



## **National Environmental Protection Council**

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### **NEPC Resolution #2**

#### *Establishing the Invasive Species Committee*

**WHEREAS**, NEPC Resolution No. 1 confirmed the official creation, by the NEPC, of a number of Committees and initiatives, as well as the Invasive Animal Species Taskforce; and

**WHEREAS**, Presidential Executive Order 219 rescinded Executive Order No. 207, which had established a National Task Force on Invasive Animal Species in order that the functions of the Task Force could be reconstituted, as a Committee within the NEPC; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 219 stressed that issues of plant and animal invasive species should be given equal and parallel treatment and priority by the National Government and should therefore be administrated through the same process and organization;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the NEPC hereby incorporates into a single Committee, “the Invasive Species Committee” (ISC), the issues of all invasive species, which Committee shall replace the existing ‘Invasive Animal Species Taskforce’. Membership of the Committee shall be representative of public and private sector agencies and organizations that are involved with invasive species issues.

**Section 1. Duties and Responsibilities.** The Invasive Species Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- Within six months, establish a comprehensive national invasive species strategy;
- Identify responsible agencies for the management of invasive species introduced into the Republic of Palau;
- Coordinate the development and implementation of response plans for invasive species;
- Coordinate public awareness and education regarding invasive species;
- Review and enhance and/or develop regulations governing the importation and inter/intra-state movement of invasive species;
- Coordinate appropriate responses and actions to address the possible introduction of invasive species into the Republic, with special attention being given to special events, which increase exposure to alien species;


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- Conduct an inventory of the invasive species present in Palau. The inventory shall identify each invasive species and, for each, estimate the scope (either in terms of estimated populations or in terms of estimated area of the territory invaded) of the invasion. To the extent practicable, the inventory shall also specify how each species was introduced to Palau; and
- Investigate methods to reduce and contain or eradicate each invasive species existing in Palau. In doing so, the ISC shall consult with knowledgeable individuals in the private sector and officials of the State and National Governments. The ISC may also consult appropriate representatives of foreign governments or international organizations. The ISC will evaluate the various responses to invasive species in terms of effectiveness, cost, potential collateral impacts on plant and animal species indigenous to Palau, and potential impacts on the environmental integrity of Palau.

**Section 2. Sub-Committees.** The Invasive Species Committee may establish sub-committees to focus on specific issues and programs related to invasive species.

**Sections 3. Coordination with Existing Bodies.** The Invasive Species Committee shall coordinate its efforts with existing public and private bodies to accomplish the above duties and responsibilities.

**Section 4. Reference to Stakeholder Recommendations.** The Invasive Species Committee shall utilize stakeholder recommendations as a guide in its efforts to address the growing hazards of invasive species in Palau.

  
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Mr. Casmir E. Remengesau  
Chairman, National Environmental Protection Council

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Date