



**Department of Youth and Civic Affairs
Colonia Yap, FM 96943**

**Media Release
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Subject: Joint FSM/FEMA PDA Team briefed Governor Anefal on mission to the outer islands.

In brief courtesy call on Governor Anefal by the joint FSM/FEMA Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) Team, Governor Anefal welcomed the team and thanked its members for taking the time to visit the State of Yap. While it will not be possible for the Team to visit most of the effected island by recent natural phenomenon including salt water intrusion, coastal erosion among others, Anefal expressed support for the plan by the team to visit the two identified island groups namely Falalop Ulithi and Woleai atoll.

Anefal also informed the team that during his State visit to all the outer islands, he witnessed first hand the problem of salt water intrusion into taro patches killing significant amount of the crop. This situation has also impacted the meager water supply for most of these islands.

The team which consist of experts and specialist in various areas of environmental concerns, will be flying to these island groups to conduct tests and collect data samples within time frame of November 2007 to February 2008. Their finding will be reported to the Governor upon completion of the visits to the islands. Joining the visits to the outer islands are representatives from the Yap State Disaster Coordinating Team.

For further information contact DY&CA at 350-2168/2169