

APIPA Principals Gather for 2nd Meeting in Guam



Mr. Midson Tom, the Corporate Service Manager at the FSM Office of the National Public Auditor (ONPA), represented ONPA at the 2nd APIPA Principals Meeting held in Guam on December 11 to 12, 2024. Hosted by the Guam Office of Public Accountability, this meeting brought together senior officials from Palau, FSM, CNMI, Samoa, American Samoa, and RMI audit institutions to discuss important future policies and operations of APIPA.

Among the key topics addressed were the ongoing APIPA audit conducted by Holsinger, updates on the development of operational policies and efforts to improve access to essential tools like Teammate software through collaborative grants. Participants collectively approved amendments to the APIPA Charter and deliberated on the potential establishment of a scholarship program for future auditors.

Another highlight of the meeting was Dr. Martha Suez's presentation, which focused on the University of Guam's new Master of Accountancy Program aimed at addressing regional accounting shortages. As the meeting drew to a close, decisions were made to transfer APIPA accounts to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), alongside discussions regarding the PASAI Twinning Arrangement. This gathering not only reinforced APIPA's commitment to enhancing public accountability but also emphasized the importance of building professional capacity within the Pacific region. ONPA congratulates Mr. Satrunino Tewid acting Public Auditor from Palau for his term as outgoing APIPA Chair and joins everyone in welcoming the new chair, temporary Public Auditor, Ms. Dora Guerrero from the CNMI.