APIL Resolution No. 36-GA-09

“Humbly but earnestly requesting the leadership of Matson, Inc. to seriously consider extending its very valuable ocean cargo services and humanitarian assistance programs to the Republic of Kiribati.”

1. WHEREAS, Matson Navigation Company’s long association with shipping to and among the islands of the Pacific began in 1882, when Captain William Matson sailed his three-masted schooner Emma Claudina from San Francisco to Hilo, Hawaii, carrying 300 tons of food, plantation supplies and general merchandise; and

2. WHEREAS, the shipping operations of Matson Inc. continued to grow in size and expand in services over the early years of the twentieth century; and

3. WHEREAS, in an historic voyage in 1958 of Matson’s Hawaiian Merchant, Matson Inc. marked the beginning of an ambitious containerization program that achieved tremendous gains in productivity and efficiency from the age-old methods of break-bulk cargo handling; and

4. WHEREAS, the company’s groundbreaking contribution to the maritime industry through the introduction of containerized shipping is prominently featured in an exhibition at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C., entitled “Transforming the Waterfront”; and

5. WHEREAS, during the 1990’s and continuing until today, Matson Inc. has embarked upon an ambitious program of expanding its services to island-centered ports all across the wide ocean expanses of Micronesia, and to other ports across the even wider expanses of the broad Pacific, and even to the ports on Asia Pacific Rim; and
WHEREAS, through its transshipment operations at such advanced port facilities as are present in Guam, the benefits of Matson’s ocean cargo services are felt throughout the APIL Pacific; and

WHEREAS, along with its commercial operations, Matson Inc. has generously established a not-for-profit humanitarian organization known as the “Matson Foundation” which contributes funds, material goods and services to assist in the development and operation of charitable and community organizations throughout the ports of call and surrounding islands where Matson ships operate; and

WHEREAS, through partnering with such NGO’s as the APII subsidiary, the Ayuda Foundation, Matson, Inc. has answered the pleas for help of islanders in our times of distress when our people are suffering from the ravages of typhoons and other natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, the members jurisdictions of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures are sincerely grateful for the continuous, reliable and conscientious ocean cargo services that Matson Inc. provides to bolster the economies of our islands and for the warm and thoughtful sharing of its shipping capabilities to address the humanitarian needs of our people; and

WHEREAS, as a family of Pacific Island Nations, States, and Territories, it is the sincere hope and desire of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures that all of our member entities will be able to share in the substantial benefits that Matson Inc. and its humanitarian foundation bring to our region of the world; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, the beneficial services of Matson Inc. and its humanitarian foundation have yet to reach two important commercial ports, namely London, Christmas and Beito, Tarawa, Republic of Kiribati; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 36th General Assembly, Christmas Island, Republic of Kiribati, June 22-24, 2017, that this Assembly hereby humbly but earnestly requests the leadership of Matson, Inc. to seriously consider extending its very valuable ocean cargo services and humanitarian programs to the Republic of Kiribati; 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 be transmitted to the CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Matson Inc., to the Presiding Officer of the Matson Foundation, to the President of the Republic of Kiribati, to the Speaker of the Kiribati Parliament, and to the Legislative Presiding Officers and Chief Executives of each member jurisdiction of the Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures.


ROBERT I. Taulung
PRESIDENT

NELSON STEPHEN
SECRETARY