



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-04, CD1

“Urgently requesting each of the APIL jurisdictions to promote the cultivation and encourage the consumption of locally produced foods; requesting the voting members of the National Association of Conservation Districts and relevant U.S. departments and agencies to assist the local entities in setting up mechanisms to facilitate the importation of food products from neighboring islands and in lifting the importation or other restrictions which currently impede this collaboration between the jurisdictions of the APIL; and further beseeching international organizations to help establish the mechanisms by which the islands of the Pacific can develop, enhance and exchange locally produced products in a mutual effort to limit the devastating effects of rapidly rising levels of inflation on the cost of essential food commodities throughout the Pacific.”

1 **WHEREAS**, once, long ago in the history of the Pacific Islands, the ships of the seas stopped in the
2 lagoons and bays of our islands, not to off-load cargo, but to obtain vital supplies of water and food for the
3 provisioning for their own crews; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in modern times, the ships are no longer dependent on island stops to sustain their
5 lengthy voyages, but instead have become a necessity of the islanders who have come to rely on sea
6 transportation for the importation of rice and other food products as well as the other necessities of life; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the member jurisdictions of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures are all
8 experiencing extremely high rates of inflation that are causing serious problems for our people in providing
9 affordable sustenance for their families; and

10 **WHEREAS**, it is the sense of the Members of the APIL that by “going local” we can revive the
11 reputation of our region as a provider, rather than an importer, of essential food commodities; but

12 **WHEREAS**, it is the further sense of the members of the APIL that a return to reliance on local foods
13 will require a concerted effort of all of our jurisdictions; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the increasing levels of migration of our peoples between and among the islands of our
15 region present the APIL jurisdictions with ready markets for the transport of food commodities from the
16 islands where the local foods are cultivated to the centers of population where local foods will be consumed
17 throughout the region; but

1 **WHEREAS**, the development of new trade consortiums will require the collaboration of each of the
2 governments of the APIL Pacific and the greater Pacific Region, as well as the cooperation of the
3 organizations that have been created to promote development within the region, the entities involved with the
4 operation of our seaports and airports, and the relevant U.S. departments and agencies and local entities that
5 are charged with customs, agriculture inspection and tax responsibilities; now, therefore,

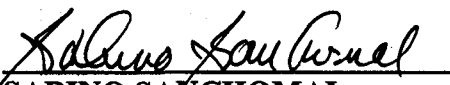
6 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 27th General Assembly,
7 Island of Guam, May 5-7, 2008, that the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures hereby urgently requests
8 each of the APIL jurisdictions to promote the cultivation and encourage the consumption of locally produced
9 foods; and

10 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL requests that the voting members of the National
11 Association of Conservation Districts and the appropriate United States departments and agencies assist the
12 local entities in setting up mechanisms to facilitate the importation of food products from neighboring islands,
13 and in lifting the importation or other restrictions which currently impede this collaboration between the
14 jurisdictions of the APIL; and

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that international organizations within the APIL region are
16 respectfully beseeched to help establish the mechanisms by which the islands of the Pacific can develop,
17 enhance and exchange locally produced products in a mutual effort to limit the devastating effects of rapidly
18 rising levels of inflation on the cost of essential food commodities throughout the Pacific; and

19 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures
20 certifies, and the Secretary of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures attests to, the adoption hereof and
21 that copies of the same shall be thereafter transmitted to the Presiding Legislative Officers and Chief
22 Executives of each of the APIL member jurisdictions, to the President of the National Association of
23 Conservation Districts, to the Pacific Forum, to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, to the Western
24 Council of Micronesian Chief Executives, to the Micronesian Presidents' Summit, and to such United States
25 departments and agencies and other officers and organizations as the APIL President deems appropriate.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 7TH DAY OF MAY, 2008.


SABINO SAUCHOMAL
APIL PRESIDENT


WILLIAM NGIRAI KELAU
APIL SECRETARY

