



*The President*  
*Palikij, Pohnpei*  
*Federated States of Micronesia*

**Presidential Order**  
**Establishing a Coconut National Export Strategy**

WHEREAS, in January 2020 Vital FSM Petroleum Corporation (Vital) was encouraged by government to prioritize and develop the Coconut National Export Strategy (CocoNES) as part of Vital's Coconut for Life Project;

WHEREAS, the CocoNES would advance a variety of strategic objectives of the FSM including those identified in the FSM National Strategic Development Plan, the Coconut Tree Act (P.L. 18-68), the FSM 2023 Action Plan, the FSM Trade Policy, and the FSM Agriculture Sector Policy;

WHEREAS, the FSM Agriculture Sector Policy's vision for the agriculture sector is that by 2023, the FSM will have a vibrant, robust and productive agriculture sector that sustainably supports food security, health lifestyles, strong social safety nets; that promotes a greener economy; and that provides good employment and income generation opportunities, economic growth and a decreased trade deficit;

WHEREAS, the intent of the CocoNES is to support the achievement of this vision by providing a comprehensive analysis of where the coconut industry stands today, where the industry should be in the next 3-5 year, with an implementation and management framework with clear action plans of what needs to be done by specific entities within a specific time of delivery; and

WHEREAS, the three interrelated bodies comprising the CocoNES have a specific mission to see through the successful design, execution, and delivery of a CocoNES that will successfully bring raw material coconut products from farmers into the export market and ultimately improve farmer livelihood and address food security risks; and

WHEREAS, the International Trade Center (ITC), the joint agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization, will be providing technical support for the development of the CocoNES.

NOW THEREFORE, I, David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia, pursuant to powers vested upon me by the Constitution and laws of the Federated States of Micronesia, do hereby order as follows:

- (1) The Coconut National Export Strategy (CocoNES) framework for the FSM is hereby established to be comprised of (i) a task force called the "CocoNES Advisory Body" (CAB); (ii) a Coconut Sector Development Coalition (CSDC); and (iii) a CocoNES Secretariat (CoSec).



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- (2) The membership of the CAB is composed of the following
  - (a) Secretary of the Department of Resources & Development as Chairperson who shall call the first meeting of the CAB;
  - (b) Secretary, Department of Justice
  - (c) Secretary, Department of Finance and Administration
  - (d) Secretary, Department of Transportation, Communication & Infrastructure; and
  - (e) Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs
- (3) The CAB is mandated to carry out the following duties and responsibilities:
  - (a) Provide oversight of the CocoNES design and implementation;
  - (b) Update the President on CocoNES design and implementation on a regular basis; and
  - (c) Remove roadblocks encountered for the successful strategy design and implementation.
- (4) The membership of the CSDC is composed of the following:
  - (a) 8 to 12 members drawn in equal proportions from the public and private organization/enterprises, with at least 1-2 representatives from each state;
  - (b) Members should reflect the coconut industry's diversity based on the size of firms, geography, gender, age, specialties within the industry, and depth of industry experience;
  - (c) Members shall ideally have competencies in one or more of the following:
    1. Finance
    2. Transportation
    3. Agriculture
    4. Political
    5. Marketing & Branding
    6. Donor Coordination & Fundraising
    7. ESG Risk Management
    8. Value Chain
  - (d) Members should consist of sector representatives who are either government officials from the coconut industry's related institutions, or private sector official from the coconut industry.
- (5) The CSDC is mandated to carry out the following duties and responsibilities:
  - (a) Act as a consultative body to the CocoNES Advisory Body on the needs and priorities for sustainable coconut industry development;
  - (b) Create a shared understanding of key market challenges and opportunities facing the coconut industry;





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- (c) Build consensus between public and private stakeholders on the best growth path for the coconut industry;
  - (d) Set goals and targets that, if achieved, will strengthen the coconut sector's competitive position, enhance FSM's overall capacity to meet changing market requirements, and reflect the interests of coconut sectors stakeholders;
  - (e) Define, activate, and align industry development programmes with the goals and targets of the industry;
  - (f) Propose key policy changes that if implemented will contribute to reaching industry goals;
  - (g) Contribute to identifying resources for implementing priority programs and project; and
  - (h) Organize public and private stakeholders' consultations/forums to collect opinions and recommendation on the future of the industry.
- (6) The CSDC may establish Technical Working Groups (TWGs) and utilize the expertise of observers who are not formal members of the CSDC.
- (a) The CSDC has the right to create Technical Working Groups (TWGs) to pursue the priorities identified. Where appropriate, these TWGs should also include representatives of island states. The Groups will report to the CSDC to inform on progress achieved, gain agreement and solicit direction for future work.
  - (b) Proposed TWGs may include, but are limited to the following:
    - 1. Community production;
    - 2. Quarantine and transportation
    - 3. Trade facilitation;
    - 4. Manufacturing; and
    - 5. Resource mobilization.
- (7) The CoSec shall be comprised of FSMPC, which shall be mandated to carry out the following duties and responsibilities:
- (a) Provide operational and administrative support to the overall CocoNES framework;
  - (b) Be responsible for keeping meeting minutes, and archiving Committees' decisions, reports and archives; and
  - (c) Provide secretariat support for the CAB and the CSDC.

SO ORDERED.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David W. Panuelo".

David W. Panuelo  
President

Date: 11/01/21