CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA



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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-05

RE: PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION NO. 23-573

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET/SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE

CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

SEPTEMBER 22, 2025

The Honorable Esmond B. Moses Speaker, Twenty-Fourth Congress Federated States of Micronesia Second Regular Session, 2025

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Special Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Issues, to which was jointly referred Presidential Communication 23-573 regarding the National Government's Recommended FY2026 Budget, begs leave to amend its May 2025 budget report SCR No. 24-2 as follows:

A continued budget hearing for the FY 26 budget was held with the Department of Environment, Climate Change & Emergency Management (DECCEM) on September 16, 2025, to finalize and clarify some remaining FY26 budget items. In attendance at the hearing was the Assistant Secretary and key members of DECCEM.

The Committee assured the witnesses that the budget recommendations for the operations of their department would remain the same as reflected in its May 2025 report. However, it was necessary to provide further detail as to the sources of funding. Specifically, under the Compact Sector Grants \$482,543 is designated as per the President's Proposed Budget for the Environment Sector. Your Committee, requested that DECCEM provide a detailed breakdown for the use of these monies for the coming fiscal year.

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All the relevant staff of DECCEM were present at the hearing and after consulting their financial specialist the Assistant Secretary responded as follows: Compact Environmental Sector Grant is recommended for funding DECCEM Division of Environment Personnel at \$198,229, DECCEM Division of Climate Change Personnel at \$224,314 and under Capital & Human Resources Development line item #6 Micronesia Clean Up Day Awareness Campaigns at \$60,000. Your Committee agrees and recommends the above use of Compact Environmental Sector Grants. It also confirms that the remainder of the FY 26 budget is still recommended to be funded from Domestic Revenue. And, recommends the May 2025 budget report SCR No. 24-2 be amended accordingly.

The second half of the hearing included a presentation by DECCEM regarding the budget and planning for the upcoming COP 30 international climate change conference to take place in Brazil in November 2025. It stressed that this was the only forum where the voice of small countries, such as the FSM, were put on equal footing with the larger, wealthier countries to discuss climate change and environmental issues. Your Committee agrees that this forum is a very important tool to fight climate change but it raised questions as to the amount of preparation and training proposed participants do prior to attendance. A lengthy explanation of the planning and preparation was provided by DECCEM.

The Committee has confirmed with the Department of Finance & Administration that the FY25 funding for COP 27 was not utilized and the entire amount of \$100,000 will lapse at the end of this fiscal year.

Satisfied with the information provided to it your Committee recommends that its May 2025 budget report SCR. No. 24-2 be amended to reflect the below changes. That travel expenses for this COP30 November 2025 conference be funded in the amount of \$130,000 under the relevant line item. It is further recommended to be funded from Domestic Revenue. This item will replace line item #15 titled COP 27 in the section for Grants, Subsidies & Contributions. The replacement line item #15 shall be called COP

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30. With the inclusion of this funding the section for Grants, Subsidies & Contributions shall now be recommended for total funding at \$824,067.

The Committee will also be recommending a delegation from Congress be sent to the COP 30 which will include separate IPU meetings for the legislators. The budget for this Congress travel will appear separately in the relevant committee's report.

Your Special Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Issues has carefully reviewed the President's Recommended FY26 budget and all of the supplemental information provided by the Executive and the entities within your Committee's jurisdiction. The recommended sums in this report and SCR. No. 24-2 set forth reflect your Committee's recommendations on the level of funding for the designated activity, program or project for all of Fiscal Year 2026.

Subject to the conditions and limitations set forth herein, and subject to the concurrence of your Committee on Ways and Means, your Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Issues recommends approval of the amounts and source of funds identified as Committee Recommendations.

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Peter M. Christian, member

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Respectfully submitted,

Yoslyn G. Sigrah, chairwoman

Johnson A. Asher, member

Fabian S. Nimea, member