



# 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. 35-GA-23, CD1

**“Committing the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures to the task of calling greater and greater attention of the developed world to the plight of small island states suffering from global warming and taking upon ourselves a more pro-active positive role in helping to bring the offered assistance of the industrialized nations to the beleaguered islands of the Blue Continent.”**

1       **WHEREAS**, the islands that constitute the twelve member jurisdictions of the  
2 Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, gathered together in Guam for the 35<sup>th</sup> General  
3 Assembly of the APIL, are deeply aware of the issues of climate change and the adverse  
4 consequences of global warming on our Blue Continent; and

5       **WHEREAS**, commencing with the adoption of Resolution 26-GA-04 almost a decade  
6 ago, the General Assemblies of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures have been  
7 repeatedly calling on all APIL members entities to cooperate by collecting and sharing  
8 information and observations on ways to prevent and mitigate the effects of global warming on  
9 our atmosphere; and

10       **WHEREAS**, in 2010, as the members of the APIL gathered in the atoll nation of the  
11 Republic of Kiribati for the 29<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of this organization, evidence of sea level rise  
12 was brought home to all of the APIL delegates as we personally witnessed villages of the  
13 Kiribati atoll of Tarawa being inundated by the rising tides of warming seas; and

14       **WHEREAS**, during that 29<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, this organization firmly resolved to  
15 establish a task force to facilitate a dialogue amongst the APIL member jurisdictions to assist in  
16 climate change mitigation, adaptation, education, and implementation; and

17       **WHEREAS**, at our 33<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly, held in the atoll nation of the Republic of the  
18 Marshall Islands in 2014, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures again witnessed the  
19 adverse affects of global warming on the capital island of that nation leading the APIL to express  
20 our

1 organization's support and commitment to the Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership,  
2 which to that date is the strongest and most powerfully issued statement on climate change  
3 issued by the Pacific Island countries; and

4 **WHEREAS**, just last year during the 34<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Association of Pacific  
5 Island Legislatures, which was convened on the Island of Pohnpei, this Assembly reaffirmed our  
6 resolves on climate change that foster cooperation among Pacific Island countries by calling on  
7 APIL member states and entities to continue to press for the reduction of greenhouse gases  
8 globally; and

9 **WHEREAS**, since the last General Assembly of the Association of Pacific Island  
10 Legislatures held on Pohnpei last July, one hundred and ninety-six nations of the world met in  
11 their 21<sup>st</sup> yearly session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the 1992 United Nations  
12 Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); and

13 **WHEREAS**, the presence of the delegations from the world's small island states at the  
14 Paris Conference was the most vocal and most influential ever to be seen at these yearly  
15 conferences; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the 2015 conference on climate change led to the successful negotiation of  
17 the "Paris Agreement," which will become legally binding if joined by at least fifty-five  
18 countries which together represent at least fifty-five percent (55%) of global greenhouse  
19 emissions; and

20 **WHEREAS**, during this year's annual celebration of Earth Day which occurred on the  
21 26<sup>th</sup> of April, one hundred and seventy-four countries signed the Paris Agreement in New York  
22 and are now beginning to implement the terms of the Agreement through their own national legal  
23 systems; and

24 **WHEREAS**, while the Paris Conference did not adopt the most stringent standards in  
25 limiting temperature increase that were being requested by the island states, the gathered nations  
26 to the Paris Agreement did indicate that they would "pursue efforts" to limit the temperature  
27 increase to the island nations' target of 1.5 °C"; and

28 **WHEREAS**, along with the adoption of climatic standards, many of the industrialized  
29 nations are now pledging to assist the most vulnerable peoples of the world to address, adapt to,  
30 and mitigate the damages of global warming; and



1       **WHEREAS**, it is the sense of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures that this  
2 organization should adopt for itself a more visible level of involvement in calling the attention of  
3 the developed world to the plight of small island states and by adopting a more pro-active and a  
4 more positive role in bringing the offered assistance of the industrialized nations to the  
5 beleaguered islands of the Blue Continent; now, therefore,

6       **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 35<sup>th</sup> General  
7 Assembly, Island of Guam, June 1-3, 2016, that this Assembly hereby commits itself to the task  
8 of calling greater and greater attention of the developed world to the plight of small island states  
9 and to taking upon ourselves a more pro-active and more positive role in helping to bring the  
10 offered assistance of the industrialized nations to the beleaguered islands of the Blue Continent;  
11 and

12       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the attention of the APIL with respect to climate  
13 change not be limited to just the atoll nations of our organization, but should be expanded to each  
14 and every one of our island jurisdictions for we all will need to meet the challenges of this  
15 globally destructive condition; and

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

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2016.**

  
KENNETH A. KEDI  
PRESIDENT

  
FERNANDO SCALIEM  
SECRETARY

