. George, Chairman, was duly appointed on November 9, 2012.

The Committee met with President Manny Mori and Vice President Alik L. Alik on November 10, 2012. Also in attendance were members of the cabinet, senior government officials, and staff.

Chairman George greeted the President and Vice President, members of the cabinet, and staff on behalf of Congress and thanked them for the opportunity to meet. Chairman George informed the President that Congress was in session and ready to transact business.

The President returned his warm regards for your Committee and Congress in general. The President informed your Committee that he and his staff were ready to cooperate and facilitate Congress's session.

The President supported two priorities for the session. The first was the FY2013 budget. The President requested that Congress revisit the budget based on the April 2012 budget request. The second was the formation of the 2023 Committee. The President expressed his support for a short-term committee with economic and financial sustainability as its priority. The President stated that a longer termed committee with other priorities could follow

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in the years leading up to 2023.

Chairman George acknowledged that Congress intends to revisit the FY2013 budget depending upon receipt of grant awards and resolution of other uncertainties. Your Committee was informed the grants had been received and would be transmitted Monday.

The President then turned to his supplemental budget requests. The President requested that Congress assist the establishment and of the Unified Revenue Authority by prioritizing an IT infrastructure project to support the URA's collection efforts. Financial assistance for the project is forthcoming and includes conditions to partially match the funds. The President has requested an appropriation of \$600,000 as matching funds for the first two years of the five-year project. Total matching funds will total \$999,000 of a total project cost of \$3,200,000.

The President also urged Congress to act on the bill to establish an FSM Trust Fund. The President discussed the need for a supplemental trust fund to provide easily mobilized resources in the event of a calamity or serious emergency.

Chairman George thanked the President, Vice-President, cabinet, and staff for their time and stated he would report to Congress on the discussion and recommendations.

The meeting closed with mutual expressions of appreciation and wishes for a productive Congressional Session.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Yosiwo P. George

/s/ Peter M. Christian

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Yosiwo P. George, Chairman

Peter M. Christian, Member

/s/ Wesley Simina
Wesley Simina, Member

/s/ Joseph J. Urusemal
Joseph J. Urusemal, Member