



# 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. 61-BOD-09

#### “Supporting an APIL Regional Marine Spatial Planning Program.”

1           **WHEREAS**, APIL members have consistently been global leaders in  
2   marine conservation, both at the national and regional scale; and

3           **WHEREAS**, APIL members depend on the sustainable management  
4   and harvest of their marine resources for financial and food security; and

5           **WHEREAS**, evidence shows that coordinated, science-based ocean  
6   management strategies can enhance the environmental and socio-economic  
7   resilience of APIL members; and

8           **WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented  
9   economic, social and health challenges for APIL members, but also new  
10   opportunities for solidarity, coordination and cooperation; and

11          **WHEREAS**, APIL members support Palau’s efforts to re-evaluate  
12   current marine resource management strategies including fisheries  
13   development, marine protected areas and innovative business models to  
14   maximize benefits to Palau’s citizens as well as institute proven and  
15   effective conservation measures; and

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1           **WHEREAS**, Palau has solicited support from The Nature  
2   Conservancy to develop and implement a “Blue Economy Business Plan”  
3   which creates a pathway for Palau to remain a conservation leader, to  
4   enhance the well-being of its people, and to test a potentially-replicable  
5   model for APIL members; now, therefore,

6           **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Association of  
7   Pacific Island Legislatures, 61<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting, February 17-18, 2022, via  
8   ZOOM Conferencing, that the Board of Directors on behalf of the  
9   Association of Pacific Island Legislatures extends support and solidarity  
10   with the Government of Palau in its efforts to develop its blue economy  
11   consistent with their people’s aspirations, needs and priorities; and

12           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the it is the sense of this APIL  
13   Board of Directors that our Association should explore opportunities for  
14   undertaking a regional “Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)” effort that utilizes  
15   science-based methods to develop an MSP Roadmap for the APIL member  
16   states including recommendations on coordination opportunities around  
17   fisheries aquaculture management, protected areas designation and  
18   management, environmental restoration, sustainable financing and economic  
19   development options”; and ask

20           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL Board of Directors  
21   further implores the APIL President to formally request the support of The  
22   Nature Conservancy, which has a demonstrated track record in supporting  
23   countries with unbiased, science-based Marine Spatial Planning processes to  
24   assist the Member Jurisdictions of the APIL, in close coordination with key  
25   regional institutions, in the development of a truly regional Marine Spatial  
26   Planning Program; and

1           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that APIL President shall certify  
2   and the APIL Secretary attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the  
3   same shall be transmitted to the Chief Executives and the Presiding  
4   Legislative Officers of the member jurisdictions of the Association of the  
5   Pacific Island Legislatures.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2022.**



**NELSON STEPHEN  
ACTING PRESIDENT**



**VINNIE SABLEN  
ACTING SECRETARY**

