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Office of the President

Government of Taiwan and the Office of the President Small Grants Awarded

Congratulations to the Palau National Olympic Committee (PNOC) and the Athletes of the 11th Belau Games, the Sonsorol State Men's Association (Thafaas) and the Ngeremlengui State Government on receiving funding from the Taiwan-Palau Small Grants Program to support their initiatives this summer 2017.

An award of \$1,000.00 for team support was made to each of the 14 participating States (Ngeremlengui and Aimeliik declining to join), with \$2,000 going to the Palau Youth Council for management support and \$2,000 to PNOC for volunteers and officials uniforms and meals. The 11th Belau Games are scheduled for June 23 to July 2, 2017.

The Ngeremlengui State grant of \$10,000 is to support the State's Youth "Remerang" summer internship program helping to protect and preserve wildlife. Working alongside State conservation officers in the Ngermeskang Bird Sanctuary to maintain bird sanctuary trails, Ngeremlengui youth will develop bird monitoring and tour guiding skills and learn the principles of natural resource ownership.

Sonsorol State received \$18,000 towards two brand new Yamaha outboard boat engines for their boat to be used in a project that will teach Sonsorol youth traditional fishing techniques and navigation. The objective of this effort will be to improve food security for the people of Sonsorol.

On behalf of the Republic, President Remengesau expressed his appreciation to the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) for their generous support for the upcoming Belau Games, for fostering wildlife preservation in our largest terrestrial bird sanctuary and for reviving traditional fishing among the citizens of our small island state of Sonsorol.