



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. 53-BOD-02

“Expressing the Strong Support for the 12th Festival of Pacific Arts; Recognizing Guam as the Official Event Host; and Encouraging Full Participation in the Festival.”

1 **WHEREAS**, in 1969, the Conference of the South Pacific Commission, now the
2 Secretariat of the Pacific Community, visualized a regional event to resist the erosion of
3 traditional customary practices, which vision has materialized into the Festival of Pacific
4 Arts, held every four years for cultural sharing and cultivation of deeper understanding
5 and friendship between and among countries; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the Festival has enjoyed continued growth and success since 1972,
7 as seen by attendance in excess of 2,000 participants and delegations from 27 Pacific
8 Island countries and territories, including American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands,
9 Easter Island, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji Islands, French Polynesia, Guam,
10 Hawaii, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Norfolk
11 Island, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa,
12 Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Wallis and Futuna; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Festival of Pacific Arts affords an opportunity for the Pacific
14 people to strengthen their identities, and to share their history, customs and traditions
15 with fellow Pacific Islanders and also provides a unique opportunity for the host country
16 to present itself to its own people, to invited countries, and to Festival audiences; and

17 **WHEREAS**, past Festivals have demonstrated, exhibited and conducted a
18 multitude of activities, including contemporary arts, traditional arts, photographic arts,
19 cinematography, body art, weaving, wood, bone and stone carving, tapa making,

1 tattooing, jewelry, beadwork and shell work, costume pageants, pottery, floral arts,
2 traditional medicine and healing crafts, traditional boat building and navigational crafts,
3 traditional culinary arts, philatelic arts and traditional monies, literary arts, traditional and
4 contemporary performing arts (orations and story-telling, musical instruments, song,
5 dance, theatre, drama and fire walking), traditional sports, symposia, debates and
6 workshops; and

7 **WHEREAS**, during the summer of 2016, the twelfth Festival will be graciously
8 hosted by the Territory of Guam with the theme “WHAT WE OWN, WHAT WE HAVE,
9 WHAT WE SHARE, UNITED VOICES OF THE PACIFIC”; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the Festival of Pacific Arts is a major cultural, and economic event
11 for the region, with 27 Pacific Island countries and territories scheduled to participate,
12 and it is therefore fitting to recognize this celebration as a superb opportunity for Pacific
13 Islanders to gather and share the uniqueness of their respective cultures and to promote
14 the preservation of their traditional customary practices, while at the same time
15 showcasing many contemporary developments; and

16 **WHEREAS**, each member island of APIL is also a recognized member of the
17 Secretariat of the Pacific Community and are invited delegates to the Festival of Pacific
18 Arts; and

19 **WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to recognize Guam as the official host of the 12th
20 Festival of Pacific Arts in 2016; now, therefore,

21 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 53rd Board
22 of Directors’ Meeting, State of Pohnpei, FSM, December 5-6, 2012 that the Association
23 of Pacific Island Legislatures extends its strong support for a successful 2016 Festival of
24 Pacific Arts and encourages full participation by Pacific Island countries and territories
25 and acknowledges Guam as the official host country; and

26 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Association of Pacific Island
27 Legislatures recognizes the need to establish a 2016 Festival of Pacific Arts Ad Hoc
28 Committee in preparation for participation in the 2016 Festival in Guam Artisans to raise
29 funds for travel to Guam for the performance of songs dances and traditional practices;
30 and

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Association of Pacific Island
2 Legislatures recognizes the need for semi-annual updating to APIL by the Guam 2016
3 Coordinating Committee; and

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Association of Pacific Island
5 Legislatures encourages the executive branches (Governors/Presidents) of island nations
6 to begin planning and coordinating their respective cultural practitioners in preparation
7 for the Guam 2016 Festival; and

8 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that APIL encourages the Council of
9 Micronesia Chief Executives (CMCE) to adopt a similar support resolution; and

10 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President of APIL certifies, and the
11 Secretary attests to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall be thereafter
12 transmitted to the Honorable Dr. Jimmie Rodgers, Director-General, Secretariat of the
13 Pacific Community; the Honorable Edward B. Calvo, Governor Guam; the Honorable
14 Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D, Speaker of the 31st Guam Legislature; the honorable Benjamin
15 J.F. Cruz, Vice Speaker and Chairperson, Committee on Culture of the 31st Guam
16 Legislature; Ms. Theresa C. Arriola, Chairperson of the Guam 12th Festival of Pacific
17 Arts Organizing Committee; and to the Presiding Legislative Officers and Chief
18 Executives of each of the APIL member jurisdictions.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 6TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012.



**JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED. D.
PRESIDENT**



**CHANG B. WILLIAM
SECRETARY**

