

Declaration to run for President



IBEDUL, REKLAI, MA RUBEKUL BELAU;
BILUNG, EBILREKLAI, MAR MECHESEL BELAU;
NGEASEK MA ROKUI EL CHAD ER BELAU;

PEOPLE OF PALAU, I AM READY TO RUN WITH YOU FOR THE
PRESIDENCY OF PALAU.

I come before you today to announce my intention to run for President of the Republic of Palau. I strongly believe that I can provide a strong, effective and trustworthy leadership that will help guide Palau to become one of the best and most successful island nations here in the Pacific. A successful Palau means that EVERY Palauan benefits from Palau's success.

Palau is at a critical time. Palau is faced with declining foreign assistance and rising cost of living. Palau must chart a course for a sustainable and self-sufficient economy and "Everyone must be on board". We must sail together, we must use the winds when they blow and currents when they push and we must paddle together to keep the vessel on course and moving forward. **"Let us unite and take control of Palau's destiny."**

The Palauan people must share in the opportunities that Palau has to offer. I am running for President because I believe that we can do better. **I know we can do better. We must work together to focus on our People.** We must improve people's quality of life.

When I first started my business 30 years ago, I was a fisherman selling fish in a pick-up truck in front of Palau High School. Then I saw opportunity in the tourism and retail business. I then began taking tourists out by day and fishing during the night. People needed rice at an affordable price so I began selling rice out of my house. I have always believed that to be successful in business you must work hard, listen to your customers, and provide the best service at the best value for the customer. I also believe that you must have educated, trained, and well paid employees to provide for and to deliver quality service in the most efficient way possible. I believe Palauans can be successful. And that we can compete in the global economy.

Running a successful Government is no different than running a successful business. I am committed to an administration that is responsive to the needs of the People of Palau. An administration that will provide TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES and INCENTIVES for us to do our best, TRANSPARENCY so we can see what we are doing and if we are doing all we can, and ACCOUNTABILITY so that we are held responsible for what we do or for what we do not do. We need a Government that takes care of its people. We need a Government that believes in its people. We need a Government that provides opportunities for its people. We need a

Government that gets the maximum return on its assets: its people, its environment, and its culture. I believe Palau's greatest asset is its people.

Our Government has invested much in our infrastructure – our roads, our facilities, our communications, our power, our water and wastewater. We have recognized the importance of the private sector and we have been laying foundations for it to continue to grow. We have done all of these to expand opportunities for economic growth and development. Now, more than ever, we need to ensure that our People share in the benefits of growth.

I understand the great responsibility and the effort required to ensure we develop Palau for the benefit of Palauans, and I intend to surround myself with people who share the same values and are committed to work by my side to realize this vision.

An important partner in this effort is the Vice-President. There are a number of ideal candidates I am considering. I will take into account the advice of the people in making my decision in the coming weeks. In the meantime, I want to assure you that my Vice-President will be someone you can trust, someone you can depend on, and someone, like me, who will do their best for you.

I believe that the Palauan people are getting left behind. Leaders must unite to implement policies that bring about sustainable growth. To me sustainable growth preserves our culture and our environment, while it provides for a vibrant economy that is self-sufficient and allows its citizens to share in its prosperity. Everyone in Palau must be on board. We must journey together, that no one should be left behind.

I promise to continue to abide by my motto to: Preserve, Unite, and Defend Palau and its most precious asset, OUR PEOPLE. I am grateful to you for your support throughout the years and I, again, humbly ask for your continued support in this upcoming election. I ask for your vote so together we sail to a brighter and better future for ourselves and our children.

Thank You.

“Let us unite and take control of Palau's DESTINY”.

“Bolta rengud, e bodedak, e dorkedii a KLEMAT er Belau.”