A RESOLUTION

APIL Resolution No. 34-GA-07

“Recognizing the urgent need to enact legislation and/or to establish guiding policies to provide for the organization of the Protected Areas Network for Micronesia and to effectuate the disbursement of funds from the Micronesia Challenge Endowment Fund and other sustainable revenue sources to Micronesian communities to improve the management of their protected areas.”

WHEREAS, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) has endorsed the regional Marine Protected Areas Network across the Pacific Islands in Resolution No. 25-GA-06, CD1; and

WHEREAS, in December of 2006, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Territory of Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands entered into a regional Executive Consultation and Agreement entitled the “Micronesia Challenge” (MC); and

WHEREAS, the Micronesia Challenge is an integral component to our regional success in conserving our marine and forest resources, protecting our environment for food security and sustainable development for our people, and facilitating a uniform system for the preservation and protection of protected areas on a regional level; and

WHEREAS, the Micronesia Challenge calls on participating jurisdictions to effectively conserve thirty percent (30%) of near shore marine resources and twenty percent (20%) of forest resources throughout Micronesia by the year 2020; and

WHEREAS, effective conservation under the Micronesia Challenge also includes the establishment of sustainable financing in the form of an endowment fund and other organized financing mechanisms such as Protected Areas Network (PAN) Funds and Green Fees that will ensure the sustainable financing of the Micronesia Challenge; and
WHEREAS, Micronesian communities are ready to receive and utilize the Micronesia Challenge Endowment Fund earnings to improve the management of their protected areas; and

WHEREAS, disbursement of the proceeds from the Micronesia Challenge Endowment Fund requires an organized structure for disbursement which can be accomplished through the enactment of Protected Areas Network legislation and/or the establishment of Guiding Policies; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 34th General Assembly, July 7-10, 2015, Island of Pohnpei, FSM, that the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures hereby requests that all jurisdictions participating in the Micronesia Challenge recognize the urgent need to enact Protected Areas Network legislation and/or to establish Guiding Policies to provide for the organization of the Protected Areas Network for Micronesia and to effectuate the disbursement of funds from the Micronesia Challenge Endowment Fund and other sustainable revenue sources to the Micronesian communities to improve the management of their protected areas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the APIL President shall certify and the APIL Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall thereafter be transmitted to the Chief Executives and Legislative Presiding Officers of each member jurisdiction of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures and to the President and the Speaker of the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 9TH DAY OF JULY, 2015.

KENNETH A. KEDI
PRESIDENT

FERNANDO SCALIEM
SECRETARY