

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

AND

THE SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER ORDER
OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM OF RHODES AND OF MALTA

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The Federated States of Micronesia

for one Party;

The Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta,
hereinafter referred to as the “**ORDER OF MALTA**”

for the other Party;

Considering the traditionally excellent relations since the establishment of diplomatic relations between The Federated States of Micronesia and the Order of Malta in 1997;

Considering the desire to further strengthen the friendly bonds existing between them through the promotion of mutual cooperation between the Parties;

Considering the long tradition of cooperation in the field of medical, humanitarian and healthcare assistance between the Federated States of Micronesia and the Order of Malta;

Considering that the Order of Malta has been dedicated to the service of the sick and poor in the world ever since its foundation 900 years ago;

Considering the desire to facilitate the humanitarian assistance of the Order of Malta on the territory of the Federated States of Micronesia

hereby agree:

CHAPTER I

PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT

Article 1: Purpose of the Agreement

- 1.1. The purpose of this agreement is to set the general framework and guidelines of the cooperation between the Federated States of Micronesia and the Order of Malta aimed at promoting the hospitaller and healthcare actions of the latter in the territory of the Federated States of Micronesia.
- 1.2. According to their means, the Contracting Parties shall support and implement measures intended to facilitate, develop and diversify their social, humanitarian, and healthcare cooperation.
- 1.3. In case of emergencies, necessity or unexpected events, and in the absence of specific conventions as defined above, this agreement shall directly apply to activities which will be taken on the initiative and under the supervision of the High Contracting Parties.

Article 2: Project Implementation with Connected Organisations and Partners of the Order of Malta

- 2.1. To the purpose of accomplishing its missions, the Order of Malta takes actions directly or through its connected organisations. These organisations are established in view of the accomplishment of the Order of Malta's works, such as foundations, aid services, the National Associations, Relief Organisations or Malteser International, its world-wide relief agency. These organisations act within the framework of their competences; therefore, they may establish specific conventions which relate thereto.
- 2.2. The Federated States of Micronesia shall grant to the Order of Malta and its connected organisations the right to replace or hire any natural or legal person to ensure the proper execution of the programs and projects.

Article 3: Objective of the Cooperation

- 3.1. The Contracting Parties will make the effort to promote mutual cooperation according to the laws, rules and internal regulations in harmony with their respective policies on the basis of principles of equality and mutual respect of sovereignty.

CHAPTER II

FIELDS OF COOPERATION AND ACTIVITIES

Article 4: The cooperation foreseen in this Agreement will be in the following areas:

- a. Healthcare
- b. Food Security
- c. Voluntary Service
- d. Disaster Risk Reduction
- e. Humanitarian Assistance, and
- f. Other areas that are of common interest, as agreed by the Parties.

CHAPTER III

RECIPROCAL COMMITMENTS

Article 5: Privileges, Facilities and Immunities

- 5.1. The facilities, privileges and immunities granted to diplomatic agents by the Vienna convention on diplomatic relations of 18th April 1961 apply to all the diplomatic staff of the Embassy of the Order of Malta accredited to the Federated States of Micronesia. The same applies to holders of diplomatic or service passports issued by the Sovereign Order.
- 5.2. Other agents of the Order of Malta or of its connected organisations who contribute to the realisation of projects, programmes or activities and to the management of the establishments of the Order of Malta in the territory of the Federated States of Micronesia shall enjoy the protection of the competent the Federated States of Micronesia authorities.

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Article 6: Freedom of Movement

- 6.1. The Federated States of Micronesia shall facilitate the issue of entry visas and residence permits on its territory to all personnel of the Order of Malta and/or its connected organisations who serve in social, humanitarian, health operations or who assist in the training of human resources, extending this expedient also to members of their families.
- 6.2. The Federated States of Micronesia shall undertake to facilitate the movement of the personnel of the Order of Malta and/or its connected organisations in the exercise of its mission.

Article 7: Regime of Goods, Material and Equipment

- 7.1. The Federated States of Micronesia shall undertake to exempt from taxes, dues or tariffs, duties and any other additional charges, including custom fees on import of equipment, machinery, consumable goods, technological components and any other goods, provided that these are destined only and exclusively to reaching the social, humanitarian and assistance objectives established by this Agreement and that they meet the requirements and procedures established for the grant of such exemptions.
- 7.2. The buildings belonging to the Order of Malta or made available to it, under any legal form, are inviolable. Their integrity and the safety of their accesses are assured by the government of the Federated States of Micronesia. They may show the emblem of the Order of Malta in its different forms together with the national emblem of the Federated States of Micronesia.
- 7.3. On the occasion of the national feasts of the Federated States of Micronesia and of the Order of Malta, as well as the official ceremonies organized either by the Federated States of Micronesia or the Order of Malta, the buildings in the previous article shall be decked with the colors of the two Sovereign entities according to local usage.

Article 8: Assessment Committee

- 8.1. In order to ensure proper follow-up of the cooperation, an Assessment Committee shall be set up to examine and choose cooperation Projects and Plans to attain the objectives set out in this Agreement. To this effect, the Committee shall prepare annual reports of the results obtained from the accomplished Projects and set out future Projects and Programs to implement.
- 8.2. The Assessment Committee shall be composed of two representatives from each Party, to be designated by the respective Parties for the purpose of establishing the Committee.

Article 9: Protection of Identity

- 9.1 In accordance with international law the Contracting Parties commit themselves to mutually protect their names, emblems, coats-of-arms, flags and other symbols of sovereignty against abuse or violation and ensure to defend them against any imitation.

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CHAPTER IV

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 10: Entry into force, Duration and Renewal

- 10.1. This Agreement will last for a period of 10 years. It will be renewed automatically by tacit consent and will come into force after each Contracting Party has notified the other through diplomatic channels that the required internal procedures of their legislation have been fulfilled.
- 10.2. During the term of this Agreement, any of the Contracting Parties can propose in writing amendments to which the other party has to reply in writing and, if the amendment is adopted by mutual agreement and according to the legislation of each one of the Contracting Parties, they will be considered written in this Agreement.
- 10.3. This Agreement can be denounced by any of the Contracting Parties through diplomatic channels with a written notification to the other with an advance of at least six (6) months.
- 10.4. Even following its expiry date, the provisions of this Cooperation Agreement will be applied to the Programs and Projects which are being executed until these will finish, unless the contrary is expressly agreed by the Contracting Parties.

Article 11: Complementary Agreements

- 11.1. With the objective to implement the cooperation foreseen by this Cooperation Agreement, the Contracting Parties will be able to adopt Complementary Agreements in areas of common interest for each specific Project or Program.

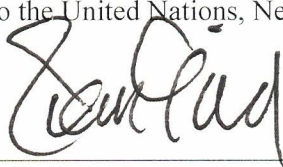
Article 12: Language and Deposition

- 12.1. This Agreement shall be written in Italian and English, the two originals being equally authentic and valid.
- 12.2. Each Party shall be considered as depositary of the original of this Agreement.

Done in New York, on 23rd September 2026

For the Federated States of Micronesia

H.E. Ambassador Jeem Lippwe
Permanent Representative
to the United Nations, New York



**For the Sovereign Military Hospitaller
Order of St. John of Jerusalem of
Rhodes and of Malta**

H.E. Ambassador Giampaolo Cantini
Secretary General for Foreign Affairs

