

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 17-78

RE: C.R. NO. 17-107/EXAFF

SUBJECT: APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A \$500,000 GRANT
ASSISTANCE FROM THE GEF-PAS.

January 27, 2012

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

Your Committee on External Affairs, to which was jointly
referred C.R. No. 17-107, entitled:

"APPROVING A GRANT ASSISTANCE FROM THE GLOBAL
ENVIRONMENT FACILITY UNDER THE PACIFIC ALLIANCE
SUSTAINABILITY (GEF-PAS) PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$500,000, INCLUDING ALL THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF
THE ASSISTANCE.",

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee would like to again take the opportunity to
communicate on behalf of Congress and the people of the
Federated States of Micronesia its gratitude to the Global
Environment Facility under the Pacific Alliance for
Sustainability (GEF-PAS) for its continued support of
environmental and development efforts of the Federated
States of Micronesia, and in particular for the above-named
grant for water management, including water safety and
sewage treatment.

On January 25, 2012 your Committee held a hearing regarding
the above-captioned C.R. No. 17-107 with the Department of
Foreign Affairs, the Department of Justice, the Department
of Resources and Development, and the Office of Statistics,
Budget & Economic Management, Overseas Development &
Compact Assistance (SBOC). Your Committee was advised by
the Secretary of Resources and Development that the grant
under consideration will be used generally for water

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management. The proposed water management projects include water safety and sewage treatment, and will study such effects as environmental degradation and pollution at the various project sites. This grant is for activities in the states of Chuuk and Pohnpei. Your Committee questioned if there was a priority list for potential projects, particularly by this donor so that all states could eventually benefit from valuable environmental and development projects such as those funded by this grant. The Secretary of the Department of Resources and Development stated he would forward the requested information to your Committee. The Secretary supports acceptance of this grant and the proposed projects that will be funded by it.

Your Committee approves of the theme of the grant. The GEF-PAS organization is well known to the Committee, and has provided necessary funding for a variety of important projects in the past. Your Committee finds that additional water management projects are in keeping with our Nation's priorities of environmental protection and development, and that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia to accept the grant which is the subject of C.R. No. 17-107.

Your Committee on External Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 17-107, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Paliknoa K. Welly
Paliknoa K. Welly, chairman

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tiwiter Aritos, member

/s/ Isaac V. Figir
Isaac V. Figir, member
w/ reservation

/s/ Tony H. Otto
Tony H. Otto, member

/s/ David W. Panuelo
David W. Panuelo, member

/s/ Berney Martin
Berney Martin, member

/s/ Wesley W. Simina
Wesley W. Simina, member