Presidential Statement on the Joint Leadership Emergency Meeting

A consensus was voiced at the joint leadership meeting from elected leaders, traditional leaders, and the general public that an extension of the SOE is crucial to mitigate this drought crisis we are experiencing. I do hope that timely action is taken upon it. I hope that the Senate could consider the testaments and pleads of the community. An extension of the SOE can only do good for our efforts in getting through this crisis. Nothing bad can come out of extending the SOE. I say again, the blame is on me. But I will say, that the responsibility to get through this without detriment to life, health, and property-belongs to all of Palau’s leadership. We must think and act together every step of the way and lift our people from the hard life being experienced due to the drought.