



THE GOVERNOR
State of Yap

EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE DECLARATION

NO. 2024 - 001

DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

RECOGNIZING THE EXTENSIVE DESTRUCTION TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF YAP, INCLUSIVE OF ITS OUTER ISLANDS' MAIN WATER SOURCES CAUSED AND TO BE CAUSED BY THE ADVERSE IMPACTS OF A WEATHER CONDITIONS OF EL NINO AS PREDICTED BY THE RELEVANT WEATHER AUTHORITIES BOTH IN YAP STATE, THE FSM AND THE ENTIRE WORLD AND,

REALIZING THE MANIFESTATION FROM THE DRASTIC AND ADVERSE WEATHER PATTERNS THAT IS IMPACTING THE STATE OF YAP AND ITS OUTER ISLANDS, WILL CONTINUE OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD AND,

CONFIRMING THAT THERE IS NOW EXIST AN URGENT NEED FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF YAP TO URGENTLY MAKE PLANS TO IMMEDIATELY EXECUTE TO ASSIST, MITIGATE AND PREPARE TO RESPOND AND PROVIDE TO THE PEOPLE WITH SUFFICIENT WATER SUPPLY, HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES, FOOD SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND ADDRESS THEIR WATER AND HEALTH SECURITY ISSUES, AND, HENCE

DETERMINED THAT THE STATE OF YAP AND ITS PEOPLE IS NOW AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE FACED WITH A PERILOUS CONDITION AND SITUATIONS THAT WILL IMPACT LIVES AND PROPERTIES, RESULTING FROM EL NINO AND,

WHEREFORE, I CHARLES S. CHIENG, GOVERNOR OF THE YAP STATE, NOW DECLARE A STATE OF EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO ART. VI, SECTION 9(a) OF THE CONSTITUTION, FOR THE ENTIRE STATE OF YAP.

WHEREAS, now the Yap State Government had been braised with the dire situation faced by the peoples of Yap State with regards to the destruction, depletion, dried up of their main water supply and its source through direct impact and effect of the El Nino; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Outer Islands of Yap need urgent assistance to address their immediate need, in the midst of El Nino; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Yap State is authorized under Art. VI, Section 9 (a) of the Constitution to preserve public peace, health or safety, at a time of extreme emergency caused by civil disturbance, natural disaster, or immediate threat of war or insurrection, to declare a state of emergency and issue appropriate decrees; and now

WHEREAS, the most recent preliminary assessment of this El Nino on the outer islands, specifically with regards to water shortages on the islands, has adversely affected over 3,600 of the outer islands' population with the majority of their water tanks over 70% empty; and

WHEREAS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has recently classified the area surrounding Yap State as in "Severe Drought" (D2) which may or may not change in the short term; and

WHEREAS, the shortages of safe water supply ultimately will lead to negative variables that will affect food security in the form of limited cultivation, low crop yield, and health detriment; now;

THEREFORE, recognizing the natural disaster that has destroyed the Outer Islands' main water supply and its source, and they are in urgent need of assistance in order to preserve their health and safety, I, CHARLES S. CHIENG, as Governor of the Yap State, in exercise of my power under Art. VI, S9(a) of the Constitution, Declare a State of Emergency on State of Yap to address the urgent need for humanitarian assistance, water supply, health and safety, and investigate on how to sustainably resolve water security issues and adaptability system to the people of the Outer Islands, and also to enable those Government Departments that could assist me and supplement the work of the Emergency Task Forces during this time of emergency; and

THEREFORE, FURTHER, in exercise of the powers vested in me under Article VI, section 9 of the Constitution and other relevant laws of the State, as the Governor of the State of Yap, and acting in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet, I hereby further DECREE and DECLARE the State of Emergency for the State of Yap, as follows-

1. The Governor as the Executive Authority of the State, and head of the executive government shall continue to supervise the State efforts to combat and resolve the emergency.
2. Water supply, humanitarian assistance and water and crops security for the people of the State of Yap shall commence immediately;
3. Coordination with the national government of the FSM for other foreign aids, donations, gifts and other sources and resources of disaster relieves for the peoples and communities found to be seriously impacted by this natural phenomenon;
4. Investigations and recommendations as to the best sustainable system that could sustainably resolve and add resilience to the water security system to be implemented shall be made available within 27 days from the date of this declaration.
5. All relevant State Government Offices shall remain operational and continue to conduct their affairs according to law, and assist the state during this time of emergency.

6. The Office of Planning and Budget and Emergency Task Force are to work closely with other Departments in addressing this emergency.
7. Suspending the application the relevant provisions of the Yap State Financial Management and laws and regulation affecting any and all procurement of emergency supply, assets, equipment intended for the purposes to implement this Declaration.
8. The State of Yap shall continue to recognize and operate its affairs in addressing the declaration of emergency on Drought (El Nino) according to the current conditions and terms set by the state government guidelines.
9. The Governor may access State appropriate funds to mitigate the emergency and establish a Yap State Emergency Relief Fund and deposit into the Fund up to \$100,00 from funds already appropriated and other funds received from other private donations and foreign governments, institutions, organizations domestic, regional and international.
10. Mobilization of all government's assets. All government assets/properties and relevant government agency personnel, is hereby mobilized and be ready to redirect all assistance and render and provide any supports necessary and needed to implement and execute to carry out the intent and mandate of this Declaration.
11. The Office of the Attorney General shall coordinate with all relevant law enforcement personnel and assets to enforce this declaration to protect the securities of persons and properties and to ensure that civil rights are not violated except and only to the extend necessary for the enforcement of the provisions of this Declaration.
12. This Declaration of the State of Emergency is hereby attached with two supporting documents Identify as ANNEX I -PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT REPORT and ANNEX II-STATE RESPONSE ACTION PLAN. Both annexes are hereby made part of this Declaration in whole and in part.
13. This State of Emergency Declaration Decree takes immediate effect upon execution.

SO DECLARED AND ISSUED this 14th day of February 2024.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

The Honorable Charles S. Chieng
Governor