

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



Distr.
LIMITED

T/COM.10/L.344
23 November 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THIRD NORTHERN
MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE, CONCERNING THE TRUST
TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 24 of the rules of procedure
of the Trusteeship Council)

House of Representatives
THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P. O. Box 586
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

27 July 1983

The President
Trusteeship Council
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mr. President:

I transmit herewith a certified copy of House resolution No. 141, "A House resolution relative to supporting the Nauru and Kiribati initiative to permanently ban radioactive waste dumping in the oceans; endorsing the two-year moratorium on all nuclear waste dumping at sea as adopted by the London Dumping Convention; 1/ urging the London Dumping Convention to find that subsea-bed emplacement of high-level radioactive wastes is prohibited by annex I of the London Dumping Convention, and reaffirming the position of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands with regard to establishing the northwestern Pacific Ocean as a nuclear and chemical free zone", adopted by the House of Representatives, Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, third regular session, 1983.

Hafa Adai,

(Signed) Herbert S. DEL ROSARIO
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

Enclosure

THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

House resolution No. 141

THIRD REGULAR SESSION, 1983

A HOUSE RESOLUTION

Relative to supporting the Nauru and Kiribati initiative to permanently ban radioactive waste dumping in the Oceans; endorsing the two-year moratorium on all nuclear waste dumping at sea as adopted by the London Dumping Convention; urging the London Dumping Convention to find that subsea-bed emplacement of high-level radioactive wastes is prohibited by annex I of the London Dumping Convention, and reaffirming the position of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands with regard to establishing the northwestern Pacific Ocean as a nuclear and chemical free zone.

WHEREAS, the 1982 General Assembly of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures adopted GA-I, a resolution which stated in part:

That it is the sense and the opinion of the Association that the northwestern Pacific Ocean should be a nuclear-free zone; and

WHEREAS, on 7 April 1983, the Second General Assembly of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures adopted GA-2-8, a resolution which stated in part:

It is vital that the people of the Pacific join together to oppose the dumping, storage, or use of nuclear material in the Pacific region ... that the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures does hereby reaffirm its stand that the northwestern Pacific Ocean should be a nuclear-free zone; and

WHEREAS, as exhibited by the 1982 General Assembly of the Asian-Pacific Parliamentarians' Union held in Guam, there is significant opposition in the Pacific region to any form of nuclear dumping in this area; and

WHEREAS, annex I to the London Dumping Convention prohibits dumping high-level radioactive wastes at sea; and

WHEREAS, the Seventh Consultative Meeting of the London Dumping Convention held on 14-18 February 1983, addressed issues of great concern to members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the view of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures to be heard on issues discussed by the London Dumping Convention; and

WHEREAS, Nauru and Kiribati have led a Pacific initiative to ban all radioactive waste dumping in the oceans; and

WHEREAS, a resolution introduced by Spain calling for a two-year moratorium on all nuclear waste dumping at sea was adopted by the Convention; and

WHEREAS, the Spanish resolution is in accord with recent United States legislation establishing a domestic moratorium on United States dumping; and

WHEREAS, the Third Legislature of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has recently enacted Public Law 3-50, a law which declares a nuclear and chemical free zone in and around the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that the people of the Pacific join together to oppose the dumping, storage, or use of nuclear material in the Pacific region; and

WHEREAS, the issue of whether or not subsea-bed emplacement of high-level radioactive wastes is prohibited by the London Dumping Convention arose at the Seventh Consultative Meeting; and

WHEREAS, a panel of legal and technical specialists will report to the Eighth Consultative Meeting in February 1984 its findings upon this issue; and

WHEREAS, the emplacement of high-level radioactive wastes in the sea-bed would involve placing into the ocean environment billions of curies of long-lived radioactive wastes, and would thus dwarf all existing or proposed low-level dumping programmes; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, third regular session, 1983, reaffirms its stand that the northwestern Pacific Ocean should be a nuclear and chemical free zone; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, third regular session, 1983, supports the Nauru and Kiribati initiative to ban permanently radioactive waste dumping in the oceans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, third regular session, 1983, endorses and urges compliance with the two-year moratorium on all nuclear waste dumping at sea as adopted by the Seventh Consultative Meeting of the London Dumping Convention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, third regular session, 1983, urges the Eighth Consultative Meeting of the London Dumping Convention in February 1984 to find that emplacement of high-level radioactive wastes is prohibited by annex I to the London Dumping Convention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, third regular session, 1983, is opposed to the subsea-bed emplacement of any radioactive wastes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, third regular session, 1983, is requested to select a delegate to report to the next meeting of the Vanuatu Nuclear Free Pacific Conference upon the contents of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Speaker shall certify and the House Clerk shall attest to the adoption of this resolution and thereafter transmit copies of this resolution to the Secretary-General of the Asian-Pacific Parliamentarians' Union; to the presiding officer of the London Dumping Convention; to the President of the United Nations Trusteeship Council; to Governor Pedro P. Tenorio; and to Washington Representative Edward DLG. Pangelinan.

Adopted: 13 June 1983

(Signed) Benigno R. FITIAL
Speaker

ATTESTED:

(Signed) Herbert S. DEL ROSARIO
Chief Clerk

Notes

1/ Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matters, also known as the London Convention.
