



CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

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COMMITTEE ON
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-34

RE: PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION NO. 24-244

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET/EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

JULY 01, 2026

The Honorable Esmond B. Moses
Speaker, Twenty-Fourth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Third Special Session, 2026

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on External Affairs, to which was jointly referred Presidential Communication No. 24-244 regarding the National Government's Recommended FY2027 Budget, begs leave to report as follows:

Presidential Communication No. 24-244 was transmitted to Congress with the *National Government Fiscal Year 2027 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 recommended budget relating to matters under its jurisdiction. These are:

- I. DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
 - A. Office of the Secretary
 - B. Division of Asia, Pacific & African Affairs
 - C. Division of American Affairs
 - D. Division of Multilateral & European Affairs
 - E. FSM Consulates & Embassies
 - 1. FSM Consulate, Guam
 - 2. FSM Consulate, Honolulu
 - 3. FSM Embassy, Washington D.C.
 - 4. FSM Embassy, Fiji

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5. FSM Embassy, Japan
6. FSM UN Mission, New York
7. FSM Embassy, China
8. FSM Consulate, Portland
9. FSM Embassy, Switzerland
10. FSM Embassy, Australia

II. GRANTS, SUBSIDIES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

A. Department of Foreign Affairs

1. Pacific Island Forum Secretariat
2. Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)
3. The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
4. United Nations Membership Fee
5. East West Center
6. Contonou Membership (ACP)/Samoa Agreement
7. SPC Office Rental
8. SIS Program
9. IOM Membership Fees
10. SPC Host Grant
11. UN Multi-Country Interim Office Lease

This report, and all previous and subsequent reports of your Committee, should be treated as reflecting the 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 departments, agencies and entities.

The findings and recommendations of your Committee follow:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Your Committee notes here that the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Book transmitted by the President on April 1, 2026 contains some inaccuracies. These are detailed in full in the relevant portions of the report below along with any necessary corrections.

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The Committee held public hearings with the Department of Foreign Affairs, our ambassadors and consulate generals from all of our overseas missions, representatives from the Department of Justice, the Department of Finance and Administration, the Office of Personnel and the Office of the President during the May 2026 Regular Session of Congress. The Committee also held informal meetings and conducted information gathering during this period. The analysis of its findings are contained in this report together with relevant witness testimony.

I. DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

A. Office of the Secretary

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Comm. Recommends
Personnel	230,519	234,847	231,559	231,559
Travel	77,489	228,007	228,007	228,007
Contract	70,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
OCE	30,000	31,000	31,000	31,000
Fixed Assets	50,000	-0-	-0-	-0-
Total	458,008	583,854	580,566	580,566
# Employees	6	6	6	6

The President's recommendation for FY27 for the Office of the Secretary is proposed to increase significantly for the coming fiscal year. The explanation given by the Department of Foreign Affairs was that the travel category was extremely reduced during the COVID-19 pandemic and has only been incrementally increased over the subsequent years. The recommendation for FY27 envisions important trips that have been cancelled or not fully staffed since 2019. Your Committee understands the necessity of our Department on Foreign Affairs being able to represent the Nation appropriately at the highest levels. The Committee has reviewed the itemized trips and concurs that they

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each will advance the work of the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Executive branch in general.

For the reasons stated above, **your Committee recommends \$580,566 for the Office of the Secretary for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

B. Division of Asia, Pacific and African Affairs

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Comm. Recommends
Personnel	168,594	177,248	170,674	170,674
Travel	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Contract	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
OCE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Fixed Assets	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Total	168,594	177,248	170,674	170,674
# Employees	6	6	6	6

The President recommends the same six positions continue with the same activities as in previous years. A very slight adjustment to benefits is necessary for the Personnel category for FY27. There is no funding recommended for the categories of Travel, Contractual Services, Other Current Expenditures, or Fixed Assets. **Your Committee concurs with the President and recommends \$170,674 for the Division of Asia, Pacific and African Affairs for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

C. Division of American Affairs

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Comm. Recommends
Personnel	168,594	177,248	170,674	170,674
Travel	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

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Contract	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
OCE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Fixed Assets	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Total	168,594	177,248	170,674	170,674
# Employees	6	6	6	6

The entire budget recommended by the President is for the Personnel category. The six positions recommended are the same as in previous years with only a slight adjustment in salaries to align its with the Office of Personnel. **Your Committee concurs with the President and recommends \$170,674 for the Division of American Affairs for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

D. Division of Multilateral & European Affairs

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Comm. Recommends
Personnel	155,104	161,679	155,104	155,104
Travel	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Contract	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
OCE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Fixed Assets	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Total	155,104	161,679	155,104	155,104
# Employees	5	5	5	5

The five positions recommended for this Division are long standing. The President has recommended them at the same salary levels as in previous years. **Your Committee concurs with the President and recommends \$155,104 for the Division of Multilateral & European Affairs for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

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E. FSM Consulates & Embassies

1. FSM Consulate, Guam

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Committee Recommends
Personnel	341,031	341,031	341,031	341,031
Travel	14,000	20,500	20,500	20,500
Contract	272,300	299,300	299,300	299,300
OCE	128,800	134,800	134,800	134,800
Fixed Assets	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Total	756,131	795,631	795,631	795,631
# Employees	7	7	7	7

The President recommends small increases in Travel, Contractual Services, Other Current Expenditures. These are modest given the inflation and other cost pressures over the past year. As we have over 17,000 citizens residing in Guam even basic services from this Consulate Office need support. The many necessary activities provided by our Consulate Office include: consular activities, networking with the Guam government leaders, and assisting students to name a few. The Committee hopes that more work will be done with our newly arrived citizens to assist them in the adjustment to life on Guam. The Committee is well pleased with the work being done by the Guam Consulate Office and approves of the increase in budget for FY27.

For the above stated reasons, **your Committee recommends \$795,631 for the FSM Consulate, Guam for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

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2. FSM Consulate, Honolulu

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Committee Recommends
Personnel	303,434	339,932	303,434	303,434
Travel	31,974	35,984	31,974	31,974
Contract	542,046	566,909	566,909	566,909
OCE	81,850	87,650	87,650	87,650
Fixed Assets	-0-	10,000	10,000	10,000
Total	959,304	1,040,475	999,967	999,967
# Employees	6	7	6	6

The Consulate Office in Honolulu is another office that assists a high number of our citizens, both newly arrived and long time resident. The Committee also recognizes the responsibility this Consulate Office has in hosting both our dignitaries and those from other nations, and appreciates the work done in this regard. Regarding the FY27 budget the Committee is pleased with the President's recommendation to hold Personnel levels to previous years. However, the Committee does understand that operations costs have been increasing everywhere, and in particular in Hawaii where fuel costs and transportation of supplies from the mainland United States have experienced sharp rises, thus impacting our mission. Acknowledging these realities the Committee approves of the modest increases in the categories of Contractual Services, Other Current Expenditures and Fixed Assets for FY27.

In line with above commentary, **your Committee recommends \$999,967 for the FSM Consulate, Honolulu for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

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3. FSM Embassy, Washington D.C.

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Committee Recommends
Personnel	379,773	436,483	379,773	379,773
Travel	37,226	59,000	59,000**	59,000
Contract	488,632*	470,061*	470,061*	632,061
OCE	95,325	180,000	180,000	180,000
Fixed Assets	-0-	79,000	79,000	79,000
Total	1,000,956	1,224,544	1,167,834	1,329,834
# Employees	6	7	6	6

*incorrectly did not include medical and dental insurance

**category incorrectly stated in overall budget but itemized
total adds to \$59,000

The Committee reiterates its appreciation that the President is recommending that the number of positions remain the same at this embassy for the coming FY27. Your Committee does acknowledge that there are additional expenses necessary for the current operations of this important embassy. During your Committee's meetings the Department of Foreign Affairs brought to the Committee and witnesses attention an error in not including a line item for medical and dental insurance for the embassy. The single astrix notes the wrongly stated amounts in the above table. It was agreed that funding for the insurance should have been included in the budget calculation. The double astrix notes that the overall budget incorrectly states the total for Travel recommended by the President. The travel expenses have increased over this past year and the Committee understands full funding is necessary for the important meetings in FY27, and therefore, agrees to the upward adjustment. The categories for Other Current Expenditures and Fixed Assets are also approved by the Committee. The operations of the embassy have increased and your Committee recognizes the need for a new vehicle and computers. As the face of our Nation in the United States the embassy must present well and its staff should be

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accorded all the necessary basic benefits so they can effectively do their jobs.

For the reasons stated in the above commentary, **your Committee recommends \$1,329,834 for the FSM Embassy, Washington D.C. for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue**

4. FSM Embassy, Fiji

	FY26 Appropriation	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Committee Recommends
Personnel	197,277	197,277	197,277	197,277
Travel	50,831	62,930	62,930*	62,930
Contract	185,236	202,650	202,650	202,650
OCE	59,000	73,000	73,000	73,000
Fixed Assets	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Total	492,344	535,857	535,857	535,857
# Employees	3	3	3	3

*The total of the itemized Travel category is corrected.

The President has recommended a slight increase in the Travel, Contractual Services and Other Current Expenditures for the FSM Embassy in Fiji for FY27. The global price increases have impacted Fiji, although, fortunately not to the extent of other locations. Your Committee believes the Executive branch has given a realistic, modest budget proposal based on the situation. This Committee accepts that budgets will need to be increased for operations for the coming fiscal year.

In light of the above commentary, **your Committee recommends \$535,857 for the FSM Embassy, Fiji for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

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5. FSM Embassy, Japan

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Committee Recommends
Personnel	398,956	398,956	398,956	398,956
Travel	27,786	40,786	40,786*	40,786
Contract	610,048	622,668	622,668	622,668
OCE	73,453	73,453	73,453	73,453
Fixed Assets	-0-	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total	1,110,243	1,185,863	1,185,863	1,185,863
# Employees	3	3	3	3

*The total of the itemized Travel category is corrected.

The FSM Embassy in Japan is recommended to continue in the coming fiscal year with the same three positions at the same salary levels. The Travel category is recommended for an increase by the President. This category total is misstated in the overall budget. The single astrix denotes the corrected amount. Your Committee agrees that the increase in the travel budget in line with global inflation. A slight increase is also recommended for one of the consulting contracts under Contractual Services. The Committee believes this is very reasonable. At its relatively new location and with new furnishings and equipment the embassy is in a good position without extraordinary additional expenditures. The Committee wishes to note its over all satisfaction with work and presentation of this mission.

To align with the above comments, **your Committee recommends \$1,185,,863 for the FSM Embassy, Japan for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Dometic Revenue.**

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6. UN Mission, New York

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Committee Recommends
Personnel	246,460	246,460	246,460	246,460
Travel	43,850*	45,000*	45,000*	45,000
Contract	740,976**	781,712	781,712**	781,712
OCE	56,050	64,902	64,902	64,902
Fixed Assets	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Total	1,088,282	1,138,074	1,138,074	1,138,074
# Employees	3	3	3	3

*The itemized total for Travel total is corrected

**The itemized total for the Contractual Services is corrected

The UN Mission in New York is recommended to retain the same three positions at the same salaries. The President's recommendations for the categories of Travel and Contractual Services' itemized totals are corrected in the above table. These increases again reflect the increasing prices for operations and doing business generally. The Committee approves of this modest request.

Based on the commentary above, **your Committee recommends \$1,138,074 for the UN Mission in New York for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

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7. FSM Embassy, China

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Committee Recommends
Personnel	246,460	246,460	246,460	246,460
Travel	38,250	52,350	52,350*	52,350
Contract	419,799	421,774	421,774	421,774
OCE	23,506	24,334	24,334	24,334
Fixed Assets	-0-	66,000	66,000	66,000
Total	728,015	810,918	810,918	810,918
# Employees	3	3	3	3

*Itemized total for the Travel category is corrected.

The recommendation by the President is to maintain the same number of positions at the same salary level for the FY27. There are very modest increases recommended for operations in Travel, Contractual Services and Other Current Expenditures, as well as, a new vehicle for the mission. The Committee deems the vehicle necessary for transportation in Beijing. The Committee encourages the Department of Foreign Affairs to institute some type of schedule for replacement of vehicles, equipment and furnishings so that the replacement process becomes more standardized. Your Committee approves of the increases and believes them necessary for the operation of the mission.

In consideration of the above commentary, **your Committee recommends \$810,918 for the FSM Embassy in China for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

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8. FSM Consulate, Portland

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Committee Recommends
Personnel	310,470	310,470	310,470	310,470
Travel	43,000	50,000	50,000*	50,000
Contract	621,072	692,839	692,839	692,839
OCE	66,100	66,600	66,600	66,600
Fixed Assets	-0-	8,000	8,000	8,000
Total	1,040,642	1,127,909	1,127,909	1,127,909
# Employees	6	6	6	6

*The itemized total for the Travel category is corrected.

Your Committee appreciates the President's recommendation to maintain the Personnel at the current level. The itemized Travel category total is corrected in the table above. The category of Travel, as well as, the other categories of Contractual Services, Other Current Expenditures and Fixed Assets are slightly increased for FY27. These are modest increases in keeping with the rising prices and cost of operations. In the Fixed Assets Category new office equipment is requested. The Committee recognizes that routine replacement and upgrades are to be expected, but reiterates its request that there be a schedule for this.

In line with above, **your Committee recommends \$1,127,909 for the FSM Consulate in Portland for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

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9. UN Mission, Geneva

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Committee Recommends
Personnel	182,210*	182,210*	182,210*	182,210
Travel	30,000	50,000	50,000**	50,000
Contract	347,544	466,555	466,555	466,555
OCE	30,260	33,000	33,000	33,000
Fixed Assets	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Total	590,014	731,765	731,765	731,765
# Employees	2	2	2	2

*Slight correction of Personnel category total, confirmed by Office of Personnel

**The itemized category of Travel is corrected.

The President is recommending a significant increase in one category for the coming fiscal year. This is the category of Contractual Services. In previous years the offices and ambassador's residence were paid for by the government of Switzerland. This generous subsidy was given to small nations for a set, limited number of years and has now finished. As Geneva is one of the most expensive cities in the world this increase was expected. The Committee understands the reason for this increase and accepts that it is necessary in this instance. Your Committee also notes corrections for the totals of Travel and Personnel which slight increase over previous years. Your Committee believes these are in line with inflation.

For the reasons stated above, **your Committee recommends \$731,765 for the UN Mission in Geneva for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

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10. FSM Embassy, Australia

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Depart. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Committee Recommends
Personnel	246,460	246,460	246,460	246,460
Travel	30,000	44,836	44,836*	44,836
Contract	259,362	320,040	320,040**	320,040
OCE	39,000	58,600	58,600	58,600
Fixed Assets	50,000	-0-	-0-	-0-
Total	624,822	669,936	669,936	669,936
# Employees	3	3	3	3

*The itemized category of Travel is corrected

**The itemized category of Contractual Services is corrected

The President is recommending increases in the Travel, Contractual Services and Other Current Expenditures categories for FY27 for this mission. As commented above in several sections this recommendation is in keeping with the continued increases in the cost of operations and contractual services. The Committee finds this increase in line with the rising prices, particularly those in Australia. Your Committee approves these increases in the amounts recommended by the President. The Committee notes that in several instances the overall budget does not agree with the itemized listing. The Committee has used the itemized listing as the most detailed accounting available in the Budget Book. It is hoped that in the future closer proofreading is done during the Executive budget process.

To align with the above commentary, **your Committee recommends \$669,936 for the FSM Embassy in Australia for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

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II. GRANTS, SUBSIDIES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

	FY26 Appropriated	FY27 Dept. Proposed	FY27 President Recommends	FY27 Committee Recommends
Pacific Island Forum	57,000	57,000	57,000	57,000
SPC	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000
ESCAP	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
UN fees	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
East West Center	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Cotonou Membership	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000
SPC Office Space	77,760	78,690	78,690	78,690
SIS Program	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
IOM fees	600	600	600	600
SPC Host Grant	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
UN Office Lease	146,032	146,032	146,032	146,032
Total	463,392	464,322	464,322	464,322

The President's recommendations for Grants, Subsidies and Contributions for the Department of Foreign Affairs represent items of long standing such as organization fees and office rental for our international partner organizations. Except for a slight increase in the office space rent for SPC these items will cost the same in FY27. The Committee appreciates the budget discipline in this section and approves of the President's recommendation.

As stated above, **your Committee recommends \$464,322 for the Grants, Subsidies and Contributions section for the Department of Foreign Affairs for FY27, to be funded in its entirety from Domestic Revenue.**

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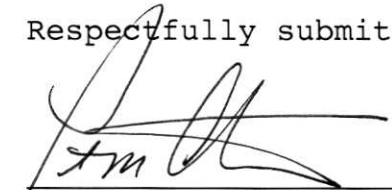
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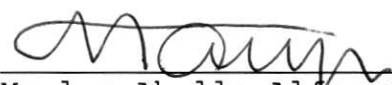
III. CONCLUSION

Your Committee on External Affairs has carefully reviewed the President's Recommended FY 2027 budget and all of the supplemental information provided by the Executive and the entities within 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 all of the Fiscal Year 2027.

Subject to the conditions and limitations set forth herein, and subject to the concurrence of your Committee on Ways and Means, your Committee on External Affairs recommends approval of the amounts and sources of funds identified as Committee Recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

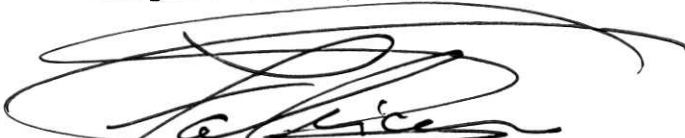

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