

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

PATA Micronesia Chapter and the University of Guam Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network Announce Memorandum of Understanding for 2018

(Thursday, March 1, 2018; Guam, U.S.A.) – The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Micronesia and the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network (PISBDCN) at the University of Guam is pleased to announce the renewal of their Memorandum of Understanding for 2018. The PATA Micronesia Chapter, together with PISBDCN, have agreed to assist the National Tourism Organizations (NTO) and State Tourism Organizations (STO) in Micronesia in developing the tourism industry within each island jurisdiction; to assess tourism-related training needs; to co-sponsor tourism-related trainings, workshops and seminars; and to work in soliciting United Airlines for complimentary or discounted airfare for the trainer(s), speaker(s) or presenter(s), among many other responsibilities.

Founded in Honolulu in 1951, PATA is an international, non-profit membership organization whose mission is to contribute to the growth, value and quality of travel and tourism to and within the Pacific-Asia area on behalf of its members. Today, PATA is a global organization, covering over one third of the globe and represented through dozens of regional and satellite chapters. The PATA Micronesia Chapter was established in 1986 as a result of increasing tourism interests within the region.

PATA Micronesia's mission is "to assist in the development of our regional tourism industry with strategies that are environmentally sensitive, respect Micronesian cultures, adhere to high operational standards and provide opportunity for education, training and gainful employment among the resident populations of our Micronesian membership." The mission of the University of Guam PISBDCN is "to support the growth and economic development of the U.S. affiliated Pacific Islands in the western Pacific region by providing high quality training and one-on-one confidential counseling to existing and prospective small businesses."

Additionally, the PATA Micronesia Chapter and the PISBDC would like to express their gratitude to United Airlines for their support with airfare and Mr. Roy Abraham who volunteered to provide the trainings in 2017. Mr. Abraham brings with him 35+ years in hotel management and operations, and the Chapter is very grateful for Mr. Abraham's contributions. Through this collaborative effort, regional training was provided to 17 participants in Chuuk, 36 in Pohnpei, and 70 participants in Palau.

On this note, the PATA Micronesia Chapter is happy to also announce United Airlines' support to provide airfare assistance to the Chapter and PISBDCN's missions for 2018.

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