



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

APIL Resolution No. 32-GA-05

“Noting the critical importance of preventing, eradicating and controlling invasive species on Pacific Islands at both regional and national levels, expressing sincere appreciation to the United States Government for funding the development of the Micronesia Biosecurity Plan, and encouraging appropriate involvement of regional invasive species experts and regional governmental staff from Micronesia, Hawai’i and the Pacific in the consultative development of the Micronesia Biosecurity Strategic Implementation Plan.”

1 **WHEREAS**, a stable and sustainable economy is dependent upon a healthy natural
2 resource base, and in the Pacific region food security, opportunities for economic prosperity,
3 native ecosystems and biodiversity are increasingly impacted and continually threatened by a
4 wide range of invasive plants, animals, insects, and disease organisms; and

5 **WHEREAS**, it is acknowledged that invasive species management is a fundamental
6 component of efforts to adapt to climate change, build resilient economies, communities and
7 ecosystems and, achieve social and economic development objectives including poverty
8 alleviation and the enhancement of food security, fresh water availability, human health,
9 biological diversity and coral reef and marine system health; and

10 **WHEREAS**, it is recognized that preventing and mitigating invasive species damage
11 directly supports efforts such as the Micronesia Challenge Initiative to effectively conserve
12 terrestrial and near-shore natural resources; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the most cost-effective way to minimize the impact of invasive species is to
14 prevent their establishment and spread through comprehensive, collaborative biosecurity efforts;
15 and

16 **WHEREAS**, Micronesia’s regional and global leadership is recognized for creating the
17 Micronesia Regional Invasive Species Council (MRISC) and partnering with the U.S.
18 Government, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Manaaki Whenua Landcare
19 Research NZ, the University of Guam (UOG) and other regional partners in developing the

1 Micronesia Biosecurity Plan (MBP), including the development of a regionally-vetted Strategic
2 Implementation Plan; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the mission of the MRISC, that is, to coordinate regional action on invasive
4 species and to advise regional leadership on invasive species issues, is affirmed; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the MBP is acknowledged as a unique, comprehensive, regional and
6 proactive plan developed through close collaboration between U.S. Government departments and
7 local invasive species experts throughout Micronesia that will address the need for multi-lateral,
8 multi-sector, collaborative action to address invasive species issues on our respective islands;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS**, during their 17th Summit , Guam, (March 15, 2012), the Micronesian Chief
11 Executives adopted Resolution 17-07 in which the Chief Executives resolved to engage with
12 partners in the U.S. Government, SPC, Landcare Research, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
13 Environment Programme (SPREP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Hawaii
14 Invasive Species Council (HISC), Global Islands Partnership (GLISPA), UOG and with other
15 partners to develop and advance the MBP, to direct their staff to incorporate invasive species
16 concerns into efforts to address climate change adaptation, food security, human health,
17 biodiversity conservation and efforts to develop sustainable green economies, and to instruct and
18 enable MRISC and other local experts in each jurisdiction to fully participate in the development
19 and implementation of the MBP now, therefore,

20 **BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 32nd General
21 Assembly, Honolulu, Hawaii, June 25-27, 2013, that the APIL hereby expresses its sincere
22 appreciation to the U.S. Government, in particular the Department of Defense, for funding the
23 development of the MBP and its support of and advocacy for the collaborative regional
24 development of the Strategic Implementation Plan facilitated by UOG and SPC, and

25 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL affirms the status of invasive species as a
26 critically important issue which directly impacts multiple Pacific Island economic, social and
27 cultural sectors and that efforts to address cross-cutting issues such as climate change adaptation,
28 food security, and sustainable economic growth must include activities to more effectively
29 strengthen, broaden, and mainstream biosecurity efforts and the eradication and control of
30 invasive species; and

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL encourages individual member countries
2 to prioritize the development and application of necessary biosecurity and invasive species
3 eradication and control legislation within their respective jurisdictions; and

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL strongly encourages our international
5 partners to acknowledge the importance and multi-sector impacts of invasive species issues on
6 Pacific Islands, the unique opportunities for successful prevention, eradication and control of
7 invasive species on Pacific Islands and, therefore, that efforts to address invasive species on
8 Pacific Islands are an efficient and effective use of funds; and

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 32nd
10 General Assembly, Honolulu Hawaii, June 25-27, 2013, that the Association of Pacific Island
11 Legislatures should review progress on the MBP and other Pacific regional invasive species
12 efforts at its 2014 General Assembly; and

13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify, and the APIL
14 Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall be transmitted to
15 the Chief Executives and Legislative Presiding Officers of each member jurisdiction of the
16 Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 27th DAY OF JUNE, 2013.



JUDITH T. WON PAT ED.D.
PRESIDENT



CHANG B. WILLIAM
SECRETARY

