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Olter & Nena were administered oath of office

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Bailey Olter of Pohnpei was elected, May 11, 1991 to be the third FSM President and Jacob Nena of Kosrae the fourth Vice President by the FSM National Congress from among its four at-

large members.

Olter and Nena were sworn into office immediately following the Congress session at about 2:45 p.m. by FSM Supreme Court Chief Justice Edward King in a brief ceremony held in the Cabinet Room at the President's Of-

fice.

An inauguration ceremony was held, 9:00 a.m. May 21 in front of the FSM Congress Chamber for the new FSM President and Vice President.

Olter, 59, replaces John R. Hagelgam of Yap who served one term beginning in 1987. As the second FSM President Nena, 49, replaces Hirosi H. Ismael of Kosrae who was elected the third Vice President in 1987 after Olter, now FSM President.

The 7th FSM Congress, meeting on the first day of its First Regular Session, also elected Jack Fritz of Chuuk to serve as its Speaker; Dohsis Halbert of Pohnpei, Vice Speaker, and Joseph Urusemal of Yap, Floor Leader.

Fritz, elected back to his chair as Speaker, announced his committee chairmen appointments, including Wagner Lawrence of Pohnpei, Judiciary and Government Operations; Claude Phillip of Kosrae, Ways and Means; Nishima Yleizah of Chuuk, Health, Education and Social Af-



NEW PRESIDENT TAKES OATH - Supreme Court Chief Justice Edward King, in robe (left), is administering May 11 the oath of office to Bailey Olter, (center), as the First Lady, (right), standing held the Bible. The brief ceremony was held in the cabinet room in the presence of Members of the FSM Congress, cabinet and other officials.

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² President

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fairs; Redley Killion of Chuuk, Resources and Development; Isaac V. Figir of Yap, External Affairs; and Kalisto Resalopei of Chuuk, Transportation and Communication.

Urusemal and Killion both are the other at-large Congress members who were eligible for the presidency and vice presidency. Other two-year new members of Congress are Iosi Ludwig and Simeon Innocenti, both from the state of Chuuk. Henry Asugar of Chuuk was reelected Chief Clerk, the highest ranking Congress staff member.

A committee to wait on the President was appointed consisting of Senator Peter Christian of Pohnpei as Chairman and members are Senators Joseph Urusemal of Yap, Claude Phillip of Kosrae, and Redley Killion of Chuuk.

The people of the four states of Kosrae, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Yap were able to listen in to the proceeding through local radio stations by live broadcast through the FSM telecommunications system.

The 7th FSM Congress was opened by a temporary speaker who

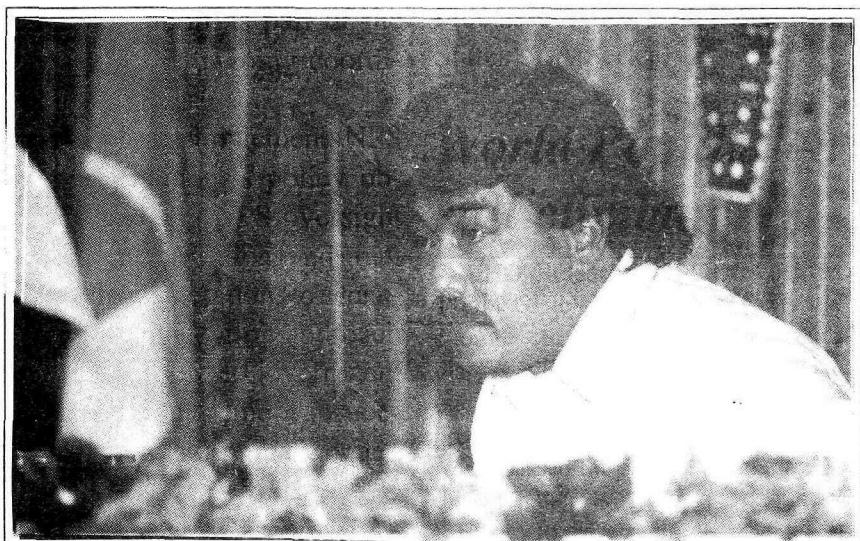


NENA TAKES OATH - Jacob Nena of Kosrae, center, is being sworn in, May 11 as the fourth FSM Vice President by Supreme Court Chief Justice Edward King, left, in robe. Nena's niece Vertha John, right, is holding the Bible. The brief ceremony was held at the cabinet room in the presence of Members of Congress, cabinet and other officials.

presided over the opening session. By law the youngest returning member shall preside over the opening of a new Congress until a Speaker is elected. The youngest returning member of Congress is Senator Wagner Lawrence of Pohnpei who

presided until the permanent Speaker Fritz was elected. The Congress then adopted its temporary rules of procedures which provide for the appointment of a temporary clerk and a credentials committee to check the credentials of the members. After the Senators took their oath of office, the official rules of procedures then were adopted.

The Congress during its session will consider the FSM National Budget for Fiscal Year 1992 unless the new FSM President request time to review the budget. Other pending measures that the Congress needs to address include the FSM Maritime Code which also regulates navigations and other related matters, improvements to the present FSM Health Insurance Program, further study on the Social Security and Retirement Bill, and amendments to the present tax system, according to a release from the FSM Congress.



TEMPORARY SPEAKER - Wagner Lawrence presided as temporary speaker for the FSM Congress May 11, during the opening day of the 7th FSM Congress First Regular Session.

USDA graduate course offered in Pohnpei State

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - A Pacific Island Training Initiative Instructor and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Graduate School Economist Jeanine Kleimo of Main consulted a six-day Government Accounting course in Pohnpei which was attended by State and National Government employees. The training was held at the Central Facility in Palikir.

Kleimo, FSM Office of Administrative Service Director Kohne Ramon and Governor Rasio Moses' Special Assistant for Offices of Personnel, Labor and Manpower Development Podis Pedrus presented certificates of accomplishment to the participants. Participants include FSM Public Auditor's Office Administrative Clerk Angie Albert, Junior Auditor Mary Jimmy, and Administrative Officer Euginia Samuel; FSM Office of Administrative Services Division of Health Insurance Service Coordinator Jackie Anson; FSM Department of Finance Accounting Technicians Jenny Ernest and Melsinher Hadley; Pohnpei State Department of Treasury Account Clerks Sonia Astete, Naide John, Annako Keller, Hercibel Kilafakun, and Accounting Technician Mary Ruth Edward; and Pohnpei State Office of Island Affairs Accounting Clerk Raechael Eliam.

The institution usually recognizes the hours of hard work each person put into participating in this training by a certificate of accomplishment. They focussed on the training for four hours in the morning and went back to carry their regular day work at their jobs after the training, according to Kleimo.

As an USDA Graduate School Economist for 15 years, Kleimo worked in the areas such as Housing and Community Development Programs in the United States, South East Asia and South America. She also conducted numbers of training programs in the other countries. As an instructor for Graduate School, International Division for three years, Kleimo taught courses in financial management and project analysis in English and Spanish languages.

Speaking as an USDA Graduate

School Trainer, Kleimo felt that 12-15 participants is accepted because more than 20 participants will make it very difficult for the consultant to get to know each individual. "We want to have a training program that enables us to reach people on an individual level. We are not just having former lecture classes where you show up, take notes and then go home and try to figure out a way to use it, but cases where we spent time with each individual to learn what work they do, to try to make the training 12-15 participants," Kleimo said.

Kleimo added that all participants reacted very well. She was very pleased of their eagerness to learn and of their commitment to improve themselves and do good jobs for the government. "I really could not ask for any thing more from them and certainly, they responded well so I hope I am doing some thing right." The USDA Graduate School which is not a typical graduate institution where students have to have a college degree and study to earn an advance degree has been in existence for 70 years, since the early 1920s. It is a center for Adult Education and training.

The staff and the employees of the

U.S. Government and the newly independent African countries like Zaire did not have skills, in need of the USDA Graduate School training assistance particularly in the areas more related to management and the training for the people who are already government employees began some years later in the 1960s, according to Kleimo.

In addition, Kleimo said that the International Division of USDA Graduate School provides a variety of courses, a number of training programs throughout the years, mostly on issues related to management, development, finance, and computers; short term seminar, aiming on word perfect or computers training for secretaries of interested government; long term courses including management and supervisory techniques for middle management and general courses that of interest to the community for any one to take regardless of their academic backgrounds.

The institution also have correspondent programs and government auditor training institute which focuses its instructions on the auditing techniques currently practiced by the U.S. Government, Kleimo concluded.



PITI & USDA WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS - Posing for a group photo are the participant of the workshop.

4 Ambassadors De Peralta spoke at CCM

THE NATIONAL UNION, May 15, 1991

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) Philippines Ambassador Purisimo A. De Peralta on April 10 spoke to the faculty and students as the second guest speaker in a series of Ambassadorial Talks involving all four ambassadors at the Community College of Micronesia (CCM) in Kolonia, according to information from the Philippines Embassy in Pohnpei.

Speaking extemporaneously, explaining that he prefers interaction and dialogue with his audience rather than reading a speech, De Peralta told his audience that the FSM and Philippines must establish a "close relationship, develop a sense of belonging to each other." Citing that peoples of Southwest Pacific including the Micronesian islands' ancestors origins, the Ambassador believes that their origins can be traced back to the Philippines aborigines, the Aetas who in turn are believed to have come from the Indo-Malay stock. Adding that physical features of the early Filipinos shared the now distinctive dark kinky hair, brown skin and round face seen today in certain parts of Micronesia.

But subsequent waves of migration, discoveries by Europeans and intermarriages slowly changed physical features, complexions of most of the Filipinos. However, remnant of aboriginal race still exist in certain parts of Filipinos.

Ambassador De Peralta said he would encourage young FSM citizens to take advantage of the opportunity now available by the presence in the FSM of skillful Filipinos working in various trades to learn for themselves such skills in order to take over such jobs from the foreigners. He recommended that the FSM consider Philippines as a potential for future trainings for FSM citizens for it will cost less than

what FSM is paying to other countries. Secondly, he is quite certainty that any trainee sent to Philippines would surely return home because he/she can not find work in the Philippines and may be difficult to secure a work permit. Thirdly, the comparatively low pay for jobs in the Philippines than in the FSM may conceivably compel FSM citizens to return home.

He credited the 90% literacy level in his country to late U.S. General McArthur who as U.S. Military Governor-General the Philippines in 1901, who ordered the propagation of education in the entire archipelago and released US \$16-million dollars for that purpose. This was in accordance with the principles enunciated by the then President of the U.S. W. McKinley to educate and christianize the people of the country. De Peralta mentioned that Filipino parents would spend their last penny for their children, if able, to acquire a college degree.

Ambassador De Peralta reaffirmed that relations between his country and the FSM will continue to grow. "We are one" referring to the FSM and the Philippines, "we are from the same part of the world," he said.

De Peralta made mention of the people power, so eloquently demonstrated in the EDSA revolution of 1986 in Manila, that brought down the former regime. This, he believes, could be the greatest single contribution of his country to the world. This was emulated in South Korea, Pakistan, Burma and, lately in Eastern Europe where, due to people power, the communist regimes were toppled.

When the United States declared the FSM independent upon ratification of the Compact of Free Association between the two countries in 1986 and subsequent termination of

the United Nations Trusteeship Agreement for the former U.S. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, his country decided to recognize the FSM and to establish diplomatic relations at an ambassadorial level on the basis of respect for the principles of international law.

De Peralta is also an accredited Philippine's Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Fiji, Vanuatu and Kiribati.

Siba's cabinet members were sworn into office

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Kosrae State Chief Justice Harry H. Skilling administered oath of offices, April 18 to seven of nine Kosrae State Governor Thurston Siba's cabinet members for his new administration. The other two were sworn-in on April 25 including the State Attorney General Jim B. Obrien and the Director of Education Luey K. Luey.

The seven cabinet members who were sworn in on April, 18 were Conservation and Development Department Director Louise Brooks, Director of Budget & Planning Gerson A. Jackson, Finance/Treasurer Department Director Rensly Sigrah, Director of Office of Personnel and Employment Services Fred P. Sigrah, Director of Public Works Department Bruce Howell, Director of Public Affairs Fred S. Skilling, and Health Services Director Sinkitchy George.

Note of Exchange on new approaches on HPFGP singed

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Office of Administrative Services (OAS) Director Kohne K. Ramon and Historic Preservation Officer Teddy John attended the March 21 ceremony in Washington, D.C., on signing of the Note of Exchange confirming new approaches on the Historic Preservation Fund Grant Program for the FSM.

The U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) was represented by Cultural Resources Associate Director Jerry L. Roger from the Office of the National Park Service (NPS), and FSM Government was represented by John and Ramon. The ceremony was held at the NPS, Office of the Cultural Resources, Washington D.C.

The signing ceremony officially effectuated a new management approach for NPS administration of the Historic Preservation Fund Grant Program to the FSM.

Since the compact of the Free Association linking USA with the FSM the year 2001, this approach provides U.S. Secretary of the Interior Lujan a finite period to address one of the ten STEWARDSHIP agenda items of his administration to work with the leaders of the FSM to further the social, economic, and political development of their people. These management policies of the NPS to administer the Historic Preservation Fund Grant Program to FSM, complements the Secretary's agenda.

The major preservation policy

goal of the NPS is to assist the Historic Preservation Offices in the FSM of technical and financial capability so they can operate independently from external support at the end of the Compact period.

DOI, National Park Service will begin a process of gradual administrative disengagement from the FSM Historic Preservation Programs during the remaining years of the Compact.

In terms of historic Preservation program administration, the role of DOI, National Park Service will become progressively less directive and more consultative over the period of the compact concerning activities and projects funded by U.S. Federal Historic Preservation fund grants. The goal of the NPS's assistance is to develop an independent locally supported historic preservation programs in the FSM through local legislations, Executive orders, Regulations to provides for strong local financial and services support to historic preservation programs in FSM. In order to develop supports, the

Director of Office of Administrative Services must have the flexibility to define historic and cultural preservation program goals, requirements, and to design projects that meet the unique needs of the FSM as a sovereign nation.

In terms of grant administration, the NPS has as its management control goals: (1) to provide oversight of FSM administration of the Historic Preserva-

tion fund program on a management by exception (rather than project by project) basis; (2) to progressively rely on FSM system of financial and program administration procedures that meet applicable U.S. federal standards; and, (3) to presume that the FSM runs a responsible program unless specific situation indicate the contrary. The Compact of Free Association contains specific provision for the financial management of grant funds; United States OMB circulars continue to apply.

Technical and Financial assistance form the U.S. DOI NPS to FSM Government , under this new approach, is expected to increase over the next several years to develop the technical capabilities of the Historic Preservation Officers of the FSM. However, as technical capabilities in places, and local support for historic and cultural resources preservation increase, it is to be expected that the level of support provided by the NPS will diminish preparatory before the Compact termination.

Historic Preservation fund grants given to the FSM under this new approach may be used for the preservation of resources as defined by the FSM Historic Preservation Act of 1979.

The key role of the NPS during the remaining part of the Compact period will be to provide training and technical support to historic preservation offices staff in the FSM. In consultation, the

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SIGNING OF NOTE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. - FSM Office of Administrative Services Director Kohne K. Ramon (left, sitting) and NPS Cultural Resources Associate Director Jerry L. Roger (right, sitting), signed two letters effectuating the new management approach policies for U.S. National Park Service, Department of Interior, Administration of historic preservation fund grant program to the FSM. Witnessing the signing are standing in the back from left to right: FSM National Historic Preservation Officer Teddy John, FSM Ambassador to the United States of America Jesse B. Marehalau, and NPS, WASO, Interagency Resources Division Chief Larry Aten.

Preservation

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Office of Administrative Services Director, and the National Historic Preservation Officers of the FSM, plans for training and technical support as part of the NPS and FSM ongoing coordination activities.

This approach implements NPS Director Ridenour's policy objective changing NPS oversight of historic preservation fund grant management operations to a management by exception approach that relies on FSM Government financial management procedures to the maximum extended possible.

These new historic preservation management approach policies are the result of extensive consultation between the U. S. NPS officials and the officials of

the FSM National Government. This new approach is based on the principles of self determination and self government that are the foundation of the Compact of Free association with the United States of America.

World Population still climbing

WHO Release (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Paradoxically enough current demographic trends display a marked dichotomy. On the one hand, the world's population, as predicted, is still climbing, having already passed the 5.3 billion mark. On the other, there is a strongly pronounced tendency to the "graying" of the global populations, especially in developed countries with national birth rates dropping to an all-time low. The general forecast is 343 million of those aged

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FSM Congress Speaker Fritz declared two vacancies in Congress

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Speaker of the 7th FSM Congress Jack Fritz declared May 13 the election for President and Vice President of the FSM was successfully completed May 11 1991, and that the four-year term seats in the 7th FSM Congress held by Bailey Olter and Jacob Nena, by virtue of their election as President and Vice President respectively are vacant.

In the Speaker's letter to Olter he said, "I trust that your good office will now take all necessary steps to facilitate the scheduling of special election for the purpose of filling the two vacant seats in the 7th FSM Congress.

FSM Judiciary's 10th Anniversary

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Judiciary Branch 10th Anniversary featuring National Debate Competition aims to recover a proposition regarding the Administration of Justice in the FSM and FSM Supreme Court Chief Justice Edward King's annual report on July 12 will be held Palikir Pohnpei State, according to the National Justice Ombudsman Nikontro Johnny.

Prior to the meeting of the National Debate Competition, each high school in FSM States was asked to organize panel discussions helpful for the selection of debaters for the State Championships and prepared to have a panel of two best debaters for the National Debate Competition, Johnny added.

"We contacted the High Schools Principals and the Education Department Directors of FSM States and asked them to organize public speaking contest or debating teams to compete for State Championship titles. The State Champions will be consisting of team of two debaters from each state. Pohnpei State will form a debating team comprising of the best debaters representing all high schools in the state. Only the State Champions are allow to participate in the National Public Speaking Contest. The competition will be held July 12, 1991. When the states have selected the champions, then the Judiciary will forward two propositions for the selected debating teams to start preparing for the National debating contest on July 12, 1991," Johnny said.

Another activity that is also planned as part of the observation of the 10th Anniversary will be the 10th Annual Report of the FSM Judiciary Branch. The Chief Justice will do the report on the July 12. It has not been decided whether the presentation of the report will be oral or distributed in writing, Johnny concluded.

Population

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sixty and over in developed countries and 868 million in developing countries in thirty years' time.

The World Health Organization (WHO) puts out a warning, if no urgent action is taken, a full-scale epidemic of noncommunicable diseases is inevitable. In China alone, provided that mortality rates remain at today's level, there will be nearly ten million deaths annually from those diseases by the year 2000. However, the fact is that from one third to one half of these deaths can be prevented.

Radical changes in life-style do it. In the United States of America, for instance, in less than ten years (1968-1976), mortality from heart diseases dramatically declined, not so much as a result of medical intervention but due to an increasing awareness of the benefits of health living. More and more people have become diet-conscious, consuming more vegetables and fruit, as low-fat, low cholesterol foods. As if by magic, physical fitness and exercise gained respectability and status, shedding their fringe image of body builders' and dumbbell lifters' fraternities. Smoking is being increasingly considered not only a potent public health threat but also as a questionable form of social behavior. There is a similar positive trend in alcohol consumption, more and more people are switching from the hard stuff to wine or non-alcoholic drinks.

But in spite of these very welcome and positive developments heart diseases are still the main cause of mortality in developed countries. On top of that, treatment and care costs of, for instance, cardiovascular disease are truly astronomical US \$88 billion was the national bill in 1988 in the US. No developing country can possibly afford expenditure on this scale. In WHO's view, there is a way out, prevention.

WHO's Inter-Health Program, the brain-child of the Division of Noncommunicable Diseases, is in the business of spreading the gospel of healthy living. Launched in 1990 in Helsinki, Finland, at the First Meeting of Inter-

Health Program Directors, representing both developed and developing countries, the Program got off to a quick start. It addresses itself to the so-called, diseases of life-style, heart attack, stroke, hypertension, cancer, pulmonary disease, diabetes, osteoporosis, to name just a few. These are the biggest killers in the developed world, responsible for anywhere between 70-80 percent of all deaths.

In developing countries, life-style diseases account for 40-50 percent of total mortality. But their situation is even worse with, for the time being, both infectious and noncommunicable diseases placing a double burden on the overstretched human and material resources of the national public health services. The bad news is that in developing countries there is a direct correlation between the degree of affluence and economic growth on the one hand, and the share of mortality due to diseases of life-styles on the other. The greater the degree of affluence, the bigger the mortality figures.

That is why WHO's Inter-Health Program puts prevention center-stage. Diseases stemming from unhealthy life-styles should be dealt with as an entity rather than one by one. "Doing so is economically and administratively beneficial to countries especially to developing countries," says Dr. Nikolai Khaltaev, manager of the Inter-Health Program. "Their burden is intolerable."

To raise awareness of the necessity to tackle those problems head-on, WHO organized its 2nd Meeting of Inter-Health Program Directors, at Alma-Ata Kazakhstan, USSR. As part of related activities, a teleconference - Inter-Health: fighting the disease of Life-Style, went on the Air March 27, this year, linking Alma-Ata via satellite with 15 other sites throughout the world, including WHO's headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. During panel discussions, which allow for phone-in question time, participants examined a wide range of subjects, including the concept of Inter-Health, life-style diseases, prevention and projections for the future.

8 FSM seeks full membership with World Health Organization

THE NATIONAL UNION, May 15, 1991

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The FSM Department of Human Resources Secretary and the Pacific Islands Health Officers' Association (PIHOA) President, Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick attended the World Health (WHO) General Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland, May 6 to 10, 1991. This FSM delegation will seek the FSM full fledged membership with the WHO, according to the FSM Department of Human Resources Acting Secretary, Isamu J. Abraham.

Abraham said that while Dr. Pretrick was in Hawaii attending meetings with other health officials and directors of health from American Samoa, Guam, CNMI, Palau and the Marshall Islands, he received communications from the WHO Regional Office in Suva, Fiji, informing the FSM Government about the invitation for the FSM representatives to attend the WHO General Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland, where the FSM induction for official membership of WHO was to be introduced for consideration.

In line with this development, the Office of

Health Services prepared a statement on behalf of the FSM Government thanking the WHO for all past activities and support from the organization and outlined for discussions future cooperative ventures and relationship with the organization. Secretary Pretrick presented the paper as the FSM delegation formally appear before the WHO General Assembly, Abraham added.

The FSM Government will contribute to the WHO funds in the amount of \$25,000 for annual membership fee when the formal approval is granted. This new relationship will also bring to the FSM additional benefits. During the past several years, the government received an annual budget of about \$400,000 from WHO to support training and manpower improvements in medicine, administration, nursing, dental, laboratory, x-ray, and other related medical and health fields. Several FSM students are now attending medical schools in Fiji, Pohnpei Medical Officer Training Program (MOTP), and Papua New Guinea through the funding from the WHO. This year, the funding

support from the WHO has gone up from \$400,000 to \$600,000. This year is also the first time that funds have been made available to support FSM students attending the MOTP in our own territory, according to Abraham.

Abraham states that this membership will open up venues relating to financial support from other world lending institutions. The Office of health is quite excited about this world wide development. Here in the FSM we have talked about the Compact, and the impact and implications of our freely associated relationship with the United States of America, specifically the decreasing in government funds through the step down process under the current agreement.

And finally, Abraham reports that the External Affairs Department and the Attorney General Office, FSM had tried to ratify the constitutional issues from the WHO as adopted by the International Conference in the new York in 1946. As an independent country, but not a member of the United Nations, it is required that we meet several obligations to be considered eligible to enter the International market for import of narcotic medications. Those requirements consist of ratification of two United Nation Conventions, on the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (from 1961), and the second on the Convention on Psychotropic substances signed at Vienna on February 1971, plus joining one specialized health agency, such as the WHO. As a first step in obtaining international collaboration, the WHO will be our stepping stone for eligibility to any organization in the form of international support. This support will give us the eligibility to make applications with the World Bank and International Banks and other lending institutions for improved health care and services for the people of the Federated States of Micronesia.



POSTMASTER WORKSHOP - Posing for a group photo are the participants of the postmaster workshop held in Pohnpei this year.

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