CONGRESS OF THE
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 21-64

RE: PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION NO. 21-253

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET/CCC

SEPTEMBER 17, 2020

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker, Twenty-First Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Fifth Regular Session, 2020

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Special Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Issues, to which was jointly referred the National Government's proposed Fiscal Year 2021 budget, begs leave to report as follows:

Presidential Communication No. 21-253 was transmitted to Congress with the *National Government Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget* ("Budget Book") on April 1, 2020. Pursuant to Rule 7, Section 3(b) of the Official Rules of Procedure of the Twenty-First Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, your Committee has limited its review to those portions of the budget relating to matters under its jurisdiction. These are:

A. Department of Environment, Climate Change, and Emergency Management (DECCEM)
   1. Office of the Director
   2. Division of Environment
   3. Division of Climate Change
   4. Division of Emergency Management
B. Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions
   1. UN Environmental Protection
   2. United Nation Framework on Climate Change
   3. United Nation Convention to Combat Decertification

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4. Secretariat of Pacific Region Environment Program
5. Waigani Convention
6. SPREP Noumea Convention
7. Earth Day Activities
8. 6th Bi-Annual Environment Conference
9. FSM FEMA Disaster Matching
10. Bassel Convention
11. Kyoto Protocol
12. WMO Membership

C. Capital & Human Resources Development
1. Global Environment Facility Constituency Meetings
2. Disaster Risk Management Annual Meeting
3. 15 Thousand Gallon Water Catchment
4. Implement the FSM National Disaster Response Plan
5. Backup Generator
6. National & State Table Top Meeting
7. Outer Island Trip – Assessment on Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management

This report, and all previous and subsequent reports of your Committee, should be treated as reflecting policies of the Federated States of Micronesia, as defined by the Congress. It is the intent of your Committee that any commentary found in this report should be treated as policy for the guidance of the department, agencies and entities.

The findings and recommendations of your Committee follow:

A. Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management (DECCEM)

Your Committee is aware this has not been an ordinary year. The work of the department of DECCEM has been severely impacted by the COVID-19 and the ensuing lockdown on travel. The department and its leadership spent a substantial amount of time within the National Task Force on the COVID-19. The travel ban has also curtailed many of the planned activities for the current fiscal year, especially travel to the states and attendance to

international conferences so it is hard to gauge the efficacity of the funding for FY20 in order to compare it with FY21.

Your Committee notes that the requested FY21 budget is with small exceptions the same as the one for FY20, for which the Committee held extensive hearings last year. Your Committee feels that the budget is therefore straightforward and recommends its approval as submitted with the hope that the department will accomplish in FY21 what it planned to do in FY20.

That being said your Committee is aware of the general understanding this year in Congress to keep the salary level at its current level, while reducing the travel budget by 70% to account for the travel ban. At the budget hearing on August 21, 2020 the Secretary requested an increase on the personnel line item to account for increased contract amounts. Your Committee will defer to the Ways and Means Committee to see whether all departments in a similar situation can be accommodated. However for itself your Committee is unwilling to depart from the general policy of maintaining the FY20 level.

OVERALL BUDGET SUMMARY FY2019 – DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

	FY2020 Appropriated	FY2021 Proposed	**FY2021 President Recommend**	**FY2021 Committee Recommend**
Personnel	**$544,054**	$545,058	**$545,058**	**$545,058**
Travel	**$164,301**	$219,627	**$219,242**	**$65,772**
Contract	**$ 50,000**	$ 25,000	**$25,000**	**$25,000**
OCE	**$ 47,120**	$52,120	**$49,120**	**$49,120**
Fixed Assets	**$36,100**	$46,900	**$16,900**	**$16,900**
Total	**$842,579**	**$888,805**	**$855,620**	**$701,850**
Employee #	25	25	25	25

Your Committee recommends funding the department as recommended by the President for FY2021. Your Committee supports the perceived needs of the department and wishes

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to fully support the department in its development phase. The Committee expects to review the results and accomplishments of the department in its next budget hearing, and is particularly interested in reviewing the progress made by the new Division of Climate Change. Your Committee has reviewed and recommends the following budget for each office and division of the department:

1. Office of the Secretary

	FY2020 Appropriated	FY2021 Proposed	FY2021 President Recommend	FY2021 Committee Recommend
Personnel	$125,833	$125,833	$125,833	$125,833
Travel	$36,536	$36,536	$46,536	$13,960
Contract	$0	$0	$0	$0
OCE	$24,320	$24,320	$24,320	$24,320
Fixed Assets	$25,000	$33,000	$3000	$3000
Total	$211,689	**$219,689**	**$189,689**	**$167,113**
Employee #	5	5	5	5

2. Division of Environment

	FY2020 Appropriated	FY2021 Proposed	FY2021 President Recommend	FY2021 Committee Recommend
Personnel	$138,141	$138,141	$138,141	$138,141
Travel	$47,280	$52,348	$52,348	$15,704
Contract	$0	$0	$0	$0
OCE	$7,300	$7,800	$7,300	$7,300
Fixed Assets	$2,200	0	0	0
Total	**$194,921**	**$198,289**	**$197,789**	**$161,145**
Employee #	7	7	7	7

3. Division of Climate Change

	FY2020 Appropriated	FY2021 Proposed	FY2021 President Recommend	FY2021 Committee Recommend
Personnel	$153,929	$153,929	$153,929	$153,929
Travel	$30,613	$80,486	$80,486	$24,146
Contract	$50,000	$25,000	$25,000	$25,000
OCE	$7,700	$7,700	$7,700	$7,700
Fixed Assets	$4,400	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000
Total	**$246,642**	**$278,815**	**$278,815**	**$220,775**
Employee #	7	7	7	7

4. Division of Emergency Management

	FY2020 Appropriated	FY2021 Proposed	FY2021 President Recommend	FY2021 Committee Recommend
Personnel	$127,155	$127,155	$127,155	$127,155
Travel	$49,872	$50,257	$49,872	$14,961
Contract	$0	$0	$0	$0
OCE	$7,800	$10,100	$7,800	$7,800
Fixed Assets	$4,500	$4,500	$4,500	$4,500
Total	**$189,327**	**$192,012**	**$189,327**	**$154,416**
Employee #	6	6	6	6

B. GRANTS, SUBSIDIES & CONTRIBUTIONS

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	FY2020 Appropriated	FY2021 Proposed	**FY2021 President Recommend**	**FY2021 Committee Recommend**
1. UNEP	$835	$835	**$835**	**$835**
2. UNFCCC	$325	$325	**$325**	**$325**
3. UNCCD	$195	$195	**$195**	**$195**
4. SPREP	$10,768	$10,768	**$10,768**	**$10,768**
5. Waigani Convention	$1,190	$1,190	**$1,190**	**$1,190**
6. SPREP-Noumea Con.	$1,764	$1,764	**$1,764**	**$1,764**
7. Earth Day Activities	$15,000	$15,000	**$15,000**	**$15,000**

8. 8th Bi-Annual Environment Conference	$20,000	$20,000	**$20,000**	**$20,000**
9. FSM FEMA Disaster Matching	$0	$0	**$0**	**$0**
10. Basel Convention	$197	$197	**$197**	**$197**
11. Kyoto Protocol	$484	$484	**$484**	**$484**
12. WMO Membership (Current fee & Prior Obligations)	$15,000	$15,000	**$15,000**	**$15,000**
Total for DECCEM	**$65,758**	**$65,758**	**$65,758**	**$65,758**

C. CAPITAL & HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	FY2020 Appropriated (after supplemental)	FY2021 Proposed	**FY2021 President Recommend**	**FY2021 Committee Recommend**
a. National & State Table top Exercise	$0	$30,000	**$30,000**	**$30,000**
b. Outer Island Trip-Assessment on Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management	$0	$80,000	**$80,000**	**$80,000**
c. National Joint Platform for Environment & Risk Resilience	$20,000	$20,000	**$20,000**	**$0**
d. International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDRO)	$12,000	$12,000	**$12,000**	**$0**
e. Training & Maintenance for Radio Communications	$14,000	$14,000	**$14,000**	**$0**
f. Fostering Sustainable Solid Waste Management System in the FSM	$0	$165,000	**$165,000**	**$165,000**
Total for DECCEM	**$46,000**	**$321,000**	**$321,000**	**$275,000**

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Certain requested line items for this section were taken out of the FY20 Budget by the various supplemental bills passed in the course of this year. Your Committee recommends that they be reinstated. For those line items that are still funded in FY20 your Committee recommends zero additional funds because the FY20 funds do not lapse.

D. CONCLUSION

Your Special Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Issues has carefully reviewed the President's recommended FY2020 budget and all information provided by the Executive and the entities under your Committee's jurisdiction. The recommended sums set forth above reflect your Committee's recommendations on the level of funding for the designated activity, program or project for FY2020, subject to the recommendations of the Committee on Ways and Means.

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Respectfully submitted,

Derensio S. Konman, chairman

Dion G. Neth, member

Isaac V. Figir, member

Wesley W. Simina, member

Paliknoa K. Welly, member

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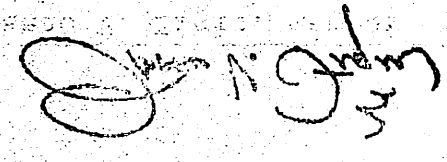
Paliknoa K. Welly, member