



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. 56-BOD-11

“Relative to revitalizing the support of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) for the right of the indigenous Chamorro people of Guam to the decolonization effort of self-determination.”

1 **WHEREAS**, the island of Guam still remains a possession and unincorporated territory
2 under United States hegemony; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Guam was included on the United Nations’ list of Non-Self-Governing
4 Territories in 1946, recognizing Guam’s standing colonization and, furthermore, deeming the
5 island of Guam a colony in need of self-determination, and warranting of the full measure of self-
6 government; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam – and all people – have the inherent right to self-
8 determination and by virtue of that right must be permitted the opportunity to determine their
9 political status, as well as to freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development, as
10 inline with basic human rights and the United Nations Declaration on the Granting of
11 Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the administering power, the United States of America, has the moral and
13 legal obligation to support the exercise of the right of self-determination; and

14 **WHEREAS**, despite this obligation, the United States Congress and the United States
15 Department of the Interior currently maintains ultimate power, such as eminent domain, over
16 Guam, which situation continues to be deliberated as illegal in international law; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the administering power, the United States, continues to threaten the
18 legitimate exercise of decolonization of the island of Guam through the large-scale unilateral

1 militarization of Guam and the Mariana Islands, in direct conflict with the United Nations General
2 Assembly and the various Committees of the United Nations, all of which have expressively
3 instructed Administering Powers not only to scale down and ultimately close their military
4 installations in the non-self-governing territories they administer, but moreover to refrain from
5 establishing any new military installations¹; and

6 **WHEREAS**, on the 7th of May, 2008, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures
7 adopted Resolution No. 27-GA-11, CD1, “expressing the strong support of the members of the
8 Association of Pacific Island Legislatures for the efforts of the island of Guam to pursue self-
9 determination;” and

10 **WHEREAS**, this resolution recognized the right of the people of non-self-governing
11 territories to self-determination, acknowledged the decolonizing mission of the United Nations,
12 and resolved that “the member jurisdictions of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures are
13 encouraged to promote and support the decolonization of Guam and the Chamorro right to self-
14 determination as a means of promoting peace, justice, and quality of life for the Pacific island
15 community as a whole;” and

16 **WHEREAS**, the people of islands of the Marianas, the neighboring islands of Micronesia,
17 and our neighbors within the larger scope of the Pacific share this region and the ocean that our
18 ancestors mastered the art of navigating and sailing, which has profoundly connected our island
19 communities historically and traditionally, and reminds us of the significance of collectively
20 supporting our shared Pacific Island community, protecting our well-being, our sacred lands and
21 heritage, and our human rights; now, therefore,

22 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures, 56th Board of
23 Directors Meeting, State of Kosrae, December 2-3, 2015, that the Board of Directors, on behalf of

¹ See, e.g., United Nations GA Resolution 40/57, 40/415, 41/41 B, 42/71, 42/417, 43/45, 43/410

1 the Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures, hereby revitalize the Association's support for
2 the inalienable right of the indigenous people of the Island of Guam to the decolonization effort of
3 political self determination; and

4 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the honorable representatives of the Association of Pacific Island
5 Legislatures encourage their respective representatives to the United Nations to support Chamorro
6 self-determination and decolonization efforts within the international, intergovernmental
7 organization of the United Nations, and to contest any measures herein that will endanger Guam's
8 decolonization efforts of political self-determination; and

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify, and the APIL
10 Secretary shall attest to the adoption of this resolution and that copies of the same shall be
11 transmitted to Congresswoman Madeline Z. Bordallo; to Governor Eddie Baza Calvo; to the
12 Micronesian Chief Executives and the Presiding Legislative Officers of each APIL member
13 jurisdiction; and to such other officials and organizations deemed appropriate by the President of
14 the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 3RD DAY OF DECEMBER, 2015


KENNETH A. KEDI
PRESIDENT


FERNANDO SCALIEM
SECRETARY

