A RESOLUTION

APIL Resolution No. 33-GA-16

“Joining 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.”

WHEREAS, on the first of March of this year, the citizens of the Republic of the Marshall Islands assembled together in a somber ceremony to mark the 60th anniversary of catastrophic detonation of Castle Bravo, the largest thermonuclear device ever detonated by the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Castle Bravo event was part of a larger operation for testing of a total of 67 high-yield nuclear devices, known as Operation Castle, conducted by the United States Government during its administration of the Marshall Islands under the United Nations Trusteeship mandate; and

WHEREAS, miscalculations about atmospheric conditions at the time of the detonation and miscalculations as to the projected yield of the nuclear device resulted in the largest U.S. nuclear contamination accident ever recorded in that country’s history; and

WHEREAS, 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, the plight of the Marshallese people who continue to suffer the adverse consequences of the catastrophic operation of the testing of 67 nuclear devices in the Marshall Islands has been a subject of concern not only of this Assembly, but also of the regional organization of island countries known as the Pacific Islands Forum, as well as many other international organizations and concerned citizens of the world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the 33rd General Assembly of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, Republic of the Marshall Islands, July 15-17, 2014, that this Assembly joins the People of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Pacific Islands 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 Republic 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

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 Presiding Legislative Officers of each member jurisdiction of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 17th DAY OF JULY, 2014.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED.D.
PRESIDENT

CHANG WILLIAM
SECRETARY