



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. 28-GA-05, CD1

“Relative to supporting the establishment of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, an administrative, research and development center for the Western Micronesian Chief Executives’ Summit and the Micronesian Presidents’ Summit and further requesting for greater participation in the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future by allowing for direct representation from its members and authorizing the involvement of the APIL President or designee in the ongoing strategic development plan process for the Center.”

1 **WHEREAS**, the United States Affiliated Islands of Micronesia are experiencing
2 a period of rapid growth, urbanization, westernization and increasing significance to
3 national security; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in response to common challenges unique to small island
5 developing states, and given the extraordinary opportunities within the region to preserve,
6 leverage, and integrate indigenous, natural, and human resource systems and to establish
7 processes of collaborative governance, the member States have established two (2) sub-
8 regional Chief Executive summits: (1) the Western Micronesia Chief Executives’ Summit
9 (WMCES); and (2) the Micronesian Presidents’ Summit (MPS); and

10 **WHEREAS**, it has been the shared goal of these entities to create mechanisms
11 that will develop and implement regional solutions to regional problems by harnessing
12 expertise and resources from both within Micronesia and from external parties holding a
13 positive interest in Micronesia’s future; and

1 **WHEREAS**, to achieve this goal, during the past five (5) years, the two (2)
2 Summits have met bi-annually and have issued a series of joint communiqués to form a
3 Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future (MCSF); and

4 **WHEREAS**, the members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures have
5 conveyed their acknowledgment of the Guam Legislature's Resolutions No. 140 and 199
6 for the work of the Western Micronesia Chief Executives' Summit (WMCES) and the
7 Micronesian Presidents' Summit (MPS) in establishing this institution; and

8 **WHEREAS**, under the direction of the Secretary General of the MCSF, a
9 strategic development plan has been prepared to lay out the organizational structure,
10 strategic direction, and action plan for the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future;
11 and

12 **WHEREAS**, the strategic development plan delineates a specific course of
13 action to develop the organizational capacities of the Center to serve the needs of the
14 communities represented in the WMCES, including conducting a comprehensive socio-
15 economic analysis of the region; the establishment of information portals to facilitate
16 inter-island communication and access to information; and the development of grant
17 writing and fundraising capabilities; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the strategic development plan provides for the involvement of the
19 Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future in supporting and executing key programs of
20 the WMCES, including the Micronesia Challenge which has the objective of conserving
21 thirty percent (30%) of near shore marine and twenty percent (20%) of the terrestrial
22 resources across Micronesia by 2020; the Pacific Islands Regional Recycling Initiative
23 Council (PIRRIC) which focuses on environmental and solid waste issues in Micronesia;
24 the Micronesia Regional Invasive Species Council which combats the threat of invasive
25 species and the restoration of natural eco-systems; the establishment of a regional

1 energy initiatives to address the rising cost of fossil fuels and the development of
2 alternative energy solutions; and the WMCES Tourism Committee including the
3 implementation of a Regional Tourism Development Plan; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the strategic development plan further specifies that the
5 Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future will actively engage in several
6 telecommunications initiatives in such areas as telemedicine to enhance accessible health
7 care, regional distance learning to expand educational opportunities, and infrastructure
8 upgrades such as submarine fiber-optic cable to improve access to high-speed
9 telecommunications; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, as provided for in
11 the draft business plan, will also implement, for the region, specific Cultural and Historic
12 Resource initiatives to support research in Micronesian heritage and history; regional
13 festivals for traditional performing arts; training in meaningful translations of indigenous
14 languages; academic conferences on Micronesian issues; inter-island field schools by
15 academic institutions; internships in the fields of historic preservation and museum
16 studies; as well as support for historic and cultural preservation efforts at all levels of
17 government, in consultation and collaboration with the Micronesian historic preservation
18 organizations; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the strategic development plan also provides that by utilizing the
20 planned informational portals, regional and international contacts, and resource base, the
21 Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future will serve as a strategic think tank for
22 sustainable development for the Western Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit, the
23 Micronesian Presidents' Summit and the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the strategic development plan further provides that the Micronesian
25 Center for a Sustainable Future will develop a broad and deep strategic alliance with the
26 University of Guam; in the operation of the planned information portals, the establishment

1 of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future Research Fellows Program; and

2 **WHEREAS**, at the 28th General Assembly of the Association of Pacific Island
3 Legislatures, the Strategic Design and Planning Team briefed the APIL delegations on
4 the development of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in their briefing, the Strategic Design and Planning Team reiterated
6 that funding for the Center will come from Bilateral, Multilateral, and US Government
7 sources and funding would not be sought from member entities; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures find
9 that this effort by the Western Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit and the
10 Micronesian Presidents' Summit to establish the Micronesia Center for a Sustainable
11 Future is worthy of both commendation and support by the Association of Pacific Island
12 Legislatures; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, as delineated in
14 the strategic development plan, will greatly benefit the people of the member states of the
15 WMCES, MPS, and APIL; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the recent crisis in financial markets has demonstrated the serious
17 need to remain cognizant of external factors that impact the people of Micronesia; the
18 development of realistic strategies for the island communities to address these impacts,
19 has emerged as a key concern of the APIL member entities; and

20 **WHEREAS**, as new challenges and opportunities emerge, the MCSF will
21 continue to refine and deepen its approach to developing innovative and imaginative
22 responses and solutions to creating the future. It is for this reason that this Strategic
23 Development Plan remains – a living document; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the work of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future will
25 help effectuate solutions to our region's environmental, social, and economic problems;
26 and provide vitally needed resources for the region; and provide important access to

1 expertise and resources to meet public policy goals; now, therefore,

2 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the passage of this resolution, that APIL is in agreement
3 that the Association, in conjunction with Micronesian Chief Executives, shall directly
4 participate in the development of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future and the
5 attendant strategic development plan process; and

6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the Association of
7 Pacific Island Legislatures, at its 28th General Assembly, held on June 9-11, Pohnpei,
8 Federated States of Micronesia, that the Association does hereby support the
9 establishment of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future (MCSF), the
10 prospective regional needs assessment called for in the strategic development plan, and
11 the involvement of the APIL President or designee in the ongoing strategic development
12 process; and

13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the Association of
14 Pacific Island Legislatures, that the Association does further support the initiatives by the
15 Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future to secure funding from Bilateral,
16 Multilateral, and US Government sources including DOI technical assistance grants; and

17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of the strategic plan and articles of
18 incorporation and by-laws of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future (MCSF)
19 shall be provided to the APIL member entities; and

20 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President of the Association of Pacific
21 Island Legislatures shall certify, and the Secretary of the Association of Pacific Island
22 Legislatures shall attest to the adoption hereof; and that copies of the same shall be
23 thereafter transmitted to the Presiding Legislative Officers and Chief Executives of each
24 of the APIL member jurisdictions, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to
25 each of the members of the Western Council of Micronesian Chief Executives and the
26 Micronesian Presidents' Summit; to the Honorable Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of

1 the United Nations; to the Chair of the House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs; to the
2 Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Delegate to Congress; to the Honorable
3 Gregorio "Kilili" Camacho Sablan, CNMI's Delegate to Congress; to the Honorable Eni
4 Hunkin Faleomavaega, American Samoa's Delegate to Congress; to the Staff Director of
5 the House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs; to the President of the University of Guam;
6 to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Alliance of Small Island States; to the
7 Regional Administrator, U.S. EPA Region IX; to the co-chairs of the White House
8 Interagency Work Group of the Freely Associated States (IWGFAS); to the co-chairs and
9 members of the White House Interagency Group of Insular Affairs (IGIA); to the Deputy
10 Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Affairs; to the Secretariat of the Global
11 Programme of Action (GPA); and to the Executive Director and to the Chairman of the
12 Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 11TH DAY OF JUNE, 2009.

J. KALANI ENGLISH
APIL PRESIDENT

JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED.D.
APIL SECRETARY

