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Ismael Aguon Sworn-In as Director of the Narcotics Enforcement Agency (NEA)

On May 26, President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. administered the Oath of Office, swearing-in Ismael Aguon as the Director of the newly created Narcotics Enforcement Agency with his family, friends, and fellow officers standing witness. Palau's Vice President and Minister of Justice Raynold Oilouch, in his welcoming remarks expressed his eagerness to have Aguon on board and relayed the same sentiments from his other Directors that "Aguon will certainly pick up where he left off with our fight against drugs and crime in his previous position as head of the Drug Task Force.

President Tommy Remengesau made it very clear in his statement that "those involved in drugs have their days numbered. They cannot continue to reap fortunes at the cost of our children's lives and they cannot continue to put every single person's life at risk while they make their living – destroying families and robbing this country of its future. I am confident that Aguon and his team, with the Attorney General and the entire Police Department will put these people behind bars, said the President.

"This is our biggest and toughest challenge. We can only be successful together. We can only be successful if work together diligently, ensuring that our part is done in the best possible manner – ensuring that we make no mistakes in the criminal justice process bringing every drug traffickers to justice." Added President Remengesau.

In his remarks, Director Ismael Aguon highlighted his approach to eliminating drugs in Palau. "Prevention and enforcement have to work together. My team and I will work harder in getting drug users off of drugs and we will work even harder in bringing traffickers and dealers to Justice." Says Aguon.