

Working Group on Universalisation

With support from Australia, New Zealand, the CCM and APMB, Palau recently hosted the first ever UXO Pacific Workshop, where eleven (11) Pacific Islands Forum members attended to raise awareness toward the ERW infestation in the Pacific, a possible regional approach and to promote both CCM and APMB throughout the Pacific. The Meeting was productive and has initiated the spirit of the Convention throughout the Pacific.

Palau will continue its role in promoting the Convention throughout the Pacific at its highest level of discussion with Pacific leaders by pushing forward its mine clearance direction with the Micronesian Chief Executive Summit, the Micronesian Presidential Summit and the Pacific Island Forum Leaders' Meeting to rally and lobby the entire Pacific leadership toward ratifying the CCM.

In addition to its universalisation attempt in the Pacific, Palau with funding support from Australia, is soon to open its Regional EOD Training Center on 23th of April 2013 in Peleliu, Palau with goals of building our national capacity and ownership of the clearance work as well as inviting the Pacific Region to partake on humanitarian approach on addressing ERW infestation and ratification of much needed international instruments such as the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Mr. President and Chairman, Palau extend its invitation to you and the Convention to attend this auspicious Opening Ceremony of the Regional EOD Training Center on 23th of April 2013 in Peleliu, Palau.

Thank you.