

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-02

RE: PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION NO. 23-573

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET/CCC

MAY 29, 2025

The Honorable Esmond B. Moses
Speaker, Twenty-Fourth Congress
First Regular Session, 2025

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Special Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Issues, to which was jointly referred the National Government's proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget, begs leave to report as follows:

Presidential Communication No. 23-573 was transmitted to Congress with the National Government Fiscal Year 2026 Recommended Budget ("Budget Book"). Pursuant to Rule 7, section 3 (b) of the Official Rules of Procedure of the Twenty-Fourth 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 Secretary
2. Division of Environment
3. Division of Climate Change
4. Division of Emergency Management

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B. Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions

1. UNEP
2. UNFCC
3. UNCCD
4. SPREP
5. Waigani Convention
6. SPREP-Nouea/Con.
7. Earth Day Activities
8. EPA Director's Meeting
9. Basel Conv.
10. Kyoto Protocol
11. WMO membership
12. DAEF Sector Grant
13. DAEF Matching
14. Stockholm Conv. Membership
15. COP27
16. Disaster Relief Fund

C. Capital and Human Resources and Development

1. National & State Table Top Exercise
2. Outer Island Trip-Assessment on Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management
3. National Joint 5th Platform for Environment & Risk Resilience
4. International Disaster Day
5. Disaster Risk Management Environment Conference
6. Micronesia Cleanup Day Awareness Campaigns
7. Implementation of P.L. of One Time Use Plastics/Items

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.

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FY26 Budget Special Committee

Your Committee held a hearing on the FY 26 Budget of DECEM on Friday May 16, 2024, at 1:00 PM. Secretary Yatilman testified on behalf of his Department with the Assistant Secretaries of the Divisions present. Chairwoman Sigrah opened the meeting by thanking all the participants. She then informed them that the Committee has carefully reviewed the EBRC recommendations and respects their decisions and proposals. Chairwoman Sigrah gave the witnesses the opportunity to defend their requests that deviated from the EBRC proposals. Secretary Yatilman stated that he respects the submission by the EBRC for DECCEM.

Based on the testimony heard, your Committee recommends funding DECEM for FY 26 at the status quo level of FY 25. At the hearing the requested budget was to be funded solely out of domestic revenues but your Committee is aware that potentially more funding will come from donors and other sources. Once that is properly assessed, the budget can be amended if necessary.

1. Office of the Secretary

	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	FY26 President Recommended	FY26 Committee Recommends
Personnel	168,544	174,918	164,544	164,544
Travel	14,509	69,928	8,816	8,816
Contract	100,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
OCE	12,164	30,495	8,100	8,100
Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0
Total	295,217	425,341	285,460	285,460
Employee #	5	5	5	5

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2. Division of Environment

	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	FY26 President Recommends	FY26 Committee Recommends
Personnel	198,229	199,151	198,229	198,229
Travel	27,974	80,209	22,280	22,280
Contract	500	120,500	500	500
OCE	7,800	7,800	5,800	5,800
Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0
Total	234,503	407,660	226,809	226,809
Employee #	7	7	7	7

3. Division of Climate Change

	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	FY26 President Recommended	FY26 Committee Recommended
Personnel	224,314	225,234	224,314	224,314
Travel	24,368	154,129	18,674	18,674
Contracts	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
OCE	10,000	10,000	8,000	8,000
Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0
Total	264,682	395,363	256,988	256,988
Employee #	7	7	7	7

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4. Division of Emergency Management

	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	FY26 President Recommended	FY26 Committee Recommended
Personnel	184,094	185,015	184,094	184,094
Travel	35,924	87,221	30,230	30,230
Contract	0	0	0	0
OCE	10,100	10,400	8,100	8,100
Fixed Assets	0	40,000	30,000	30,000
Total	230,118	322,636	252,424	252,424
Employee #	6	6	6	6

B. GRANTS, SUBSIDIES & CONTRIBUTIONS

Dept of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	FY26 President Recommended	FY26 Committee Recommended
1. UNEP	835	835	5,040	5,040
2. UNFCC	325	325	325	325
3. UNCCD	195	195	195	195
4. SPREP	10,768	10,768	13,722	13,722
5. Waigani Convention	1,190	1,190	1,190	1.190
6. SPREP- Nouea/Con.	1,764	1,764	1,764	1,764
7. Earth Day Activities	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
8. EPA Director's Meeting	0	20,000	20,000	20,000
9. Basel Conv.	197	197	272	272
10. Kyoto Protocol	484	484	484	484

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11. WMO membership	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
12. DAEF Sector Grant	0	0	0	0
13. DAEF Matching	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
14. Stockholm Conv. Membership	550	550	550	550
15. COP27	0	100,000	0	0
16. Disaster Relief Fund	0	0	100,000	100,000
Total for DECCEM	1,146,308	574,067	674,067	674,067

C. CAPITAL & HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Dept of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	FY26 President Recommended	FY26 Committee Recommended
1. National & State Table Top Exercise	0	30,000	30,000	30,000
2. Outer Island Trip-Assessment on Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management	0	80,000	50,000	50,000
3. National Joint 5 th Platform for Environment & Risk Resilience	0	0	0	0
4. International Disaster Day	0	12,000	12,000	12,000
5. Disaster Risk Management Environment Conference	0	40,000	40,000	40,000

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6. Micronesia Cleanup Day Awareness Campaigns	0	60,000	60,000	60,000
7. Implementation of P.L. of One Time Use Plastics/Items	0	50,000	0	0
Total for DECCEM	0	272,000	192,000	192,000

Conclusion

Your Special Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Issues has carefully reviewed the President's recommended FY 26 budget and all the 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 level of funding for the designated activity, program or project for FY 26, subject to the recommendations of the Committee on Ways and Means.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Yoslyn G. Sigrah
Yoslyn G. Sigrah, chairwoman

/s/ Peter M. Christian
Peter M. Christian, member

/s/ Johnson A. Asher
Johnson A. Asher, member

/s/ Andy P. Choor
Andy P. Choor, member

Robson U. Romolow, member