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1st FSM citizen as Public Defender

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Joseph S. Phillip of Pohnpei was sworn-in, November 20th by President John R. Haglelgam in the Cabinet Room as FSM Chief, Public Defender, a post recently vacated by Mike Powell.

In the ceremony Haglelgam said, this is a historic occasion since Phillip is the first FSM citizen to take the post as Chief, Public Defender for the FSM.

Present at the ceremony were cabinet members, key staff, Public Defender staff, relatives and friends.

Holding the Bible during the swearing-in ceremony was his wife Manuelita.

Phillip holds a Bachelor of Law degree from the University of Papua New Guinea Law School, and has been licensed to practice law before the FSM Supreme Court and the High Court of

the Trust Territory since 1984.

Phillip was Assistant FSM Public Defender in the Pohnpei Office and has contributed significantly to the development of high quality legal services for those accused of crimes. He previously was Public Defender Representative in Ponape District from 1970 to 1973, then he served as Ponape State Prosecutor until 1980. He also served as Registrar of Corporation and legal advisor to the FSM Department of Resources and Development.

As FSM Chief, Public Defender, he is responsible for the administration of all Public Defender Office's programs throughout the FSM. Unlike other departments the Public Defender Office jurisdiction embraces both the National and State Governments. The State offices represent the National Office.



FIRST FSM CITIZEN SWORN IN AS CHIEF, PUBLIC DEFENDER - John R. Haglelgam, left, after administering the oath of office to Joseph Phillip, right, as FSM Chief, Public Defender during the November 20 swearing in ceremony at the Cabinet's Room, congratulate Phillip and shook hands. Holding the Bible is Phillip's wife Manuelita.

CFSM Conclude 4th Regular Session

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Sixth FSM Congress adjourned its Fourth and last Regular Session, November 7, appropriating over a million dollars to supplement the operating expenses of the FSM National Government, but rejected President's nomination of Asterio Takesy to the post of Secretary of the Department of External Affairs, and deferred confirmation of President's nomination of Andon Amaraich as Associate Justice. According to a release from FSM Congress Public Information, "the supplemental operating expenses of \$1,094,918 is for the executive branch, agencies of the National Government, marine surveillance program, and for development projects.

Of the total amount \$260,161 is earmarked toward expenses of the medium term note program, \$45,000 for the legislative branch, \$74,174 for the executive branch, \$390,000 for water resources assessment and development program, \$63,000 for the FSM Marine Surveillance program, and \$262,583 for the administration of the CIP projects in the states.

The other bill enacted during the last day of the session is a bill that proposes to change the definition of gross revenue for purposes of computing a taxpayer's liability under the gross revenue tax.

The measure would provide a deduction from gross revenue for resident labor costs worker and FSM Social Security contributions paid by the taxpayers. The deductions would only be permitted to the extent substantiated by reliable documentation.

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Currently, the FSM Judiciary has the sole discretion to select judges for special assignments on the FSM Supreme Court bench. This means that the Judiciary may select anyone to sit on the bench for a special assignment without prior consultation with the President or the advice and consent of the Congress.

In order to protect the system of checks and balances, the Congress enacted a bill to provide for a proposed amendment to the FSM Constitution that the Chief Justice of the FSM of the FSM Supreme Court may give special assignments to judges from a special roster of judges and justices pursuant to law.

The Congress enacted a related bill that provides the statutory procedures by which the roster of special judges and justices would be put into effect. The President is to appoint and the Congress is to approve by the advice and consent of those judges who, if confirmed, will make up the roster of judges. The Chief Justice of the FSM Supreme Court may then select from that roster those judges he may need for special assignments.

Another measure of great importance to the people which was enacted during the session is to provide for political education on those amendments to the FSM Constitution as proposed by the 1990 Constitutional Convention.

The purpose of this bill is to allow the political education program enough time in which to sufficiently educate the people about the proposed Constitutional amendments.

An appropriation of \$200,000 was included in the bill to fund the political education program and to provide for state coordinating committees to coordinate the political education program in the FSM.

Another bill enacted on the same subject provides that the proposed Constitutional amendments be placed on the ballot at the same time as the special election for the At-Large Member of the Seventh Congress who will take the seat vacated by the Member of Congress elected as President. Again, the purpose of this bill is to simply provide for more time to educate the general public on the proposed Constitutional amendments.

Two other measures enacted were to change or modify the use of funds previously appropriated for public projects in both Chuuk and Pohnpei States to allow funding for other new projects.

Amaraiha resigned as Secretary of External Affairs Department when nominated by the President as the first FSM citizen Justice on the Supreme Court Bench," concluded the release.

Congress also rejected a fishing treaty nego-

tiated with the Korean fishing companies in Guam.

OTHER BILLS PASSED:

C.B. 6-283, to amend P.L. No. 6-88 to reappropriate certain vetoed funds for public projects in the Mid-Mortlocks.

C.B. 6-284, to further amend P.L. No. 4-23 to modify the use of certain previously appropriated funds for Yap State public projects.

C.B. 6-289, to amend P.L. No. 6-72 to modify the allocation of funds previously appropriated for elementary and secondary education-related projects and programs in Chuuk State.

C.B. 6-292, to amend P.L. No. 6-88 to reallocate certain funds previously appropriated for public projects in the Mortlocks Islands of Chuuk State.

C.B. 6-306, to further amend P.L. No. 5-89 to modify the uses of funds appropriated for public projects in Chuuk State.

C.B. 6-307, to further amend P.L. No. 6-49 to modify the use of funds appropriated for Chuuk State public projects.

C.B. 6-309 CD3, to further amend P.L. No. 2-34 to change the purpose of the funds appropriated thereby for certain public projects in Chuuk State.

C.B. 6-320 CD1, to amend P.L. No. 6-72 to modify the allocation of funds previously appropriated for elementary and secondary education related projects and programs in Pohnpei State.

C.B. 6-325 CD1, to further amend P.L. No. 6-49 to change the use of funds appropriated thereunder, and to designate an allottee for a new project.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED:

C.R. 6-94 CD1, respectfully requesting the FSM President to organize and establish a joint task force to conduct a review of foreign aid projects in the FSM and to determine the priority of such projects.

C.R. 6-99 CD1, to ratify and accede to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, done at Vienna on April 24, 1963.

C.R. 6-108 CD1, confirming the nomination of Peter Namio to the position of member of the Board of Advisors for the Investment Development Fund.

C.R. 6-110 CD1, confirming the nomination of Manikis Sonis to the position of member of the Board of Directors of the FSM Development Bank.

C.R. 6-112, approving the CY 1991 Sexually Transmitted Disease prevention and Control Project grant application.

C.R. 6-114 CD1, calling attention to the finding and recommendations of the report of the Ohio State University on "Achieving Educational Excellence: The Challenge of the 90's in the FSM"

for use by the National and State Governments and the College of Micronesia for the improvement of the educational system throughout the Nation.

C.R. 6-115, approving the Foreign Fishing Agreement between the Micronesian Maritime Authority and the Union Corporation of Guam dated September 24, 1990 pertaining to that corporation's utilization of the fisheries resources within the FSM Exclusive Economic Zone.

C.R. 6-117, confirming the nomination of Bethwel Henry to the position of board member of the FSM Social Security Board.

C.R. 6-118, confirming the nomination of Joseph S. Phillip to the position of FSM Public Defender.

C.R. 6-121, approving the FY 1991 Childhood Immunization Program grant application.

C.R. 6-122, approving the CY 1991 Community Health Center Program grant application.

C.R. 6-128, ratifying the Foreign Fishing Agreement between the Micronesian Maritime Authority and the Korea Deep Sea Fisheries Association.

C.R. 6-130 CD2, promoting breastfeeding and discouraging imports of infant feeding bottles, rubber nipples, and formula in the FSM.

C.R. 6-131, approving the CY 1991 Aids Surveillance and CTRPN grant application pursuant to the FSM Code.

C.R. 6-132, approving the FY 1991 HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Formula Project grant application pursuant the FSM Code.

C.R. 6-133, extending the Fourth Regular Session of the Sixth Congress of the FSM for one more day.

C.R. 6-134, expressing deepest sympathy and sincerest condolences to the family and friends of the late Janet W. Craley upon her untimely passing.

C.R. 6-135, expressing deep gratitude and appreciation of the FSM Congress to Robert Lucien Maddex for his outstanding loyalty, professionalism, and dedicated service to the people of the FSM, and the Congress, and wishing him all possible success in the future.

BILLS INTRODUCED:

C.B. 6-125 to provide for paroles and their revocation.

C.B. 6-271 to amend the FSM Code to clarify when individuals and business entities based outside the FSM may be subject to the gross revenue tax of the FSM.

C.B. 6-282 to propose and amendment to the FSM Constitution to provide that all Congress Members shall be elected for a 4-year term and

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that only at large Members shall be eligible to be President and Vice President.

C.B. 6-310 to further amend the FSM Code to provide that the Chief Justice may give special assignments from a roster of special judges pursuant to the FSM Constitution.

C.B. 6-318 to amend P.L. 6-74 to modify the use of certain previously appropriated funds for public projects in Pohnpei State, designating the allottee of a new public project.

C.B. 6-321 to further amend the FSM Code to provide that proposed Constitutional amendments which have been received by the President shall be printed on ballots to be voted on simultaneously by all voters of the FSM during a general election for the Members of the Congress of the FSM or during a special election called by the President specifically for that purpose, unless the vote is called for at a different date pursuant to law.

C.B. 6-322 to amend P.L. No. 6-24 to provide that the Convention shall propose amendments to the Constitution to be placed on a ballot for a referendum to be held during the next special election for the at-large Member of the Seventh Congress who will take the seat vacated by the Member of Congress elected as President.

C.B. 6-325, to further amend P.L. No. 6-49 to change the use of funds appropriated thereunder and to designate an allottee for a new project.

C.B. 6-288, to further amend the FSM Code to permit advance payments of representation expenses and official expense allowances during the last 30 days of the fiscal year in certain circumstances; to provide the conditions under which funds shall be advanced to travellers who are Members of Congress.

C.B. 6-290, to amend P.L. No. 6-91 to appropriate \$28,582 as supplemental funding for the FSM Embassy in Suva, Fiji.

C.B. 6-291, to amend P.L. No. 6-91 to shift certain previously made appropriations from the Capital account to the current account.

C.B. 6-293, to appropriate \$5,000 to purchase materials for the construction of a concrete volleyball/basketball court at the Medical Officers Training School in Pohnpei.

C.B. 6-294, to propose an amendment to the FSM Constitution to provide that all foreign assistance shall be received by the National Government and appropriated by the Congress in accordance with the official national development plan.

C.B. 6-295, to appropriate \$10,000 to fund travel and related expenses to allow FSM participation in the Symposium on Population, Food and Development to be held from November 12 to 16, 1990 in Fiji.

C.B. 6-296, to further amend the FSM Code to

increase the import taxes on beer and malt beverages upon the establishment of a domestic brewery capable to produce beer in quantities reasonably available to the public.

C.B. 6-297, to reorganize the FSM Government by creating separate Departments of Education and Health Services out of the Department of Human Resources.

C.B. 6-299, to appropriate \$173,149 to fund the administration of the construction projects in the FSM States.

C.B. 6-300, to propose an amendment to the FSM Constitution to provide that there shall be 14 FSM Congress Members and all of them shall be elected at large from the entire Nation.

C.B. 6-301, to further amend the FSM Code to repeal the tax on diesel fuel.

C.B. 6-303, to further amend the FSM Code to provide for the operation and maintenance of all vessels controlled by the Department of Transportation and Communication.

C.B. 6-304, to further amend the FSM Code to make alterations in the FSM Social Security System including the addition of pension benefits and early retirement at age 55.

C.B. 6-305, to further amend the FSM Code to appropriate \$8,000,000 to further capitalize the Investment Development Fund.

C.B. 6-308, to further amend the FSM Code to add Kapingamarangi to the ports of entry in the FSM and to amend the names of existing ports to comport with their new constitution.

C.R. 6-311, to propose and amendment to the FSM Constitution to provide that Justices will serve for a period of time not to exceed the age of 70 years old.

C.B. 6-312, to propose an amendment to the FSM Constitution to provide that matters before the FSM Supreme Court shall be determined on the merits without regard to case law or the principle of stare decisis.

C.B. 6-313, to propose and amendment to the FSM Constitution to provide that persons graduated from accredited law schools in any country shall be admitted to practice before the FSM Supreme Court without examination.

C.B. 6-314, to appropriate \$500,000 to fund the construction and equipment for the Kosrae Deep Freezer Transshipment Facilities.

C.B. 6-315, to further amend the FSM Code to abolish the Banking Board and transfer its functions in the FSM Department of Finance.

C.B. 6-316, to further amend the FSM Code to authorize the Sergeant at Arms to carry a side arm in the official conduct of his duties.

C.B. 6-317

C.B. 6-319, to further amend the FSM Code to provide that persons graduated from accredited law schools in any country shall be admitted to

practice before the FSM Supreme Court.

C.B. 6-320, to amend P.L. No. 6-72 to modify the allocation of funds previously appropriated for elementary and secondary education related projects and programs in Pohnpei State.

C.B. 6-323,

C.B. 6-324, to appropriate \$300,000 to fund medical referrals in each of the four states.

C.B. 6-326, to further amend the FSM Code to provide that Justices will serve for a period of time not to exceed the age of 70 years old.

C.B. 6-327, to further amend the FSM Code to establish a procedure for an adult to execute and directive providing that life-sustaining procedures should be withheld or withdrawn if that person becomes terminally ill and such procedures would serve only to prolong the moment of death.

RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED:

C.R. 6-119, confirming the nomination of Luey K. Luey as member of the Board of Directors of the FSM Development Bank.

C.R. 6-120, respectfully requesting the FSM President to obtain membership for the Nation in the University of the South Pacific in Fiji.

C.R. 6-123, respectfully requesting the Governments of Palau and the United States to proceed with all deliberate speed toward completing the process of Palau's self-determination as intended under the trusteeship system.

C.R. 6-124, respectfully requesting the FSM President to have charges filed against the joint venture Eastern Pacific fishing vessel for violation of the FSM laws.

C.R. 6-125, to proclaim the FSM Population Policy as a priority endeavor in this Nation, and thereby promote citizen awareness of the need to exercise the recommended strategies of the policy to reduce our extremely high population growth rate.

C.R. 6-126, respectfully requesting the Government of the United States to conduct an audit of all CIP projects funded from grants provided under the Compact of Free Association by the Chuuk State Government for the Faichuk area of Chuuk State.

C.R. 6-127, respectfully requesting the President, Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Secretary of the Department of Resources and Development to investigate the escalation of fuel prices in the FSM.

C.R. 6-128, ratifying the Foreign Fishing Agreement between the Micronesian Maritime Authority and the Korea Deep Sea Fisheries Association.

C.R. 6-134, expressing deepest sympathy and sincerest condolences to the family and friends of the late Janet W. Crawley upon her untimely passing.

4 UN designates 2nd Wednesday of Oct. as International Day for N

BANGKOK, Thailand, (INFORMATION SERVICE) - The United Nations General Assembly has designated the second Wednesday of October 1990 as International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction, according to a release from the United Nations Information Service.

The first such day falls on Wednesday, October the 10 of this year, the release stated.

Failure to learn from past disasters contributes to continued heavy tolls from natural hazards. The loss of life and property would be much reduced if people were periodically reminded of and well-prepared for disasters. The International Day will help to achieve this goal.

The International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction proclaimed by the General Assembly for the 1990's embodies a significant conceptual move from post-disaster response to pre-disaster preparedness. Of critical importance will be the active involvement of scientific, technical, academic and other non-governmental organizations.

From 1964 to 1986, 708 disasters in the region claimed 1.2 million lives. They affected one billion people and cost about 18 billion U.S. Dollars. Cyclones and typhoons were the most frequent disaster (225), but earthquakes claimed the most lives (677,000). Drought affected the most people (534 million) while floods cost the most money (\$9.6 billion).

Mitigation of losses from natural disasters through regional cooperation and by strengthening early warning systems were among issues discussed at the Ministerial-level Conference on Environment and Development, held October 16 this year.

While the main reason for increasing losses from natural disasters is greater exposure to natural due to mankind is bigger population and increased activities, the deteriorating environment, caused by the

same factors, is involved as well.

A photographic exhibition on the theme, natural disaster reduction," will also be held at the Central Plaza Hotel, the site of the Conference convened by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

ESCAP has been involved in efforts to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, particularly in water related disasters since its establishment over 40 years ago. The International Decade has provided it with a new impetus for concerted efforts in activities for natural disaster reduction.

A series of integrated activities is foreseen using a multidisciplinary approach for natural disaster reduction for hazards such as tropical storms, flooding, tsunamis, storm surges, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and landslides.

Use of remote sensing techniques, geological mapping, structural and non-structural measures as well as environmental management will continue to be enhanced in ESCAP activities to assist countries in the region with disaster reduction efforts. Land-use planning will be emphasized to reduce the impact of these natural disasters. The ESCAP Commission session in June endorsed such ESCAP activities.

During an inauguration of a seminar organized by ESCAP to evaluate the experience of four Asian countries including Thailand, in the use of a relatively new technology of satellite crop monitoring, Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn calls for improvement in early warning system. She said that disasters in all forms, flood, storm and severe drought, "help remind us that our early warning system must be improved to be more efficient," according to United Nations Information Service.

ESCAP Executive Secretary S.A.M.S. Kibria, said that recent technological advances had enabled gov-

ernments to mitigate much of the worst effects of unfavorable weather, particularly droughts.

The four-day seminar will also hear reports from Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines in developing a more reliable early warning system for drought. The satellite crop monitoring project is funded by the United Nation Development Program (UNDP) and the United States Agency for International Development.

Referring to an earlier phase of the program, Her Royal Highness said that a rainfall analysis system had been installed in Thailand and eight other countries in the region. However, because the rainfall stations were scattered in remote areas, the area suffering from drought could not be measured accurately.

"A new technique in satellite crop monitoring using satellite image will enable us to ascertain these suffering areas. At present, the data are provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the Department of Commerce, United State of America. The upgrading of our satellite receiving and processing facility will provide us with the data which have the resolution of one square kilometer per pixel.

"These data will help us assess the potential impact of impending drought and derive a more accurate estimation of crop yield. They will also enable us to estimate the loss and to take timely action to relieve the suffering to people," she said.

Kibria noted that food production has increased somewhat faster than population growth in the Asian-Pacific region during the 1990's. However, Asia's serious problem of food insecurity showed little if any improvement. There was not change in its two chief characteristics: persistent and widespread hunger and malnutrition and the region's continuing heavy reli-

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Natural Disaster Reduction

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ance on rain-fed and dry-land farming.

Regional Representative of UNDP Alan Doss, said that satellite crop monitoring technology could help confront some of mankind's persistent problems such as food security and natural disaster prevention.

Tragic and costly consequences of natural disasters had shown the vital importance of effective early warning systems. UNDP, ESCAP and other United Nations agencies were fully committed to the objectives of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and to the establishment of regional and sub-regional systems of disaster prevention and mitigation, Doss said.

Raymond P. Dionne from the Office of United States Foreign Disaster Assistance, Agency for International Development, said that satellite crop monitoring was a means to obtaining, "tangible, measurable results." Forecasting crop shortfalls and providing alternatives to planting schedules and crop types based on monitoring weather conditions were the kinds of data necessary for food security.

Donald D. Miller of the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), referred to co-operation between NOAA, ESCAP and USAID in the project. He offered further technical assistance from NOAA for follow-up activities.

Sultan Zaman Khan, Chief of ESCAP Agriculture and Rural Development Division, said that the seminar will evaluate the impact of the application of satellite technology on drought early warning which had been tested in four countries during this year's monsoon season. It will assess constraints, if any, of transferring the technology to recipient countries and suggest measures to overcome them as well as to find ways of extending the technology to other interested countries.



FSM BROADCAST MANAGERS WORKSHOP - The FSM Broadcast Managers of the four states of FSM held a conference here in October to plan on better future broadcast. Posing for a group photo are from left to right are Chief, Media Division, Peter Garamfel from Yap; Kosrae radio station Manager MacDonald Ittu; Pohnpei radio station Manager Francis Zerred; Esikiel Lippwe from the Office of the President, Information; Chief, Division of Broadcast and Information Joe Commor, Chuuk; and Elias Thomas from the Office of the President, Information.

Air Micro. responds to possible sale by Continental

SAIPAN, Mariana Island (CNMI) (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Air Micronesia, Continental Airlines joint venture partner in valuable air routes serving the Western Pacific, said today that there will be no interruption in the air service, although financial problems may force Continental to sell their share in the Guam-Saipan hub to another carrier, according to a release from Continental Air Micronesia.

As with many other airlines worldwide, Continental is experiencing severe financial problems due to skyrocketing fuel costs.

"We are working very closely with Continental on a day-to-day basis to monitor the situation," said Air Micronesia President and CEO Joseph W. Waechter, adding, "The joint venture agreement specifically states that if Continental's share were to be sold, Air Micronesia would take an active role in the decision over which airline would take its place."

While Houston-based Continental is now responsible for managing the airline, Air Micronesia shares in the ownership of the air routes and are committed to providing reliable

air service, according to Waechter. "In no way will air service in Micronesia be interrupted," he emphasized.

In numerous news stories appearing across the U.S. mainland over the past several weeks, Continental officials have discussed the possibility of selling off assets to avoid financial problems associated with rising fuel prices.

"After our long years of association with Air Micronesia, it goes without saying that even including it in the list of assets that we may be required to sell is an extremely difficult move for Continental," said chairman and CEO of Continental Airlines Hollis Harris.

"Unfortunately in this current fuel crises we have no choice but to consider all of our options," Harris added.

Harris concluded saying, "While retention of Air Micronesia is our strong preference should a sale become necessary we are absolutely committed that control will pass to a carrier of the highest quality who will operate the system in the best interests of the people of Micronesia."

6 FSM Ambassador Alik signs SOPAC Constitution

THE NATIONAL UNION, November 30 1990

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Ambassador of the Federated States of Micronesia to Fiji Alik Alik, signed in Suva, Fiji, in October, the new South Pacific Allied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) constitution making FSM one of the founding members.

The new constitution was adopted at SOPAC's Annual Session which was held in Tarawa, Kiribati, October 1-10, 1990. Ambassador Alik and Secretary of Resources and Development Marcellino Actouka represented the FSM to this year's SOPAC. The signing brought to eight the number of member countries who have signed the new constitution.

The constitution firmly establishes SOPAC as an inter-governmental regional organization. It also clearly defines the objectives of SOPAC as an applied geoscience regional organization. Those objectives include the provision of assistance to its island member countries in undertaking applied research into the mineral and other non-living marine resources potential.

The organization conducts resource assessments studies within the 200 miles economic zone, near shore and on shore. Within the 200 miles, assessments can focus on the off-shore oil potentials, hydro-carbon, manganese, identification of seamounts where a large aggregation of fish, potential fishing ground. SOPAC also is able to undertake studies to determine location of ocean floor hotspots (springs) for possible volcanic eruption and potential energy sources.

Actouka pointed out that because of the importance of such element as manganese which can be processed into various strategic materials such resource assessments can be useful to the FSM for planning

purposes. Manganese, he said, either nodules or crushed sometimes contain cobalt, gold, nickel, platinum, some of the very expensive materials. By joining the SOPAC, the FSM may in the future benefit from its studies.

Inshore assessments assistance in dredging, sand mining, designing of proper harbor, seawalls and protection of eroding coastal areas.

As a result of FSM membership in the SOPAC, FSM will be sending a official to Fiji to work with the Secretariat to explore how the FSM would obtain the services of the organization.

Long term and short term scholarship programs will be available from the organization at designated Universities or on board scientific vessels utilized by SOPAC to citizens of member countries.

The FSM's membership fee was approved by the FSM Congress and will be presented to the Secretariat of the Organization in its next regular meeting. Asked if the FSM Congress need to approve the FSM's membership, Actouka said he does not think it was necessary.

With the inclusion of the FSM, Guam and the Marshall Islands, SOPAC's membership now encompasses the entire Pacific region. Countries who have already signed are the Cook Islands, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Western Samoa.

The remaining six member countries —Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu— are expected to sign the constitution soon.

The annual session in Tarawa also unanimously agreed that the SOPAC technical secretariat should remain in Fiji permanently.

The contributing countries for the funding and scientific staffs are Japan, the US, Australia and France.

Pacnews Briefs....

GLOBAL WARMING AN IMAGINARY CRISIS

PACNEWS (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) An American Scientist Dr. Fred Singer says the scientific basis for greenhouse warming is too uncertain to justify a drastic response.

Dr. Singer was in Auckland, end of November, at the invitation of the center for Independent Studies where he delivered an address entitled "Global Warming: An Imaginary Crisis".

He is a professor of Environmental Science at the University of Virginia who has served as Chief Scientist of the United States Department of Transportation and as Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Dr. Singer, who was trained as an atmospheric and space physicist, said, there was little risk in delaying policy responses to the century-old problem of global warming when scientific understanding of the issue would be much greater in a few years.

He said there was no doubt there had been an increase in the emission of Greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide because of human activity such as burning fossil fuels.

But he labels as deficient the scientific models which predict the Greenhouse effect. He said analysis of past temperature records do not fit with the global warming theory, adding that between 1938 and 1975 there was a sharp decrease in temperatures worldwide when the release of greenhouse gases was growing.

He does not say the global warming theory is wrong but just incomplete.

Dr. Singer recommends insurance measures which he said should be implemented anyway regardless of whether the global warming theory is right or wrong.

He backs efficient energy use, conservation, the use of non-fossil fuels including nuclear power and solar power.

NEW TELECOM NETWORK FOR ISLAND NATIONS
PACNEWS (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) The Pacific Area Coop-

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Pacnews Briefs....

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erative Telecommunications Network (PACT) becomes operational Saturday (December 1) following the November 30, inaugural four-way conference telephone call between Canberra, Sydney, Kiribati and the Marshall Islands.

PACT operator, OTC of Australia, says the system is designed to solve the problems of linking widely dispersed Pacific Island Nations with their own remote communities, their neighbors and the rest of the world.

It provides reliable and efficient telephone facsimile, telex and data services and can also be adopted to future digital services.

Under the PACT System, countries are charged only for the satellite time actually use, unlike previous arrangements where subscriber nations had to pay for the full time access to a satellite transponder which placed a heavy financial burden on small countries which have small traffic.

PACT member nations to date include Cook Islands, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Niue, Nauru, Tuvalu and Australia.

FIRST TRAINING HELD FOR PACIFIC FISHERIES

PACNEWS (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) Senior Fisheries Offices from sixteen Pacific Island Countries have begun a two-week management training course in Fiji.

The workshop, the first of its kind, has been organized by the South Pacific Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the United Nations Regional Fisheries support program.

Workshop organizer Bob Gillett said fisheries development was concentrated on field work outside and the officers were now recognizing that fisheries development strategies improved with more effective management of office and staff.

Mr. Gillett said many of the current Chief Fisheries Officers had been in office for less than eight months and had come from Fisheries and Scientific rather than managerial backgrounds.



SAIDA CALLS ON VICE PRESIDENT - Yutaka Saida from the Sasakawa Peace Foundation calls on Vice President Hiroshi H. Ismael during his familiarization visit to the FSM, October of this year.

U.S. Coast Guard patrol boats given to FSM

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICES)- The 2nd U.S. Coast Guard patrol boat, FSS Constitution, former Cape Corwin WPB 95326 of the package of two 95 feet long and 105 ton vessels was brought in to the FSM August 14 this year by Transportation Secretary Captain Robert Weilbacher. The first boat, FSS Paluwlap (Cape Cross WPB 95321) was brought in, March of this year and is in Yap patrolling Yap's water under the command of Captain Thomas Namulug and Chief Engineer John Tipmai, according to the FSM Department of Transportation Marine Division Operation Manager Reedson Edwin.

The FSM Department of External Affairs Acting Secretary J. Raglmar Subolmar and U.S. Embassy's Second Secretary Mary Shoemaker signed, September 17 this year a Memorandum of Under-

standing (MOU) on behalf of FSM and the USA governments concerning the two vessels given to the FSM by the United States Coast Guard.

In accepting these vessels, FSM had agreed to assume the responsibilities for operation, maintenance and repair of the two patrol boats while serving the FSM Government.

The FSS Constitution had begun her normal operations, shipping assignments including Medical Evacuation, search, emergency, rescue programs, scheduled several chartered voyages to ship a Survey Team from the University of Hawaii to Oroluk, chartered trip to Kosrae State and also patrolling waters within the jurisdiction of the FSM as recognized by international law under the command of Captain Bernard Phillip and Chief Engineer Steven Edward, Edwin concluded.

8 R&D produced posters of local fish to promote commercial sales

THE NATIONAL UNION, November 30 1990

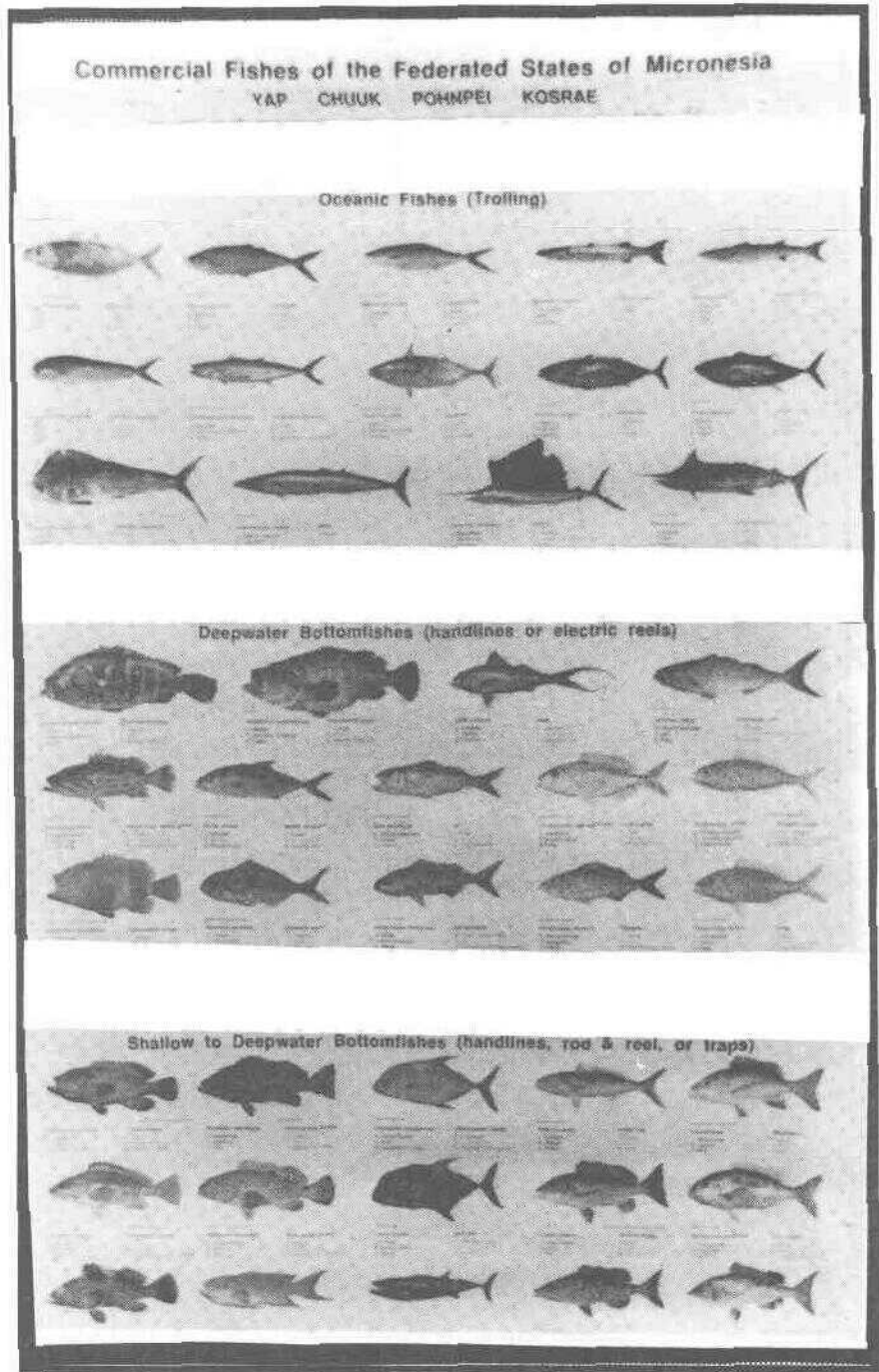
KOLONIA, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Department of Resources and Development (R&D) announced that it has produced sets of two different large posters showing commercial fish found in all four FSM States. These posters were carefully printed to show authentic fish colors with a four inch bar showing the relative size of each fish. Local names in five languages is also provided by State Marine Resources and Education Department officials. English, Japanese and scientific names are included to assist with cross-lingual identifications.

FSM promotes the development of commercial sales and export of the oceanic and the deepwater bottomfishes illustrated on the oceanic fish poster. Because of the great need for local consumption, the reef fish on the poster are less available for export.

Limited poster copies for appropriate official needs and for the markets will be available through the State Marine Resources Divisions. The FSM Education Office has ordered additional copies for all schools in all States.

Comments and questions on these posters and proposals for fish purchase should be directed to the FSM Marine Resources Division in Palikir.

Orders for additional posters can be addressed to the non-profit, non-governmental organization Micronesian Islands Conservation, Inc., P.O. Box 159, Kolonia, Pohnpei, FM, 96941, Federated States of Micronesia.



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