Resolution No. 49-BOD-10, CD1

"To request the direct participation of the members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures ("APIL") in the strategic development plan for the establishment of the Micronesian Center for Sustainable Future ("MCSF"), and to request the Chief Executives of Micronesia to inform their legislative bodies of the MCSF, and to invite the Secretary General of the MCSF to APIL's next General Assembly Meeting."

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 Presidents' Summit; 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 Development; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures have conveyed their acknowledgment of the Guam Legislature’s Resolution No. 140 (LS) for the work of the Micronesia Chief Executives’ Summit (MCES) 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 Design and Planning Team (SDPT) appointed by the
Secretary General should now be known as the Special Representatives of the Secretary
General (SRSG) and should be charged with the responsibility of raising funds from the
international community and also be responsible for implementing the strategic development
plan; 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 MCES, 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
MCES, 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 MCES Tourism Committee including the implementation of a Regional Tourism
Development Plan; and

WHEREAS, the strategic development plan further specifies that 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; 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 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 Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future Research Fellows Program; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures find that this effort by the Micronesian Chief Executives Summit and the Micronesian Presidents’ Summits 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 MCES, MPA, 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, while the Member States are largely shielded from the most immediate effects of the crisis, there are several adverse consequences that can be foreseen over the long term including a decline in tourism. As new dynamics emerge in the global economy, the MCSF will play a central role in developing innovative options for policy; 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
vitaly needed resources for the region; and provide important access to expertise and resources to
meet public policy goals; and

WHEREAS, APIL is aware of the significance of this historical moment and the lessons
learned from the ravages of war and the ways of the past, envision an independent and sustainable
future for all of the people of Micronesia – this vision a gift that they will be proud to leave to
generations yet unborn; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the passage of this resolution, APIL is respectfully requesting for
greater participation in the Micronesian Center for Sustainable Future by allowing for direct
representation from its members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED APIL is also requesting that the Chief Executives
immediately inform their respective legislative bodies as to its individual commitments pledged
in order to meet the objectives of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, APIL, by the passage of the resolutions, formally invites
the Secretary General of the MCSF to its next General Assembly Meeting to make a presentation
thereby presenting a strategic development plan laying out the organizational structure, strategic
direction, and action plan for the Micronesian Center for Sustainable Future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Association of Pacific
Island Legislatures, 49th Meeting, December 4-5, 2008, Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands,
that the Board requests the Chief Executives to inform their legislative branches of the strategic
development plan for the establishment of the Micronesian Center for Sustainable Future and to
invite the Secretary General of the MCSF to APIL's next General Assembly Meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Association of Pacific Island
Legislatures certifies, and the Secretary of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures attests to
the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall 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 legislative presiding officers of all member states of the Association of Pacific Island
Legislatures; to the Chair of the House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs; to the Honorable
Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Delegate to Congress; to the Honorable Eni Hunkin
Faleomavaega, American Samoa Delegate to Congress; to the Honorable Gregorio "Kilili"
Camacho Sablan, CNMI'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 (IWGFAS); 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); to the Executive Director; and to the Chairman of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 5TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2008.

J. KALANI ENGLISH
PRESIDENT

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D.
SECRETARY