



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. 39-GA-05

“Requesting the APIL member entities to collaborate on formulating regional policies and strategies to implement a universal garbage collection campaign and expand on regional zero waste initiatives to mitigate the detrimental environmental impact on land and in the marine waters that unite the Blue Continent.”

1 **WHEREAS**, as children and stewards of the Blue Continent, it is imperative that
2 urgent measures be taken to plan for the proper management and disposal of man-made
3 wastes to protect the environment, our marine waters, and the future livelihood of our
4 people’s health and quality of life; and

5 **WHEREAS**, as a result of the increase in population and the inevitable production
6 of commodities to meet the demands of a growing population on a worldwide scale, waste
7 management has evolved into a global concern that has affected the health and sustainable
8 use of our surrounding waters; and

9 **WHEREAS**, as residents of the Blue Continent, we have witnessed the devastating
10 effects from improper disposal of wastes that have littered our lands, polluted our waters,
11 and are causing harm to people and animal life and habitats on land and sea; and

12 **WHEREAS**, collectively, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL)
13 member entities have the opportunity to address this concern on the frontline as guardians
14 of the land and its surrounding waters; and

15 **WHEREAS**, universal garbage collection initiatives have been implemented to
16 combat the growing concern of illegal waste disposal and littering in communities; and

17 **WHEREAS**, through a universal garbage collection program, island governments
18 will have an opportunity to assess their needs, collect place-based data, and develop

1 strategies to address concerns of solid waste management and enhance policies to protect
2 the land and marine resources; and

3 **WHEREAS**, universal garbage collection provides opportunities for economic
4 activity strengthening partnerships with existing businesses or enticing new investors in
5 solid waste management. Such partnerships play a critical role aiming to generate local
6 revenue respective to the island governments while safeguarding the health of our people
7 and preserving the unique resources of our island communities; and

8 **WHEREAS**, island entities will have the opportunity to incorporate zero waste
9 principles including reducing consumption and enhancing recycling as a sustainable
10 practice to reduce the amount of waste being generated and disposed of by segregating
11 material that can be upcycled or repurposed for a multitude of uses through the
12 implementation of a universal garbage collection campaign; and

13 **WHEREAS**, universal garbage collection programs provide opportunities to
14 further educate the community with the significance of proper waste management and the
15 benefits in promoting personal health and safety for all residents, while highlighting the
16 beauty of our islands; and

17 **WHEREAS**, a cleaner and safe environment is critical to ensuring the health and
18 wellbeing of island communities which rely on the local produce and marine habitat as a
19 source of sustenance by the people who call these islands home; and

20 **WHEREAS**, through the implementation of a universal garbage collection
21 campaign, the APIL member entities are taking the proactive initiative to address the
22 environmental concern of minimizing the accumulation of waste in marine waters that have
23 resulted in the growing size of garbage patches in the Pacific region; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures has the unified stance
25 to lead by example to the neighboring countries of the Pacific that safeguarding our
26 remote islands is of utmost importance to the balance of our unique ecosystem and the
27 health and wellbeing of our people; now, therefore,

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 39th
2 General Assembly, FSM State of Pohnpei, October 12-14, 2022, that this Assembly
3 calls upon its member entities to collaborate on formulating regional policies and
4 strategies to implement a universal garbage collection campaign and expand on regional
5 zero waste initiatives to mitigate the detrimental environmental impact on land and in the
6 marine waters that unite the Blue Continent; and
7 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify and the
8 APIL Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall be
9 transmitted to the Chief Executive and Presiding Legislative Officers of each member
10 jurisdiction of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 13TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2022.



SHELTEN G. NETH
PRESIDENT



VINNIE V. F. SABLAN
SECRETARY

