

**Palau National Marine
Sanctuary Office**

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Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2016

1. Review and adopted minutes from April Executive Committee Meeting.

2. MCS Strategic Plan Presidential Directive & Adaptation

- MCS Plan and Presidential Directive has been signed on May 4th, 2016 and the Budget proposal has been submitted to the UAE Foreign Minister for funding. ¹

- The PMA MOU and lease agreement has now been finalized after a year of negotiating, scheduled signing is May 31st. This MOU will provide services for MOH, MOJ and PNMS: i.e., medivacs, search & rescue, and surveillance.²

- Project Eyes on the Seas is a software package that was part of a demo to utilize satellite and radio technology for surveillance. Letter has been sent out and accepted, there will be a scoping exercise to determine MOU, how it will work and to formalize how it was used and how it worked for us before. Draft of MOU will be available at next Exec Comm Meeting.

3. Presentation on Community Outreach & Education strategy

- Requested some time during next committee meeting for concept modeling to finalize the community and education strategic plan. Local level work will begin with discussions on Ann's radio show and possibly through FAQ's to the public.

4. Progress Reports

- Domestic Fishing Project: Sea Passion is the first hotel partner for sustainably caught seafood, the goal is to have all major hotels and restaurants be part of the campaign. Campaign will target the hotels/restaurants/markets, the fishermen, and consumers.

- PNMS Fishing Regulations: Due date is this month and they are complete, but they still need to incorporate FFA provisions-will be ready by Friday, May 27th.

- Environmental and Visa Impact Fee has an implementation date set for Oct 1st 2016, the President will set out an amendment to postpone the date to Jan 1st, 2017 to allow the EIF to be included in ticket price to make the process more seamless to consumers.

5. Other Business

- One Reef proposal, for a grant through Oceans 5, for enforcement and sustainable finance capacity at 5 sites (Sonsorol, Hatohebei, Peliliu, Angaur, and Kayangel). Committee directed this proposal to be worked through MCS subcommittee and MOJ.³

¹ See Attachment: MCS Plan and Presidential Directive

² See Attachment: Final - MOU - PMA MOH and MOJ

³ See Attachment: One Reef Proposal

- CI offered assistance to access funding through the GCF and IKI in response to the Presidents request for support. Committee suggested that this proposal should go through the Presidents office for approval then through appropriate channels, committee cannot make decisions on this.⁴

- Next committee meeting scheduled early next month on Friday June 10th.

⁴ See Attachment: Email from CI