



Invitation

Lecture of Palau's Foreign Minister Mrs. Faustina Rehuher-Marugg on Thursday 6 June 2019 at 18:15 at the Asia-Africa-Institute, University of Hamburg, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, Wing East, R. 123.

We are pleased to have won her Excellency Mrs. Faustina K. Rehuher-Marugg, the Foreign Minister of the Pacific Island State of Palau, for a public lecture at the Asia-Africa-Institute.

Titled

“Sunscreen ban and shark sanctuary”

Climate and environmental policy in Palau (Western Pacific)

she will be talking about Palau's current environmental policy. Palau plays a leading role in the protection of biodiversity in the Pacific. As early as 2009, Palau established the world's first shark sanctuary to stop the threatened extinction of sharks in its waters by shark fishing and the removal of shark fins.

Palau is also the first country to introduce a comprehensive ban on sunscreen products to protect its sensitive coral reefs. The government has signed a law restricting the sale and use of sunscreens and skin care products containing environmentally hazardous chemicals. Recent research suggests that these ingredients are highly toxic to marine life and can make coral reefs susceptible to fading. The ban will come into force in 2020.

Life on Palau is still closely linked to the ocean. The ocean is the basis of nutrition and connects with other islands. One of the Foreign Minister's most urgent tasks is to protect it and thus protect the islands from the consequences of overfishing and climate change. She is committed to marine conservation and sustainable fisheries and at the same time points out the consequences of climate change for her home country.



As Ambassador for the International Conference 'Our Ocean - an Ocean for Life', which will be hosted by Palau in 2020, she advocates that politics, business and civil society work for a healthy, clean and protected ocean. Mrs. Rehuher-Marugg will also report on the visions and plans for this conference.



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