



Trusteeship Council

Distr.
GENERAL

T/PET.10/595
16 September 1987

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM PALAU CONSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS IN OREGON CONCERNING
THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 1, of
the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

Palau Constitutional Supporters
in Oregon
P.O. Box 19806
Portland, Oregon 97219

25 August 1987

The President and members
United Nations Trusteeship Council
New York

Dear Sirs,

We urgently request your Committee to monitor the current drastic problems in the Republic of Palau and to grant additional funds to solve our financial crisis. There are hundreds of innocent lives - young and old - being affected by their families' unemployment status. The children of these families abroad, who are students, are also suffering. This is a top priority action that desperately requires your immediate action.

Further, we firmly believe that given the current financial burden, intense social pressures, dramatic political conflicts among our leaders, and the United States refusal to re-negotiate the Compact of Free Association with respect to our Constitution creates a situation in which the Palauan people cannot determine their future political status on their free will. We ask that your Committee oversee the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement 1/ process by giving the Palauan people time and a healthy environment to participate in this process.

The current drastic financial, social and political pressures have caused our people to take the extreme measure of amending the Palau Constitution in hope to solve the situation at home. In the past, the Palauan people have tried to change certain provisions in the Constitution to no avail because of our deepest and genuine values placed on our small but priceless lands and waters - the basis of our existence. If the amendment of the Constitution is approved, it all has to do with the pressures at hand, not on our free will.

In respect to your democratic ideology, we ask that your Committee help us exercise the United States constitutional right to Freedom of Choice in choosing our future political status with respect to Palau's existing Constitution, culture and traditions. We therefore ask that we remain under the Trusteeship Agreement until the Government of Palau and its people resolve all the legal problems in regards to our Constitution. We also need our educational, economic and health and welfare programmes further developed so that Palau can be classified as "self-sufficient" or an "independent" entity under the guideline of United Nations Mandate, before termination of this agreement.

In the interim, we urgently request your Committee to send an auditor to audit the funds and its management and to recommend and implement potential economic, educational and health and welfare programmes to not only speed the economic development but also to serve as a strict guideline for the accountability of the funds allocated by your Committees.

We sincerely thank you and your committee members for the time and efforts you put into Palau's immediate needs.

GOD BLESS THOSE WHO HELP OTHERS IN NEED.

Cordially,

Palau Constitutional Supporters
in Oregon

Notes

1/ Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
(United Nations, Sales No. 1957.VI.A.1).
