



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

Resolution No. 49-BOD-10, CD1

“To request the direct participation of the members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (“APIL”) in the strategic development plan for the establishment of the Micronesian Center for Sustainable Future (“MCSF”), and to request the Chief Executives of Micronesia to inform their legislative bodies of the MCSF, and to invite the Secretary General of the MCSF to APIL’s next General Assembly Meeting.”

1 **WHEREAS**, the United States Affiliated Islands of Micronesia are experiencing a period
2 of rapid growth, urbanization, westernization and increasing significance to national security;
3 and

4 **WHEREAS**, in response to common challenges unique to small island developing
5 states, and given the extraordinary opportunities within the region to preserve, leverage, and
6 integrate indigenous, natural, and human resource systems and to establish processes of
7 collaborative governance, the Member States have established two (2) sub-regional Chief
8 Executive Summits: (1) the Western Micronesia Chief Executives’ Summit (WMCES); and
9 (2) the Presidents’ Summit; and

10 **WHEREAS**, it has been the shared goal of these entities to create mechanisms that will
11 develop and implement regional solutions to regional problems by harnessing expertise and
12 resources from both within Micronesia and from external parties holding a positive interest in
13 Micronesia’s future; and

14 **WHEREAS**, to achieve this goal, during the past five (5) years, the two (2) Summits
15 have met bi-annually and have issued a series of joint communiqués to form a Micronesian
16 Center for a Sustainable Development; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures have
18 conveyed their acknowledgment of the Guam Legislature’s Resolution No. 140 (LS) for the
19 work of the Micronesia Chief Executives’ Summit (MCES) and the Micronesian Presidents’
20 Summit (MPS) in establishing this institution; and

1 **WHEREAS**, under the direction of the Secretary General of the MCSF, a strategic
2 development plan has been prepared to lay out the organizational structure, strategic direction,
3 and action plan for the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Strategic Design and Planning Team (SDPT) appointed by the
5 Secretary General should now be known as the Special Representatives of the Secretary
6 General (SRSG) and should be charged with the responsibility of raising funds from the
7 international community and also be responsible for implementing the strategic development
8 plan; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the strategic development plan delineates a specific course of action to
10 develop the organizational capacities of the Center to serve the needs of the communities
11 represented in the MCES, including conducting a comprehensive socio-economic analysis of
12 the region; the establishment of information portals to facilitate inter-island communication
13 and access to information; and the development of grant writing and fundraising capabilities;
14 and

15 **WHEREAS**, the strategic development plan provides for the involvement of the
16 Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future in supporting and executing key programs of the
17 MCES, including the Micronesia Challenge which has the objective of conserving thirty
18 percent (30%) of near shore marine and twenty percent (20%) of the terrestrial resources
19 across Micronesia by 2020; the Pacific Islands Regional Recycling Initiative Council
20 (PIRRIC) which focuses on environmental and solid waste issues in Micronesia; the
21 Micronesia Regional Invasive Species Council which combats the threat of invasive species
22 and the restoration of natural eco-systems; the establishment of a regional energy initiatives to
23 address the rising cost of fossil fuels and the development of alternative energy solutions; and
24 the MCES Tourism Committee including the implementation of a Regional Tourism
25 Development Plan; and

26 **WHEREAS**, the strategic development plan further specifies that Micronesian Center
27 for a Sustainable Future will actively engage in several telecommunications initiatives in such
28 areas as telemedicine to enhance accessible health care, regional distance learning to expand
29 educational opportunities, and infrastructure upgrades such as submarine fiber-optic cable to
30 improve access to high-speed telecommunications; and

31 **WHEREAS**, the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, as provided for in the
32 draft business plan, will also implement, for the region, specific Cultural and Historic
33 Resource initiatives to support research in Micronesian heritage and history; regional festivals

1 for traditional performing arts; training in meaningful translations of indigenous languages;
2 academic conferences on Micronesian issues; inter-island field schools by academic
3 institutions; internships in the fields of historic preservation and museum studies; as well as
4 support for historic and cultural preservation efforts at all levels of government; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the strategic development plan also provides that by utilizing the planned
6 informational portals, regional and international contacts, and resource base, the Micronesian
7 Center for a Sustainable Future will serve as a strategic think tank for sustainable development
8 for the Micronesian Chief Executives Summit, the Micronesian Presidents' Summit and the
9 Association of Pacific Island Legislatures; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the strategic development plan further provides that the Micronesian
11 Center for a Sustainable Future will develop a broad and deep strategic alliance with the
12 University of Guam; in the operation of the planned information portals, the establishment of
13 Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future Research Fellows Program; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures find that
15 this effort by the Micronesian Chief Executives Summit and the Micronesian Presidents'
16 Summits to establish the Micronesia Center for a Sustainable Future is worthy of both
17 commendation and support by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, as delineated in the
19 strategic development plan, will greatly benefit the people of the Member States of the MCES,
20 MPA, and APIL; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the recent crisis in financial markets has demonstrated the serious need to
22 remain cognizant of external factors that impact the people of Micronesia, the development of
23 realistic strategies for the island communities to address these impacts, has emerged as a key
24 concern of the APIL member entities; and

25 **WHEREAS**, while the Member States are largely shielded from the most immediate
26 effects of the crisis, there are several adverse consequences that can be foreseen over the long
27 term including a decline in tourism. As new dynamics emerge in the global economy, the
28 MCSF will play a central role in developing innovative options for policy; and

29 **WHEREAS**, as new challenges and opportunities emerge, the MCSF will continue to
30 refine and deepen its approach to developing innovative and imaginative responses and
31 solutions to creating the future. It is for this reason that this Strategic Development Plan
32 remains – a living document; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the work of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future will help
2 effectuate solutions to our region’s environmental, social, and economic problems; and provide
3 vitally needed resources for the region; and provide important access to expertise and resources to
4 meet public policy goals; and

5 **WHEREAS**, APIL is aware of the significance of this historical moment and the lessons
6 learned from the ravages of war and the ways of the past, envision an independent and sustainable
7 future for all of the people of Micronesia – this vision a gift that they will be proud to leave to
8 generations yet unborn; now, therefore,

9 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the passage of this resolution, APIL is respectfully requesting for
10 greater participation in the Micronesian Center for Sustainable Future by allowing for direct
11 representation from its members; and

12 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** APIL is also requesting that the Chief Executives
13 immediately inform their respective legislative bodies as to its individual commitments pledged
14 in order to meet the objectives of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, and

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, APIL, by the passage of the resolutions, formally invites
16 the Secretary General of the MCSF to its next General Assembly Meeting to make a presentation
17 thereby presenting a strategic development plan laying out the organizational structure, strategic
18 direction, and action plan for the Micronesian Center for Sustainable Future; and


19 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Association of Pacific
20 Island Legislatures, 49th Meeting, December 4-5, 2008, Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands,
21 that the Board requests the Chief Executives to inform their legislative branches of the strategic
22 development plan for the establishment of the Micronesian Center for Sustainable Future and to
23 invite the Secretary General of the MCSF to APIL’s next General Assembly Meeting; and

24 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President of the Association of Pacific Island
25 Legislatures certifies, and the Secretary of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures attests to
26 the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall be thereafter transmitted to each of the
27 members of the Western Council of Micronesian Chief Executives and the Micronesian
28 Presidents’ Summit; to the Honorable Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations; to
29 the legislative presiding officers of all member states of the Association of Pacific Island
30 Legislatures; to the Chair of the House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs; to the Honorable
31 Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam’s Delegate to Congress; to the Honorable Eni Hunkin
32 Faleomavaega, American Samoa Delegate to Congress; to the Honorable Gregorio “Kilili”
33 Camacho Sablan, CNMI’s Delegate to Congress; to the Staff Director of the House Subcommittee
34 on Insular Affairs; to the President of the University of Guam; to the Chairman and Vice-

- 1 Chairman of the Alliance of Small Island States; to the Regional Administrator, U.S. EPA Region
2 IX; to the co-chairs of the White House Interagency Work Group of the Freely Associated States
3 (IWGFAS); to the co-chairs and members of the White House Interagency Group of Insular
4 Affairs (IGIA); to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Affairs; to the
5 Secretariat of the Global Programme of Action (GPA); to the Executive Director; and to the
6 Chairman of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 5TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2008.


J. KALANI ENGLISH
PRESIDENT


JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D.
SECRETARY

