



# Association of Pacific Island Legislatures

American Samoa  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
FSM, State of Chuuk  
FSM, State of Kosrae  
FSM, State of Pohnpei  
FSM, State of Yap  
Island of Guam  
Republic of Kiribati  
Republic of the Marshall Islands  
Republic of Nauru  
Republic of Palau  
State of Hawaii

## A RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 27-GA-01, CD2

**“Requesting the governments of the member states and territories of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures to support the efforts against human trafficking by passing legislation in their respective jurisdictions; and further resolving that the APIL jurisdictions ratify or accede to the Optional Protocol on the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.”**

1       **WHEREAS**, human trafficking is a multi-dimensional threat; it deprives people of their  
2 human rights and freedoms; it is a global health risk; and it fuels the growth of organized crime;  
3 and

4       **WHEREAS**, trafficking in persons is modern-day slavery, involving victims who are  
5 forced, defrauded or coerced into labor or sexual exploitation. Annually, about 600,000 to  
6 800,000 people -- mostly women and children -- are trafficked across national borders which  
7 does not count millions trafficked within their own countries; and

8       **WHEREAS**, at least 15,000 women and girls from impoverished communities in the  
9 Pacific, Asia, Eastern Europe, Africa and Latin America are being trafficked into the United  
10 States each year for forced labor; and

11       **WHEREAS**, traffickers employ a variety of deceptions to lure desperately poor women  
12 with false promises of jobs and opportunities in the United States; and

13       **WHEREAS**, human trafficking for forced labor and sexual exploitation takes a variety of  
14 forms—forced prostitution, forced participation in the production of pornography and other  
15 forms of commercial sexual activity, forced labor in sweatshops, households, agricultural fields  
16 and other workplaces, and commercial or exploitative marriages; and

1       **WHEREAS**, women and girls who are trafficked for exploitive labor, as domestic  
2 workers in private homes and as laborers in sweatshops or agricultural fields, are almost always  
3 subjected to sexual violence; and

4       **WHEREAS**, human trafficking has a devastating impact on individual victims, who  
5 often suffer physical and emotional abuse, rape, threats against self and family, passport theft,  
6 and even death. But the impact of human trafficking goes beyond individual victims; it  
7 undermines the safety and security of all nations it touches; now, therefore,

8       **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, Twenty-Seventh  
9 General Assembly, Island of Guam, May 5-7, 2008, that member jurisdictions of APIL are  
10 encouraged to promote and support efforts against human trafficking and that each jurisdiction  
11 pass anti-human trafficking legislation; and

12       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL jurisdictions ratify or accede to the  
13 Optional Protocol on the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child  
14 Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of  
15 Discrimination against Women; and

16       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President of the Association of Pacific Island  
17 Legislatures certifies, and the Secretary of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures attests  
18 to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall be thereafter transmitted to the Secretary  
19 -General of the United Nations; and to the Presiding Legislative Officers and Chief Executives of  
20 each of the APIL member jurisdictions.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2008.**

  
**SABINO SAUCHOMAL**  
**APIL PRESIDENT**

  
**WILLIAM NGIRAIKELAU**  
**APIL SECRETARY**

