Statement

On the Adoption of the 37th Session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Report

for the Federated States of Micronesia

H.E. Ambassador Jane Chigiyal

Permanent Representative to the Federated States of Micronesia

Permanent Mission the the United Nations

New York, New York

January 22, 2021

-Check Against Delivery-

Madam President,

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, let me convey my personal congratulations to you Madam President - for your assumption to the seat of the Presidency of the Human Rights Council for this year. I also congratulate the members of your bureau.

I am pleased to represent my government at the adoption of the recommendations of our UPR report. Let me express our appreciation to H.E. Ambassador Mani Prasad Bhattarai of Nepal for his presentation of the Working Group report on behalf of the distinguished TROIKA members from Cameroon and Mexico.

My government values the UPR process and views it as an important forum where we share and learn best practices to promote and safeguard the human rights of our peoples.

We thank the member states that participated in our review despite the challenging circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic for providing guidance and recommendations on areas requiring our further attention. We appreciate the supports that have been given by member states and our development partners in our implementation of a number of recommendations from our two previous reports. This has set a strong foundation for even more in-depth understanding in relation to human rights and our own obligations thereto, and we look forward to the formal adoption of this year’s UPR recommendations.

We developed and presented our report at an unprecedented time. The COVID-19 pandemic made wide internal consultation a challenge. As a big oceanic state where our population lives on widely dispersed islands, the tyranny of distance is a constant challenge that we face. In this context, my delegation has made the decision to take the 154 recommendations back for more thorough consultation with all stakeholders and we will provide a response in due time, but no later than the 47th session of the Human Rights Council.

In conclusion. I also want to extend our gratitude to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) for its technical support, especially the secretariat of the UPR as well as the translators for their hard and logistical support in enabling our virtual presentation of our national report, consultations with TROIKA and in today’s session.

Thank you Madam President and best wishes for this year