

~ 日本海難防止協会シンガポール連絡事務所発SRO news ~

(Ref No: 20-046)

1 パラオのスランゲル・ウィップス・Jr大統領は、「新型コロナに関し安全な国々との国境開放を、管理された環境下で安全な方法によって目指す」と強調しているが、同国政府観光局は、パラオで新型コロナが発生した際の観光客への対応等を定めた安全認証プログラム「Safe for you」に関するワークショップを開催する。対象は、宿泊業、レストラン、ツアー・オペレーター等で、緊急時対応計画の開発や、衛生、ソーシャル・ディスタンス及び保護具使用などの措置を適切に実施できるよう各部門に応じて設計されている。同大統領は台湾との旅行バブルを3月末までに開始できるよう推進しているところ。

原文

(12th February 2021, Island Times)

2 PIFからの脱退について、マーシャル諸島 (RMI) 政府関係者からは、PIFを重要な組織としてみておらず、関心が低い様子もみられるが、RMI、キリバス及びナウルの南太平洋大学 (USP) メンバーとしての影響、フォーラム漁業機関 (FFA) に深く関わってきたミクロネシア地域5か国の今後の関与への影響、RMI出身である現PIF副事務局長のポストの問題、といった疑問もある。デービット・カブア同国大統領は、「脱退は太平洋における価値観 (Pacific way) や地域主義 (regionalism) といった原理 (principle) に基づくもので、感情 (emotion)的に対応した結果ではない。」と述べている。

原文

(12th February 2021, Marshall Islands Journal)

【論説】

3 太平洋諸島フォーラム (PIF) を長年支援してきた日米豪NZは、PIFからのミクロネシア地域5か国の脱退が、中国による太平洋島嶼国への経済支援とプレゼンス・影響力の増大へのきっかけとなることを恐れている。日本の大学の国際関係の専門家は、米国、日本等は新型コロナによる経済的大打撃を受けた太平洋島嶼国の差し迫った資金需要に対する追加の資金提供と長期的な支援を約束する必要があると語った。

原文

(11th February 2021, Deutsche Welle)

4 (※太平洋共同体 (SPC) の元事務局長でニウエ出身の) Colin Tukuitonga 氏は、太平洋諸島フォーラム (PIF) の会員資格、事務局長選出等に関する規 則や運営方法を改革 (Reform) することは、ミクロネシア5カ国のPIF離脱問題 に対する現実的な解決策になるとして、「ミクロネシア、メラネシア、ポリネシアの3つのサブリージョンのグループ化を強化し、サブリージョンの3つの長に同等の権限と影響力を持たせる」提案をしている。一方、(ミクロネシアが主張した)「紳士協定」による事務局長選出については、過去に行われていたが、もはや時代遅れで、もっと明確な基準や透明性が必要だと述べている。原文

(10th February 2021, Fiji Times)

5 Middle East Navigation Aids Service (MENAS) は、Inchicape Shipping ServiceがMENASの管理する58の灯台、浮標等の航行援助施設の維持・更新費用を船主から徴収することに関する協力協定を締結した。MENASと連携するその他の全ての船舶代理店に対し、同費用の徴収手続きと説明責任に関する形式を整え、標準化する第一歩となるもの。

原文

(8th February 2021, Maritime Executive)

We're out!'

Presidents unite to leave Pacific Forum

GIFF JOHNSON

Following the hotly contested Pacific Islands Forum election for a new Secretary General last week—in which Micronesia's candidate Ambassador Gerald Zackios lost—the Marshall Islands and its four neighboring nations have thumbed their collective noses at the Forum, saying they are all pulling out of the premier regional body.

The move, approved Monday by the five presi-

The move, approved Monday by the five presidents, delivers on a promise made by then-Palau President Tommy Remenegsau, Jr. late last year that if the Forum did not recognize that it was Micronesia's turn to hold the Secretary General post, Palau would pull out.

"The Micronesian Presidents jointly agreed that all five nations will initiate the formal process of withdrawing from the Pacific Islands Forum," said a statement issued from a virtual meeting held Monday this week involving President David Kabua, Nauru President Lionel Aingimea, FSM President David Panuelo, Kiribati President Taneti Maamau, and Palau President Surangel Whipps, Jr.

But Monday's decision was predictable following President Whipps' declaration last Friday that Palau was exiting the Forum and initiating closure of its embassy in Suva.

In Majuro, the response to the pullout was somewhat ho hum, an indication that the Forum is not viewed as a key organization in day-to-day work in the RMI. Among comments from government officials in Majuro:

- "Nowadays the CROP (Forum) agencies are usually in competition with us for funds. That's one of the reasons I don't see the need to be a member."
- "Travel aside, will there be any impact?"
- "We're not burning the bridge, we're paving the way for a better Pacific Islands Forum. Sub-regional arrangements work and can support regional efforts."

Continued page 2



RMI President David Kabua, Nauru President Lionel Aingimea, FSM President David Panuelo. Kiribati President Taneti Maamau, and Palau President Surangel Whipps, Jr

2

Friday, February 12, 2021 — The Marshall Islands Journal

Kabua: 'Withdrawal made on principle, not on emotions'

From page 1

Key questions raised in the wake of the decision of the Micronesia area leaders include:

- How will it impact the membership of RMI, Kiribati and Nauru in USP?
- Will it have any effect on the heavy engagement of all five members with the Forum Fisheries Agency?
- Will the Marshalls exit be an issue for ongoing employment of current Deputy Secretary General Filimon Manoni, a Marshalless citizen?
- Will the RMI follow Palau's lead and also close its Suva embassy?

"Let's be very clear that our withdrawal from the Pacific Islands Forum is on principle and not emotions," said President Kabua in a statement. "We need to understand what do we mean by 'Pacific Way' and 'regionalism."

Meantime, this development has sparked widespread comment and news reporting, with comments mostly on the negative side about Micronesia's move breaking up unity that the Pacific needs for addressing climate, Covid and other issues. The head of the Pacific Community (SPC), however, offered a thoughtful assessment of why Micronesia's move should be seen as a catalyst for needed reform at the Forum.

Dr. Colin Tukuitonga said the friction at the Forum was a reflection of an erosion of trust and respect between Micronesia in the North and the countries in the South, reported Radio New Zealand International.

He said reforming the way the Forum operates and its rules around things like membership and the selection of the secretary general would be a realistic way forward. "I think the way to do that is partly to strengthen the sub-regional groupings and have the three heads of the sub-region have equal power and influence, and to tone down the (role) of the regional body," he said. "So you only escalate to the regional body big issues that require international attention like climate change. But the influence, decision-making and all of that happens at the sub-regional level."

He mentioned the existing sub-regional groupings including the Melanesian Spearhead Group and the Polynesian Leaders