



# 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. 34-GA-12

“Expressing the gratitude of the APIL to the Pew Charitable Trusts, especially its representatives both here in the region and at its headquarters in Washington DC, for the tremendous assistance extended to our governments and our NGO’s in protecting the shark populations of the APIL Pacific, and humbly resolving within the APIL and respectfully recommending to Pew that this Association be formally recognized as a partner with Pew in our mutual efforts to preserve, protect and conserve the natural beauty and biological diversity of our oceans, reefs, waters, and lands.”

1       **WHEREAS**, ever since 1974, the Pew Charitable Trusts has been working to  
2 strengthen environmental policies and practices around the world to produce significant  
3 and measurable results, and in so doing Pew has supported scientific research to increase  
4 understanding of environmental issues; has designed policy solutions to specific  
5 problems; and has worked with Pew partners to protect both land and oceans; and

6       **WHEREAS**, Pew is working worldwide to protect sharks, tuna, forage fish,  
7 penguins and other species of marine life, as well as the habitats they rely upon for food  
8 and shelter; and

9       **WHEREAS**, in protecting the world’s oceans, Pew focuses primarily on halting  
10 overfishing and illegal fishing, creating marine reserves, and reforming ocean  
11 governance; and

12       **WHEREAS**, Pew works with its partners to protect the planet’s most important  
13 and biologically diverse places for future generations; and

14       **WHEREAS**, in protecting the world’s environments from climate change and  
15 global warming, Pew advocates for policies that foster innovations in clean energy  
16 through expanded research and development; and



1       **WHEREAS**, while Pew has been active in the Pacific region for many years, Pew  
2 first came to the formal attention of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures during  
3 the Association's 30<sup>th</sup> General Assembly held in the Republic of Palau in 2011, during  
4 which Assembly representatives of Pew enthusiastically advocated for the creation of a  
5 regional network of shark sanctuaries through the enactment of legislation in each of the  
6 APIL member jurisdictions dedicated to the conservation of shark species; and

7       **WHEREAS**, through repeated appearances at APIL assemblies and board  
8 meetings and through the conduct of workshops for concerned government officials and  
9 NGO representatives, Pew and their local partners have been instrumental in the passage  
10 and enforcement of legislation throughout the APIL Pacific region resulting in the  
11 realization of the largest contiguous network of shark sanctuaries in the world known as  
12 the "Micronesia Regional Shark Sanctuary" which includes the 12 laws or regulations of  
13 the following jurisdictions: the State of Hawaii, the Commonwealth of the Northern  
14 Mariana Islands, the Territory of Guam, the Territory of American Samoa, the Republic  
15 of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM),  
16 the FSM State of Pohnpei, the FSM State of Yap, the FSM State of Kosrae, the FSM  
17 State of Chuuk, and the Republic of Kiribati; and

18       **WHEREAS**, the APIL recognizes and applauds Pew for its unceasing efforts in  
19 conserving shark populations in the Pacific, and now looks to them for assistance in  
20 solving other environmental issues affecting our region, including the health of our  
21 oceans, reefs and lagoons, our mangrove wetlands, our rainforest highlands, and our  
22 indigenous flora and fauna; now, therefore,

23       **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 34<sup>th</sup>  
24 General Assembly, July 7-10, 2015, Island of Pohnpei, FSM, that the Association of  
25 Pacific Island Legislatures hereby expresses its gratitude to the Pew Charitable Trusts, its  
26 representatives both here in the region and at its headquarters in Washington DC,



1 especially Angelo Villagomez and Carlotta Leon Guerrero, for the tremendous assistance  
2 extended to our governments and NGO's in protecting our shark populations; and


3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Association of Pacific Island  
4 Legislatures humbly resolves for itself and respectfully recommends to the Pew  
5 Charitable Trusts that this Association be formally recognized as a partner with Pew in  
6 our mutual efforts to preserve, protect and conserve the natural beauty and biological  
7 diversity of our oceans, reefs, waters and lands; and

8 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify and the  
9 APIL Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same shall  
10 thereafter be transmitted to the President and CEO of the Pew Charitable Trusts, to each  
11 of the representatives of the Pew Charitable Trusts present and supporting our work at the  
12 34<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, and to the Chief  
13 Executives and Legislative Presiding Officers of each member jurisdiction of the  
14 Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2015.**



**KENNETH A. KEDI**  
**PRESIDENT**



**FERNANDO SCALIEM**  
**SECRETARY**

