



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-06

“Expressing the sincere gratitude of the 41st General Assembly of the APIL to The Nature Conservancy, (TNC), for its technical and program support for the island jurisdictions of the APIL Pacific.”

1 **WHEREAS**, the theme of this year’s General Assembly of the Association of Pacific
2 Island Legislatures is “Human development in Oceania: How can legislatures strengthen
3 people-centered security for the Pacific islanders? The state of and future perspectives on
4 food security, economic security, cybersecurity, and other indicators of human
5 development.”; and

6 **WHEREAS**, this theme is amplified by the emphasis on the need for the promotion
7 of regional security, which can best be accomplished through “people-centered” programs;
8 and

9 **WHEREAS**, paramount among the areas where people-centered security is sought
10 is in the realm of food security; and

11 **WHEREAS**, consistent with the principles of a people-centered approach to human
12 development in the Pacific is the belief that the goals of obtaining security through the
13 obtainment of sufficient food and nutrients for our families can best be achieved with
14 programs that start from the bottom up rather than from the top down; and

15 **WHEREAS**, these bottom-up programs arise at the community level, where
16 volunteer and charitable organizations are most effective; and

17 **WHEREAS**, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), with the encouragement of the APIL
18 member jurisdictions, has been working with island leaders and local NGO’s over the last
19 thirty years to advance community-based conservation and sustainable lifestyles in
20 Micronesia; and

1 **WHEREAS**, those of us gathered at this General Assembly of the Association of
2 Pacific Island Legislatures are well aware and most appreciative of the ardent and
3 continuing efforts of The Nature Conservancy to bolster food security and other forms of
4 sustainable life practices throughout the islands of the APIL Pacific and beyond; and

5 **WHEREAS**, as an example, The Nature Conservancy has recently launched a food
6 security program right here in the host nation of Palau, where The Nature Conservancy, in
7 collaboration with Palau’s government, is helping to seek out the best locations for new
8 aquaculture projects in Palau and is in the process of identifying those sensitive areas of
9 Palau’s marine environment that should be avoided to prevent negative consequences; and

10 **WHEREAS**, through its ridge-to-reef initiative, The Nature Conservancy has been
11 working with communities like Oneisomw in the FSM State of Chuuk to help them manage
12 their reef fisheries more sustainably in order to increase community resilience and adapt to
13 the impacts of climate change; and

14 **WHEREAS**, through public relations-oriented programs like the “Micronesian
15 Challenge”, The Nature Conservancy has mobilized communities and island governments
16 throughout the APIL Pacific to develop solutions for island resilience that help us all chart
17 a course to a more sustainable, resilient, and bio-diverse future; and

18 **WHEREAS**, through the conduct of classroom programs and the awarding of
19 scholarships for advanced degrees from environmentally-oriented academic institutions,
20 The Nature Conservancy is promoting not only the conservation and sustainability
21 programs of today, but is also devoting its funding and outreach programs to the
22 conservation and sustainability of our islands for many years to come; now, therefore,

23 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 41st General
24 Assembly, Republic of Palau, August 12-13, 2024, that the Members of the Association of
25 Pacific Island Legislatures hereby express our sincere gratitude to The Nature Conservancy
26 for its extraordinary dedication, creative endeavors, and continuing support for the efforts
27 of our island communities to obtain sustainable levels of food security and environmentally
28 sound economies for our people; 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 Legislative Presiding Officers of each Member Jurisdiction of
4 the Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures, the Honorable Palau Senator and former
5 TNC Director Umiich Sengebau, and to the Chief Executive Officer of The Nature
6 Conservancy for the sharing of this resolution of gratitude with the many volunteers, career
7 professionals, and financial contributors of this remarkable NGO.

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



EDMUND S. VILLAGOMEZ
ACTING PRESIDENT



VICTOR BAMOG
ACTING SECRETARY

