



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

APIL Resolution No. 64-BOD-06

“REQUESTING A PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT ON THE IMPACT ON THE RESIDENTS OF THE DOWNWIND ISLANDS OF MICRONESIA DUE TO THE U.S. ATMOSPHERIC NUCLEAR TESTING IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC.”

1 **WHEREAS**, between 1946 and 1958, the United States conducted 67
2 atmospheric nuclear tests in the Marshall Islands with 23 of these tests at Bikini
3 Atoll and 44 near Enewetak Atoll; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Military conducted its largest nuclear detonation
5 ever, known as "Castle Bravo", at Bikini Atoll on March 1, 1954; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Castle Bravo was the U.S Government's first test of a
7 deliverable hydrogen bomb, which thermonuclear or fusion fueled device was
8 over 1,000 more times powerful than the "Little Boy" fission bomb test that was
9 conducted in the U.S. State of Nevada near the end of World War II; and

10 **WHEREAS**, despite potential risks of this massive nuclear experiment, the
11 U.S. Military ordered the test to be conducted over the skies of the Marshall
12 Islands; and

13 **WHEREAS**, most unfortunately, but not fully unforeseen, the Castle Bravo
14 test proved to be much more powerful than scientists had initially predicted with
15 ocean currents, weather conditions, and wind patterns contributing to the spread of
16 its fallout and debris all across the wide expanses of the Western Pacific Ocean;
17 thereby resulting in Castle Bravo being labeled as the worst radiological disaster in
18 U.S. history; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures is cognizant of
2 the fact that throughout the decade that the United States Military was conducting
3 atmospheric nuclear tests of truly massive sizes for that era of the Cold War, the
4 U.S. Government was serving as the Administering Authority over the Trust
5 Territory of the Pacific Islands, which included the very atolls where the actual
6 above ground, nuclear bomb tests were being conducted and the closely situated
7 and extremely vulnerable atolls where the island peoples were re-located; and

8 **WHEREAS**, while there was some attention given to the atoll residents of
9 the Marshall Islands who inhabited the islands in the immediate vicinity of the
10 nuclear tests during the Cold War years that the United States was exploding
11 atomic bombs in the skies over our heads, little or no consideration was accorded
12 to the many other islands of Micronesia which are situated downwind from where
13 the atmospheric nuclear tests were being carried out in the Marshall Islands; now,
14 therefore,

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Association of
16 Pacific Island Legislatures, 64th Board of Directors meeting, Majuro, Republic of
17 the Marshall Islands, February 25-26, 2025, that the members of the Association
18 of the Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) hereby respectfully request that the APIL
19 President work with relevant government agencies, NGOs and concerned
20 communities in obtaining a professional assessment on the impact on the residents
21 of the downwind islands of Micronesia resulting from the U.S. atmospheric
22 nuclear testing in the Western Pacific; and

23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify, and
24 the APIL Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof and that a copy hereof be

-
- 1 retained by the President of APIL and that copies of the same shall thereafter be
2 transmitted to the Chief Executives and Legislative Presiding Officers of each
3 member jurisdiction of the APIL.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 26TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2025



SPEAKER EDMUND S. VILLAGOMEZ
PRESIDENT



SENATOR VICTOR BAMOG
SECRETARY

