December 10, 2018

Palau Visitors Authority
Medalaii, Koror
Palau 96940

TO: DIAZ BROADCASTING / EPFM 87.9 / PWFM 89.9 / KRFM 88.9 / Island Times / Tia Belau / Kambes Kesolei / Bernadette Carreon

PVA & AIRAI STATE WELCOMES TAIWAN COUNCIL OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

On December 9th, 2018, Palau Visitors Authority (PVA) in collaboration with Airai State Government welcomed and organized a cultural sightseeing tour for our guests from the Council of Indigenous Peoples (CIP), Mr. Wang Jui-Ying (Director of Department of General Planning) and Ms. Sayun Tosu (Officer of Policy Planning and International Affairs, Department of General Planning) including His Excellency, Ambassador Wallace M. G. Chow and his wife Yu-Shan Samantha Tsai, and Ms. Sofia Huang, Second Secretary.

The day began boating through the beautiful and pristine mangroves in Airaithen kayaking back to shore where a traditional lunch awaited, prepared by the women of Airai. Airai State Governor Tmewang Rengulbai, Mr. Collins Takeo, Coordinator, Tourism Department, Mr. Ngorai Tmetuchl, Chairman of PVA Board, Ms. Stephanie Nakamura, PVA Managing Director, Mr. Kadoi Rulu ked, Operations and Programs Director, Ms. Katarina Mad, State & Community Manager, and Ms. Chloe Yano, Social Media Representative, and other Airai State representatives were present to accompany our honorable guests.

After lunch, our Airai State tour guides, Ms. Velma Obak and Elsa Sugar, along with other Airai State representatives, and respected village chiefs of Airai, gave a cultural tour of the Airai Bai and spoke about other monumental events and sites such as, Kambes, Okeuid el Bad, and Chadeser a Mechorei. During the tour, a women’s traditional dance performance was demonstrated as well.

Within one day, they experienced traditional culinary display and preparation, Palauan food, traditional dance performances, Palauan arts and crafts, that PVA is working with the State to turn into a complete package tour. This cultural tour experience is a primary example to which
reflects PVA's long-term goal and efforts to expand tourism beyond water activities.