REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

CONFIDENTIAL

C.M. 129(2003)

FOR ACTION

Minister of Health

FOR INFORMATION

All Cabinet Members

SUBJECT: Measles Emergency Rules & Regulations

At its meeting on August 14, 2003 the Cabinet **approved** the Emergency Rules & Regulations on Measles to minimize the spread of Measles within the Marshall Islands, with the following amendment to the language of Paragraph 3 to be inserted immediately after the words August 24, 2003: " or such earlier time as may be designated by the Secretary of Health".

Philomena A. Muller
Ass't. Clerk of the Cabinet

Brenson S. Wase
Acting President

[Reference – C.P. 5039(2003)
Signed by the Acting President on August 14th, 2003.

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EMERNGEYC RULES/ REGULATIONS

WHEREAS –

(A) The Ministry of Health has confirmed that there is an outbreak o Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands since the fourth week (

(B) Measles is one of the communicable childhood diseases that is h contagious and can have severe complications;

(C) Measles can be prevented through vaccination;

(D) The Measles Outbreak is currently concentrated in Majuro;

(E) It is essential that outbreak of measles be prevented from occurring in the outer islands of the Republic of the Marshall Islands where health services is limited;

(F) It is essential that the Ministry of Health takes every measures to minimize and prevent the spread of measles in Majuro;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the power conferred on the Secretary of Health, by Public Health, Safety and Welfare Act, 7 MIRC, Chapter 1, Sections 4 and 7 and the Administrative Procedure Act, 1979, 6 MIRC, Chapter 1, Section 5 (Emergency Rules) and subject to the approval of the Cabinet, these Emergency Rules/Regulations are hereby adopted –

1. With immediate effect: (a) all schools on Majuro both elementary and high schools are to delay the opening of School Year 2003-2004 until the week of August 24, 2003 and all students shall be required to be vaccinated against Measles before returning to school.

2. Verifications of vaccinations referred to in Section 1 for students shall be in the form of certificate issued out by Public Health, Ministry of Health to be presented to the school.

3. Airline the Marshall Islands, all Government and private vessels are to delay their schedules of departure from Majuro to the outer islands until the week of August 24, 2003 and must require all departing passengers in the target age group of 6 months to age 30 to present a certificate of vaccination against Measles prior to departing to the outer islands.

4. Without prejudice to Section 3, all controlling officers of the said vessels should ensure that any passengers in the target age groups should present with a certificate of vaccination from the Ministry of Health prior to departure.

5. These Emergency Rules & Regulations shall be void September 14, 2003.

Dated the _____ day of _____, 2003.

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Justina R. Langidrik
Secretary of Health