**FSM Closing Statement**

The FSM is a thirty four (34) year old nation, and as with all young nations, it has its share of successes and challenges. Even as a young nation, one thing is clear and firm, for the FSM, every human life, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, culture or ideology, is equally important and precious.

The Preamble to our FSM Constitution attests to our values, hopes, dreams and principles by stating, “To make one nation of many islands, we respect the diversity of our cultures. Our differences enrich us. The seas bring us together, they do not separate us. Our islands sustain us; our island nation enlarges us and makes us stronger. Our ancestors, who made their homes on these islands, displaced no other people. We, who remain, wish no other home than this. Having known war, we hope for peace. Having been divided, we wish unity. Having been ruled, we seek freedom. Micronesia began in the days when man explored seas in rafts and canoes. The Micronesian nation is born in an age when men voyage among stars; our world itself is an island. We extend to all nations what we seek from each: peace, friendship, cooperation, and love in our common humanity.” Our FSM Universal Periodic Review (UPR) for Human Rights has been developed to reflect FSM’s hopes, dreams, values, and principles which mirrors our FSM Preamble to our Constitution and confirms the importance of every human life and human rightsof all regardless of age, gender, religion, race, culture or ideology.

We would like to acknowledge with appreciation and thanks to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the FSM Universal Periodic Review (UPR)/Human Rights Task Force, without which this report wouldn’t have been made possible.

In conclusion, we hope that FSM’s UPR can assist in the fight to improve and empower lives as we continue to celebrate our rich diversity while navigating towards sustainably living on our islands forever.

It is my privilege to conclude that FSM’s Report details the importance of ‘human rights ‘in our daily lives and how it can continue to improve and empower lives as we continue to celebrate our rich diversity while navigating towards sustainably living on our islands forever. My Delegation would like to thank you Madame President and your Human Rights Council, the Troika of the 37th Session of the Working Group and everyone who has joined us today for our review.