



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. 59-BOD-03

“Calling upon and urging the United States to uphold its commitment towards the Decolonization and Self Determination of Guam.”

1 **WHEREAS**, when the United Nations was established in 1945, there were a total
2 of seventy-two colonies on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories
3 slated for decolonization and the corresponding institution of self-government; and

4 **WHEREAS**, at the time the United Nations was brought into being,
5 approximately 750 million people, constituting almost one-third of the world's
6 population, lived in lands that were non-self-governing and dependent upon the
7 administration of colonial powers; but

8 **WHEREAS**, today, fewer than 2 million people live in a state of existence
9 without self-government; and

10 **WHEREAS**, thankfully, in the years that have passed since the founding of the
11 United Nations, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated
12 States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau, as
13 well as the island nations of the Republic of Nauru and the Republic of Kiribati, all
14 former colonies in the Micronesian region of the Pacific Ocean, have all exercised
15 various modes of self-determination carried out in accordance with the uniquely
16 expressed wishes and desires of their own peoples; however

17 **WHEREAS**, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, acting through its
18 Board of Directors, hereby expresses our deep concern that nearly sixty years after the
19 adoption of the U.N. Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries
20 and Peoples in 1960, there still remain seventeen Non-Self-Governing Territories that
21 have not yet been given the opportunity to exercise their right to self-determination;
22 moreover

1 **WHEREAS**, an essential member jurisdiction of the Association of Pacific Island
2 Legislatures, the Island of Guam, remains a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the
3 meaning of the United Nations Charter, with the United States of America being its
4 Administering Power; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures reaffirms its stand in
6 solidarity with the people of Guam who are entitled to their right of self-determination;
7 and

8 **WHEREAS**, decolonization necessarily involves a plebiscite by the Native
9 Inhabitants of Guam as defined by the Guam Decolonization Registry Law; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the planned decolonization vote should be held forthwith and not
11 obstructed by the Government of the United States; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the United States should be conscious of the importance of its role
13 in continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of
14 Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the target set by the United Nations
15 to eradicate colonialism by 2020, as well as the plans of action for the Second and Third
16 International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism; now, therefore,

17 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Association of
18 Pacific Island Legislatures, 59th Board Meeting, January 30 to February 2, 2019, FSM
19 State of Yap, that the Board of Directors, on behalf of the Association of Pacific Island
20 Legislatures, hereby calls upon and urges the United States to comply with the United
21 Nations Charter, particularly its obligations under Article 73e of the same, the
22 Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and any
23 and all other international conventions as well as custom relative to its international
24 obligations respecting the decolonization of Guam; and

25 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Association of
26 Pacific Island Legislatures, that it hereby requests the United States to take any and all
27 steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a
28 multilateral basis, to achieve the decolonization of Guam; and

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Association of
2 Pacific Island Legislatures that it hereby supports the right of self-determination of the
3 Native Inhabitants of Guam, as defined by the Guam Decolonization Registry Law, the
4 full and speedy implementation of said law and the resultant decolonization of Guam;
5 and

6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that APIL President shall certify and the APIL
7 Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall be
8 transmitted to the President of the United States of America, to the President of the
9 United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, to the
10 Guam Delegate to the United States House of Representatives, to the *I Maga'hågan*
11 *Guåhan* (Governor of Guam), to the Speaker of the *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* (Guam
12 Legislature), and to the Chief Executives and Presiding Legislative Officers of the
13 member jurisdictions of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 1ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2019.



FERNANDO SCALIEM
PRESIDENT



IVAN A. BLANCO
SECRETARY

