

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-10

RE: C.R. NO. 18-04/H&SA

SUBJECT: APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT ASSISTANCE IN  
THE AMOUNT OF \$949,600 FROM THE UNITED  
NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA)

May 30, 2013

The Honorable Dohsis Halbert  
Speaker, Eighteenth Congress  
Federated States of Micronesia  
First Regular Session, 2013

Dear Speaker,

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs, to which was  
jointly referred C.R. No. 18-04 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT  
ASSISTANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$949,600 FROM THE  
UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA) FOR THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF UNFPA-FUNDED ANNUAL WORK PLANS  
RELATING TO THE 2013-2017 UNFPA MULT-COUNTRY  
PROGRAMME FOR THE PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES AND  
TERRITORIES, INCLUDING ALL THE TERMS AND  
CONDITIONS OF THE ASSISTANCE." ,

begs leave to report as follows:

The intent and purpose of this resolution are expressed in  
its title.

The resolution would approve funding from the United Nations  
Population Fund in the following areas under the Department  
of Health and Social Affairs: 1) gender equality; and 2)  
increased access to health care. This is new funding that  
envisions a program of at least five years (2013-2017).

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Your Committee held a joint public hearing with the Committee on External Affairs on May 28, 2013. In attendance were representatives from the Department of Health and Social Affairs, the Office of SBOC, the Department of Justice and the Department of Finance and Administration. The departments were questioned as to the status of the above referenced grant, specifically as to whether money had already been expended under this grant, and whether the grant period had expired. Your Committee is satisfied that no money has been expended on this grant, and that the grant period has not yet expired. The Committee, therefore, believes that C.R. No. 18-04 which addresses the proposed UNFPA grant of \$949,600 is properly presented before the Committee for review.

This grant proposes the following activities to take place in each of the States: 1) integration of family planning in the community health care system through awareness and outreach, including the use of mobile clinics, and the development of family planning information in local languages and providing support for the program coordinator, 2) support scholarships for health training at Fiji National University, 3) carry out gender-based violence prevention awareness and outreach. 4) conduct state/national training for health staff in family planning related areas, provide technical assistance and review of research, and 5) engage consultants to carry out technical assessment of the health information system.

This is a generous grant which will support increased access of our citizens to health care, specifically in the area of reproductive health, and will provide training, including scholarships to higher education in the area of health. In past hearings the Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Affairs has emphasized the necessity to deliver better sexual and reproductive health services and information, including family planning and sexually transmitted infections prevention. This grant is consistent with the work that the Department is already doing in this area, and should be available for a period long enough to have a meaningful, positive impact on our Nation's quality of health.

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Your Committee is satisfied regarding the overall positive impact this grant would have on public health. Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 18-04, and subject to the concurrence of the Committee on External Affairs, recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as C.R. No. 18-04.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Tony H. Otto  
Tony H. Otto, chairman

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos  
Tiwiter Aritos, vice chairman

Peter M. Christian, member

/s/ Yosiwo P. George  
Yosiwo P. George, member

/s/ Florencio S. Harper  
Florencio S. Harper, member

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

Joseph J. Urusemal, member