

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 20-15

RE: C.R. NO. 20-19/COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

SUBJECT: APPROVING \$240,000 FROM THE U.S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

JULY 14, 2017

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker, Twentieth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
First Special Session, 2017

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Climate Change, to which was referred
C.R. No. 20-19 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A U.S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$240,000, TO FUND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
INSTITUTIONAL STENGTHENING IN PICS TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE
CHANGE PROJECT, 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.

Your Committee held a public hearing on July 13, 2017.
Present at the hearing were the Director of OEEM, Andrew
Yatilman and Rose Nakanaga from the Department of Finance
and Administration.

This is a grant from SPC to the FSM funded by funds from
USAID. The Director testified that the grant was to help

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the FSM get accredited with the Green Climate Fund. In the FSM only the Micronesia Conservation Trust has received accreditation to apply for grants from the Green Climate Fund. The FSM Development Bank is also applying, but so far the National Government has not. It is important for the FSM to become accredited.

The grant will be used to hire someone at OEEM to work on the accreditation process. It is expected that this position will be paid about \$20,000 per year. Your Committee raised concerns about the adequacy of such a salary for that particular role. The representative of Finance testified that they realize that, but any kind of financial assistance to the FSM should be welcomed, and we should protect our relationship with the donor. A number of Pacific Island countries have accepted similar grants.

Your Committee agrees with that, but suggested that OEEM also look at its real needs and submit a budget to Congress. In the meantime, your Committee believes that the grant should be accepted to show the FSM's efforts in getting the accreditation to the Green Climate Fund.

Your Committee on Climate Change is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 20-19 and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Alik L. Alik
Alik L. Alik, chairman

/s/ Dion G. Neth
Dion G. Neth, member

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

Isaac V. Figir, member

/s/ Derensio K. Konman
Derensio S. Konman, member