

Phillip Muller, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of the Marshall Islands, is a shining star among his country's leaders. He appears to enjoy the respect of all Marshallese. Minister Muller is a polished interlocutor who is friendly and well disposed toward the United States. Although reserved and circumspect, he can press matters aggressively when he believes that his or President Kabua's interest are at stake.

Minister Muller was educated at Rockhurst College in Missouri (1975-79).

In 1984, Phillip Muller was elected to the Parliament and named Assistant Minister of Finance and Assistant to the late President. As Minister of Education from 1986-94, Minister Muller played a key role in revamping the ailing public school system with the help of aid from the Asian Development Bank. While in that post he also visited the United States on an International Visitor Program grant (1989).

Minister Muller has dealt with U.S. official on a regular basis. He has participated in U.S.-Marshall Islands talks on nuclear waste and storage issues in which one of his goals has been to obtain increased U.S. compensation for islanders exposed to radioactive fallout from U.S. nuclear tests at Bikini and Enewetak Atolls.