A RESOLUTION

APIL Resolution No. 34-GA-10

“Expressing the continuing concern of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures for the welfare of the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and continuing to endorse the principles and purpose of APIL Resolution No. 33-GA-16, in which the APIL has issued its support for the Marshallese people in their efforts to obtain full restitution for the losses, suffering and damages that the nuclear testing program of the United States Government has caused and which it continues to inflict upon the Marshallese people.”

WHEREAS, in its 53rd Board of Directors meeting which was convened on the Island of Pohnpei in the month of December of 2012, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures adopted APIL Resolution 53-BOD-18 in which the Board endorsed “… the genuine appeal of the U.N. Special Rapporteur in his September 2012 report to the U.N. Human Rights Council for international solidarity by embracing, in principal, the contents of the report which assesses the impacts on human rights of the nuclear testing program conducted in the Marshall Islands by the United States Government from 1946 to 1958…”; and in which the Board made recommendations for affirmative action; and

WHEREAS, in its 33rd General Assembly which was convened on the Island of Majuro in the Republic of the Marshall Islands in the month of July of 2014, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures adopted APIL Resolution No. 33-GA-16 in which the Association joined, “… the People of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Pacific Island Forum and many other international organizations and concerned citizens of the world in recognizing the special circumstances pertaining to the continued presence of radioactive contaminants in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and reaffirming the existence of a special responsibility by the United States of America towards the people of the Marshall Islands, who have been, and continue to be, adversely affected as a direct result of nuclear weapons tests conducted by the United States during...
its administration of the Marshall Islands under the United Nations Trusteeship mandate”; and
WHEREAS, the “Majuro Resolution” was adopted by the APIL in recognition that on March 1, 2014, the citizens of the Republic of the Marshall Islands assembled together in a somber ceremony to mark the 60th anniversary of the catastrophic detonation of Castle Bravo, the largest thermonuclear device ever detonated by the United States; and
WHEREAS, in that resolution, the APIL noted that for more than half a century, the United States Government has undertaken programs to compensate the Marshallese victims who have been deprived of their health and their ancestral homes on account of America’s program of nuclear testing in their islands, but, unfortunately, the inadequacy of appropriated sources of funding and the lack of a full disclosure of the true extent of the nuclear fallout has led the President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to declare that the compensation provided by Washington does not provide a fair and just settlement for the damage caused by the devastating detonation of the 67 bombs at Bikini and Enewetak Atolls; and
WHEREAS, in the year that has passed since the adoption of 33-GA-16 by the 33rd General Assembly of the APIL, little progress has been made in the earnest quest of the Marshallese to obtain full restitution from the United States Government for the death, damage, and destruction which has been caused and continues to be inflicted upon them by America’s incautious program of nuclear bomb testing in their islands; and
WHEREAS, the theme of this, the 34th General Assembly of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, is “MEMBER Entity’s Perspectives: Social, Economic and Political Relationships with the United States”; and
WHEREAS, APIL deliberations on the Marshallese perspective on their relationship with the United States cannot ignore the fundamental problem which still persists for the people of that country because the United States Government has yet to fully compensate the Marshallese for the losses, suffering and damages that its nuclear testing program has caused and continues to inflict on the Marshallese people; 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 expresses its continuing concern for the welfare of the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and continues to endorse the principles and purpose of APIL Resolution No. 33-GA-16, in which the APIL has issued its support for the Marshallese people in their efforts to obtain full restitution for the losses, suffering and damages that the nuclear testing program of the United States Government has caused and which continues to inflict on the Marshallese people; 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 President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, to the President of the United States of America, to the Secretary General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Islands Forum, and to the Chief Executives and Legislative Presiding Officers of each member jurisdiction of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

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

KENNETH A. KEDI
PRESIDENT

FERNANDO SCALIEM
SECRETARY