Resolution No. 28-GA-05, CD1

"Relative to supporting the establishment of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, an administrative, research and development center for the Western Micronesian Chief Executives’ Summit and the Micronesian Presidents’ Summit and further requesting for greater participation in the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future by allowing for direct representation from its members and authorizing the involvement of the APIIL President or designee in the ongoing strategic development plan process for the Center."

WHEREAS, the United States Affiliated Islands of Micronesia are experiencing a period of rapid growth, urbanization, westernization and increasing significance to national security; and

WHEREAS, in response to common challenges unique to small island developing states, and given the extraordinary opportunities within the region to preserve, leverage, and integrate indigenous, natural, and human resource systems and to establish processes of collaborative governance, the member States have established two (2) sub-regional Chief Executive summits: (1) the Western Micronesia Chief Executives’ Summit (WMCES); and (2) the Micronesian Presidents’ Summit (MPS); and

WHEREAS, it has been the shared goal of these entities to create mechanisms that will develop and implement regional solutions to regional problems by harnessing expertise and resources from both within Micronesia and from external parties holding a positive interest in Micronesia’s future; and
WHEREAS, to achieve this goal, during the past five (5) years, the two (2) Summits have met bi-annually and have issued a series of joint communiqués to form a Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future (MCSF); and

WHEREAS, the members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures have conveyed their acknowledgment of the Guam Legislature’s Resolutions No. 140 and 199 for the work of the Western Micronesia Chief Executives’ Summit (WMCES) and the Micronesian Presidents’ Summit (MPS) in establishing this institution; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of the Secretary General of the MCSF, a strategic development plan has been prepared to lay out the organizational structure, strategic direction, and action plan for the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future; and

WHEREAS, the strategic development plan delineates a specific course of action to develop the organizational capacities of the Center to serve the needs of the communities represented in the WMCES, including conducting a comprehensive socio-economic analysis of the region; the establishment of information portals to facilitate inter-island communication and access to information; and the development of grant writing and fundraising capabilities; and

WHEREAS, the strategic development plan provides for the involvement of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future in supporting and executing key programs of the WMCES, including the Micronesia Challenge which has the objective of conserving thirty percent (30%) of near shore marine and twenty percent (20%) of the terrestrial resources across Micronesia by 2020; the Pacific Islands Regional Recycling Initiative Council (PIRRIC) which focuses on environmental and solid waste issues in Micronesia; the Micronesia Regional Invasive Species Council which combats the threat of invasive species and the restoration of natural eco-systems; the establishment of a regional
energy initiatives to address the rising cost of fossil fuels and the development of
alternative energy solutions; and the WMCES Tourism Committee including the
implementation of a Regional Tourism Development Plan; and

WHEREAS, the strategic development plan further specifies that the
Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future will actively engage in several
telecommunications initiatives in such areas as telemedicine to enhance accessible health
care, regional distance learning to expand educational opportunities, and infrastructure
upgrades such as submarine fiber-optic cable to improve access to high-speed
telecommunications; and

WHEREAS, the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, as provided for in
the draft business plan, will also implement, for the region, specific Cultural and Historic
Resource initiatives to support research in Micronesian heritage and history; regional
festivals for traditional performing arts; training in meaningful translations of indigenous
languages; academic conferences on Micronesian issues; inter-island field schools by
academic institutions; internships in the fields of historic preservation and museum
studies; as well as support for historic and cultural preservation efforts at all levels of
government, in consultation and collaboration with the Micronesian historic preservation
organizations; and

WHEREAS, the strategic development plan also provides that by utilizing the
planned informational portals, regional and international contacts, and resource base, the
Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future will serve as a strategic think tank for
sustainable development for the Western Micronesian Chief Executives’ Summit, the
Micronesian Presidents’ Summit and the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures; and

WHEREAS, the strategic development plan further provides that the Micronesian
Center for a Sustainable Future will develop a broad and deep strategic alliance with the
University of Guam; in the operation of the planned information portals, the establishment
of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future Research Fellows Program; and

WHEREAS, at the 28th General Assembly of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, the Strategic Design and Planning Team briefed the APIL delegations on the development of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future; and

WHEREAS, in their briefing, the Strategic Design and Planning Team reiterated that funding for the Center will come from Bilateral, Multilateral, and US Government sources and funding would not be sought from member entities; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures find that this effort by the Western Micronesian Chief Executives’ Summit and the Micronesian Presidents’ Summit to establish the Micronesia Center for a Sustainable Future is worthy of both commendation and support by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures; and

WHEREAS, the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, as delineated in the strategic development plan, will greatly benefit the people of the member states of the WMCES, MPS, and APIL; and

WHEREAS, the recent crisis in financial markets has demonstrated the serious need to remain cognizant of external factors that impact the people of Micronesia; the development of realistic strategies for the island communities to address these impacts, has emerged as a key concern of the APIL member entities; and

WHEREAS, as new challenges and opportunities emerge, the MCSF will continue to refine and deepen its approach to developing innovative and imaginative responses and solutions to creating the future. It is for this reason that this Strategic Development Plan remains – a living document; and

WHEREAS, the work of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future will help effectuate solutions to our region’s environmental, social, and economic problems; and provide vitally needed resources for the region; and provide important access to
expertise and resources to meet public policy goals; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the passage of this resolution, that APIL is in agreement
that the Association, in conjunction with Micronesian Chief Executives, shall directly
participate in the development of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future and the
attendant strategic development plan process; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the Association of
Pacific Island Legislatures, at its 28th General Assembly, held on June 9-11, Pohnpei,
Federated States of Micronesia, that the Association does hereby support the
establishment of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future (MCSF), the
prospective regional needs assessment called for in the strategic development plan, and
the involvement of the APIL President or designee in the ongoing strategic development
process; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the Association of
Pacific Island Legislatures, that the Association does further support the initiatives by the
Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future to secure funding from Bilateral,
Multilateral, and US Government sources including DOI technical assistance grants; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of the strategic plan and articles of
incorporation and by-laws of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future (MCSF)
shall be provided to the APIL member entities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President of the Association of Pacific
Island Legislatures shall certify, and the Secretary of the Association of Pacific Island
Legislatures shall attest to the adoption hereof; and that copies of the same shall be
thereafter transmitted to the Presiding Legislative Officers and Chief Executives of each
of the APIL member jurisdictions, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to
each of the members of the Western Council of Micronesian Chief Executives and the
Micronesian Presidents’ Summit; to the Honorable Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of
the United Nations; to the Chair of the House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs; to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Delegate to Congress; to the Honorable Gregorio "Kilili" Camacho Sablan, CNMI's Delegate to Congress; to the Honorable Eni Hunkin Faleomavaega, American Samoa's Delegate to Congress; to the Staff Director of the House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs; to the President of the University of Guam; to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Alliance of Small Island States; to the Regional Administrator, U.S. EPA Region IX; to the co-chairs of the White House Interagency Work Group of the Freely Associated States (TWGFA); to the co-chairs and members of the White House Interagency Group of Insular Affairs (IGIA); to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Affairs; to the Secretariat of the Global Programme of Action (GPA); and to the Executive Director and to the Chairman of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF).


J. KALANI ENGLISH
APIL PRESIDENT

JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED.D.
APIL SECRETARY

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