



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. 41-GA-02

“Relative to encouraging the APIL nations, states and territories to improve food security in the Pacific region by actively trading agricultural food products and practicing regenerative agriculture.”

1 **WHEREAS**, many APIL nations, states and territories are highly dependent on
2 imported food products which invariably increases the market value of the imported goods.
3 In order to reduce our dependence on imported food products and safeguard our access to
4 food, agricultural and livestock production must be increased to stimulate a commercial
5 agricultural and livestock industry in the Pacific region; and

6 **WHEREAS**, in 1996, the World Food Summit defined “food security” as a state
7 when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and
8 nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy
9 life; and

10 **WHEREAS**, many countries all around the world, the United States, and some APIL
11 nations, states and territories are currently experiencing food security issues. During and
12 after the Covid pandemic, many places experienced a shortage of various food products
13 like eggs, vegetables, fish, chicken, pork and beef at different times; and

14 **WHEREAS**, it is imperative for APIL nations, states and territories to support and
15 assist its farmers and ranchers produce more locally grown agricultural food products to
16 sustain the Pacific region’s daily food and nutrition requirements and possibly export such
17 products to other islands and communities that are experiencing food security issues as
18 well; and

19 **WHEREAS**, however, increasing our production of agricultural food products must
20 be sustainable. The beautiful APIL nations, states and territories have been home to
21 abundant ecosystems for thousands of years. Our ancestors adopted indigenous farming

1 practices to produce nutritious food without harming the soil, air, ground water, and ocean;
2 and

3 **WHEREAS**, our APIL communities must continue to practice or adopt regenerative
4 agriculture, which is a conservation and rehabilitation approach to food, farming, and
5 ranching systems. It focuses on topsoil regeneration, increasing biodiversity, improving the
6 water cycle, enhancing ecosystem services, supporting biosequestration, increasing
7 resilience to climate change, and strengthening the health and vitality of farm soil; and

8 **WHEREAS**, regenerative sustainability focuses on meeting the needs of the present
9 and extending the concepts for future generations to help them improve resilient farming
10 and ranching systems while striving for long-term viability while actively restoring and
11 regenerating ecosystems and communities; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension and
13 Education Service (CREES) and the University of Guam provide much needed technical
14 assistance and training to promote home food forestry, commercial regenerative
15 agriculture, and raising livestock; and

16 **WHEREAS**, producing food locally is viable despite the numerous challenges such
17 as the high cost of water, fuel, and equipment; water availability on farm plots; inadequate
18 farm labor; and the environmental impacts due to runoff, pesticides, fertilizers, and
19 greenhouse gas emissions; and


20 **WHEREAS**, regenerative agriculture is an evolution of conventional agriculture that
21 reduces the use of water and other inputs, and prevents land degradation; and

22 **WHEREAS**, APIL nations, states, and territories must practice sustainable
23 regenerative agriculture and utilize all resources available to encourage and assist farmers
24 and ranchers increase their production of agricultural food products for local consumption
25 and to trade within the Pacific region; now, therefore,

26 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 41st General
27 Assembly, Republic of Palau, August 12-13, 2024, that this Assembly calls upon its
28 member jurisdictions to improve food security in the Pacific region by actively trading
29 agricultural food products and practicing regenerative agriculture; and

- 1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify and the APIL
2 Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall be transmitted
3 to the Chief Executives and Presiding Legislative Officers of each member jurisdiction of
4 the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 13TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2024.



EDMUND S. VILLAGOMEZ
ACTING PRESIDENT



VICTOR BAMOG
ACTING SECRETARY

