



# 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. 29-GA-05

**“Relative to supporting the United Nations resolution, ‘Climate change and its possible security implications’, and establishing a regional APIL task-force to address the effects of climate change.”**

1       **WHEREAS**, global warming is considered a serious international issue, requiring ongoing  
2 discussion within the United Nations, the establishment of the United Nations Framework  
3 Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate  
4 Change (IPCC), and the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change by 188 countries;  
5 and

6       **WHEREAS**, according to the Global Humanitarian Forum’s Human Impact Report,  
7 emissions of greenhouse gasses as a result of human activity are primarily responsible for global  
8 warming; and

9       **WHEREAS**, the same report states that climate change will impact humans in terms of  
10 food security, health, poverty, water, displacement, and security; and

11       **WHEREAS**, the report also states that climate change poses an international security  
12 threat, as it has the potential to exacerbate existing conflicts and create new tensions as a result of  
13 competition for resources such as food, water, and land, eventually leading to large-scale human  
14 displacement; and

15       **WHEREAS**, the report further states that neither the UNFCCC, the primary body within  
16 the United Nations for addressing climate change, or the Kyoto Protocol, a binding international  
17 agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere, include provisions relevant to  
18 specific assistance or protection for those directly affected by climate change; and

1       **WHEREAS**, the 2007 IPCC Fourth Assessment Report states that small islands will  
2 experience sea level rise, storm surge, erosion, coral bleaching, reduced water resources, and  
3 invasion by non-native species, all of which are occurring in Pacific islands and atolls; and

4       **WHEREAS**, climate change impacts are exacerbated in areas like Kiribati and the  
5 Marshall Islands, where saltwater intrusion contributes to massive inundation, the loss of fresh  
6 water, and the degradation of agricultural crops, forcing the continued displacement of  
7 indigenous peoples; and

8       **WHEREAS**, Pacific islands are amongst the least contributors of greenhouse gas  
9 emissions, but of the first to be significantly impacted by the effects of climate change; and

10       **WHEREAS**, the drastic effects of climate change within the Pacific is only a precursor to  
11 large-scale problems given that the IPCC and Stern Review claim that up to 200 million people  
12 will be permanently displaced as a result of rising sea levels, flood, and drought by 2050; and

13       **WHEREAS**, at the 85<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the United Nations General Assembly,  
14 representatives of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) expressed their concern that the  
15 effects of climate change, particularly in small islands countries, require the immediate attention  
16 that security threats typically receive by the United Nations Security Council; and

17       **WHEREAS**, the SIDS introduced the draft resolution “Climate change and its possible  
18 security implications” (document A/63/L.8/Rev.1); and

19       **WHEREAS**, the resolution “invites the relevant organs of the United Nations, as  
20 appropriate and within their respective mandates to intensify their efforts in considering and  
21 addressing climate change, including its possible security implications”; and

22       **WHEREAS**, the resolution “requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive  
23 report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the possible security implications of  
24 climate change, based on the views of the Member States and relevant regional and international  
25 organizations”; and

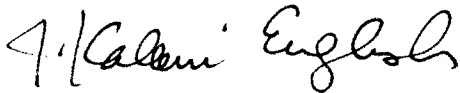
26       **WHEREAS**, the resolution is non-binding and thereby potentially ineffective, but the  
27 expression of the sense of this highest body in international affairs is still very important since  
28 the threat of large-scale displacement of Pacific peoples currently lacks urgent international  
29 attention; now, therefore,

1           **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Islands Legislatures, 29<sup>th</sup> General  
2 Assembly, Tarawa, Republic of Kiribati, June 3-4, 2010, that the APIL hereby supports the  
3 resolution, "Climate change and its possible security implications," and urges the United Nations  
4 Security Council and relative bodies to commit to its call for meaningful and immediate action;  
5 and

6           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures  
7 establish a regional APIL task-force to facilitate dialogue amongst member jurisdictions, assist in  
8 mitigation and adaptation education and implementation, and provide annual reports of progress  
9 to the body; and

10          **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify and the Secretary  
11 shall attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall be thereafter transmitted to  
12 the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to the chief executives and legislative presiding  
13 officers of each member of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2010.**



**J. KALANI ENGLISH**  
**APIL PRESIDENT**



**JUDITH T. WON PAT**  
**APIL SECRETARY**

