



REPUBLIC OF PALAU
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

SURANGEL S. WHIPPS, JR.
President

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December 10, 2025
Serial No. 25-3373

The Honorable Stephen Miller
Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Homeland Security Advisor
to the President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Miller:

Thank you for our recent meeting. I appreciated your thoughtful questions and observations.

The free association between our nations is the closest possible relationship between sovereigns. It followed half a century of U.S. administration and began with President Reagan saying that we "would always be family." Under it, Palau lets the U.S. deny other nations access to a Texas-sized area next to the Philippines and Indonesia and use any areas needed for defense. These now include the sites of radar that can 'see' into China, tests of missiles that can reach there, runways, and a dock. The U.S. military also recruits here.

I am proud of these contributions, but the PRC is aggressively trying to subvert them. It has economically enticed many leaders here, encouraging opposition, and exploits opportunities.

The Trump Administration wants Palau to take aliens who entered or stayed in the U.S. illegally, and I want to help it meet the need to reduce the number. The U.S. assists Palau to an extraordinary degree. Nations must control immigration. We should help each other. The other side has gotten most leaders here to oppose the TCN request, but I will agree to it.

As our meeting ended, you noted that the Administration could be very helpful. The opposition to the TCN proposal has made this a time that I need it to be. There are two steps that, together, would compellingly show why Palau should agree. The greatest impact would be made by stating an intent to work with us to ensure that a new hospital can be funded when plans are final and mutually agreed to. The second would be for Homeland Security to give Palau with the same FEMA assurance given the two other freely associated states.

Please help me in helping the Administration and the U.S.

Sincerely,



Surangel S. Whipps, Jr.

cc: Deputy Secretary Christopher Landau



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Serial No. 25-3372

The Honorable Christoper Landau
Deputy Secretary of State
of the United States of America
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Landau,

This letter has three purposes. One is to thank you for your extremely well-done video rebutting falsehoods that the opposition here is spreading to generate public and leadership rejection of the U.S.' TCN request. You are a man of your word.

I am, too. So, my second purpose is to personally convey my acceptance of the language now worked out for the TCN MOU and that I look forward to a signing.

When we last met, I told you that before agreeing finally, I wanted to go back to Palau to try to get more members of our Congress and traditional leaders to support the TCN arrangement. It has been more difficult than I hoped. I need help. Asking for it is this letter's third purpose.

There are two steps that, together, should turn the tide. One would be a U.S. administration statement of intent to work with Palau to ensure that a new hospital can be funded after plans for it are finalized and mutually agreed to. The second would be for Homeland Security to provide Palau with the same FEMA assurance given the two other freely associated states.

Since Deputy Chief of Staff and Homeland Security Advisor Miller said that the Administration could be very helpful, I am sending him the same request. I hope that the two of you can get these measures taken and help me in helping the Administration and the U.S.

With appreciation and best personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

Surangel S. Whipps, Jr.