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Office of the President

**President Remengesau Accredits new Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium of the Republic of Palau**

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. accredited H.E. Michel Goffin as the third Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Belgium to the Republic of Palau.

President Remengesau congratulated Ambassador Goffin of assuming his post and expressed hope for both nations to explore ways to further collaboration in the area concerning health, climate change and ocean security and protection, and other areas of mutual interests.

Ambassador Goffin recognizes the importance of ocean issues for the Republic of Palau and shared that although Belgium is not known for its leadership in maritime matters, the nation has a long history of maritime and ocean management. He further expressed commitments to work with Palau on areas concerning tourism, multilateral issues, global warming and climate change.

The Presentation of Credentials ceremony was held at the Office of the President at the National Capitol and attended by Paramount Chief Ibedul Yutaka M. Gibbons, Paramount Chief Raphael B. Ngirmang, Chief Justice Arthur Ngiraklsong, Vice Speaker Lucio Ngiraiwet, Senator Aric Nakamura, Ambassador Goffin's wife and son and Cabinet Ministers.

Ambassador Goffin is accredited to the Republic of Palau with residence in Manila, Philippines.