Southe of Philip

Republic of Palau

Ministry of Health

P.O. Box 6027 Koror, Republic of Palau 96940 Phone: (680) 488-2552/3 Fax: (680) 488-1211

October 25, 2013 DBPHdf: 2013-109

Dr Sevil Huseynova WHO Country Liaison Officer in Northern Micronesia Department of Health and Social Affairs 1/F Mogethin Building, National Capital Complex PO BOX PS70 Palikir, FM 96941 who.fsm@wpro.who.int

Re: Endorsement of Palau Dossier for Certification of Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis

Dear Dr. Huseynova,

The Ministry of Health for the Republic of Palau hereby endorses this Dossier for Certification of Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis. Please accept this Dossier as evidence that Palau has successfully eliminated filariasis as a public health problem. Palau has been actively working to reduce and then eliminate filariasis for more than 50 years and is pleased that through the efforts of screening, mass drug administration programs, and careful follow-up and treatment, the prevalence is now below the level World Health Organization (WHO) requires for certification of elimination.

On behalf of the Ministry of Health of Palau, we want to acknowledge and thank the WHO for the technical input and financial support for these projects over the years, as well as donor agencies that have supported the efforts, including JICA, US CDC, Korean CDC and GSK. They have been pivotal in our successful elimination of filariasis.

Sincerely,

Berry Moon Watson, MPH

Director, Bureau of Public Health

Cc: Gregorio Ngirmang, Minister of Health

Eden Uchel, MPH, Division of Environmental Health Dawn Fitzgibbons, Public Health Epidemiologist

Connie Olikong, Neglected Tropical Diseases Program