



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL PUBLIC AUDITOR

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ONPA RELEASES INSPECTION REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FSM PL21-76 – PROHIBITION ON IMPORTATION OF ONE-TIME USE STYROFOAM AND PLASTIC ITEMS

We have completed our inspection on the implementation of FSM Public Law (PL) 21-76 “Prohibition on Importation of One-Time Use Styrofoam and Plastic Food Service Items and Plastic Bags”; a law that speaks volume of the commitment of the FSM Congress in supporting the Government’s efforts to sustain the environment.

This inspection was initiated based on our internal strategic planning process in our attempt to perform an environment related engagement; which we conducted in accordance with the Council of the Inspector Generals on Integrity and Efficiency’s *Quality Standards for Inspections and Evaluations*.

We concluded the following based on the objectives of our inspection:

- No effective controls in place pertaining to the implementation of PL21-76 such as absence of penalties imposed for noncompliance with the public law and the regulations, as well as absence of standard operating procedures; and
- Non-compliance with the PL21-76 which are attributed to lack of collaboration and limited capacity within the implementing agencies.

Overall, we identified areas of improvement in strengthening the requirements of the law and relevant regulation, as well as strengthening the capacity of the implementing agencies that are currently facing challenges in fully implementing the law. The attention of the Congress and implementing agencies to these issues is vital so that the good intentions of the public law are realized in reducing the threats that the prohibited items pose to the environment.

A digital copy of our report is available on our [website link](#).

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Article XII, Section 3 of the F.S.M Constitution and Title 55, Chapter 5 of the FSM Code authorized the Public Auditor to direct a broad, comprehensive program of auditing within the National Government.

