



Permanent Mission of the Federated States of Micronesia to the UN

300 East 42 Street, Suite 1600
New York, N.Y. 10017

e-mail: fsmun@fsmgov.org

Telephone: (212) 697-8370

Facsimile: (212) 697-8295

<http://www.fsmgov.org/>

High-level signature ceremony for the Paris Agreement

Remarks by President Peter Christian

New York, 22 April 2015

Check against delivery

Co-Chairs,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,
My wife, Maurina,

A very high official of a very powerful country once said of Micronesians, “Who gives a damn about 100,000 Micronesians?” That statement marked a dark day in our lives. Today brings a new dawn of hope. Many bodies—196—do give a damn, even about Micronesians.

Last year in Paris, we reached an important milestone in our collaborative work on Climate Change. Many of us left Paris with feelings of elation and hope that our global solidarity in reaching an agreement would result in promising possibilities.

Today just a few months later in New York we have come to enhance our resolve from Paris with further assurances of our individual national commitments to curb the causes of climate and atmospheric deterioration. This is what today is all about: to give sanctity to the Paris agreement; to embrace the spirit born in Paris; and hope, hope that our march from here on will be guided and protected by our multitude of national mandates.

Let us encourage ourselves to continuously update our targets and commitments unilaterally; to aim higher than our paper targets and shorten timelines where we can; to assure our people and our children that we can walk beyond the talk—that we can achieve nationally beyond what we talk about internationally.

Proof of success will be in implementation, when words translate into concrete and equitable actions, and when success is realized above and beyond our agreements and international concessions. My country commits to this challenge, and further;

- FSM will continue advocating for HFC phase-out as an important component of our ongoing efforts to meet our targets.
- FSM will deliver on our intentions in our iNDC and more.
- What little we have, what little we know, we promise to commit to the success of our agreement in Paris.

Like many Oceanic States, the Federated States of Micronesia has no choice but to be a climate canary of our world. We only ask that we all keep to the spirit in Paris, live up to our pledges, and deliver on implementation to keep alive our hopes for a better tomorrow. And so from this day onward, let us stand together close, and let it be said that this was the generation of world leaders that not only talked about climate change, but walked the deck of a sinking ship to find and plug the holes to save our ship.

Komol tata,
Kom kmal mesulang,
Kinisou chapwur.