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PETITION FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF PACIFIC ISLAND LEGISLATURES (APIL)
CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 1, of
the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

ASSOCIATION OF PACIFIC ISLAND LEGISLATURES (APIL)
P.O. Box V, Agana, Guam 96910

15 March 1985

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

Dear Mr. President,

Hafa Adai!

On behalf of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, I am pleased to
transmit to you the following resolution(s), duly adopted by APIL at its third
General Assembly:

Resolution No. E-3-11
Resolution No. SC-3-6

The nations, States and Territories represented in the Association of Pacific
Island Legislatures would greatly appreciate any action you could take in support
of these resolutions.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Gregorio S. CALVO Jr.
APIL Secretariat

Enclosures

Enclosure 1

ASSOCIATION OF PACIFIC ISLAND LEGISLATURES

Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands

Territory of Guam

Republic of the Marshalls

Republic of Palau

Federated States of Micronesia

State of Kosrae

State of Ponape

State of Truk

State of Yap

Resolution No. E-3-11

Presented by: Committee on Economics

A RESOLUTION

Relative to requesting the Secretary of the Department of State of the United States through the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and the Secretary of the Department of the Interior to seek separate associate membership for each of the four entities in Micronesia - the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia - in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) of the United Nations

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF PACIFIC ISLAND LEGISLATURES:

WHEREAS, the Charter of the United Nations specifically recognizes the responsibilities for the administration of Territories whose peoples have not yet attained a full measure of self-government "to ensure ... their ... economic ... advancement ..." and "to promote constructive measures of development, ... and to co-operate with one another and, when and where appropriate, with specialized international bodies with a view to the practical achievement of the social, economic, and scientific purposes set forth" in Article 73, Chapter XI of the Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia have formally established their constitutional Governments and have assumed most administrative responsibilities for their internal affairs, pursuant to United States Secretarial Order No. 3039; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia have assumed most responsibilities for internal affairs which deal directly with overall economic and social development for their people; and

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WHEREAS, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is widely known for its outstanding efforts in assisting and in promoting economic development in countries in Asia and the Pacific; and

WHEREAS, increased assistance and technical expertise is needed for accelerated economic and social development of the four entities in light of their current efforts to assume full self-government; and

WHEREAS, associate members of ESCAP are qualified to become eligible members of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and to receive aid from ADB, as evidenced in the case of Vanuatu; and

WHEREAS, the Territory of Guam has set a precedent for the four entities for seeking assistance and technical expertise from the specialized "international bodies" of the United Nations by becoming an associate member of ESCAP through the efforts of its Administering Authority; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, Third General Assembly, March 1984, that the concepts and principles governing the operations and functions of ESCAP be adopted and endorsed by APIL as essential for the economic and social development of the four entities; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of State of the United States, acting on behalf of the Administering Authority for the four entities through the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, be respectfully requested to approve the concept cited above, and to request ESCAP to admit separate associate membership of each of the four entities; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President certify and the Secretary attest to the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Department of State, the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the Trusteeship Council, the Executive Secretary of ESCAP, the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the chief executives of APIL members and to each member of APIL.

Duly and regularly adopted on 31 March 1984.

(Signed) Carl T. C. GUTIERREZ
President

(Signed) Phillip MULLER
Secretary

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Enclosure 2

Resolution No. SC-3-6

Presented by: Socio-Cultural Affairs Committee

A RESOLUTION

Relative to requesting the United States to fund the Trust Territory Prior Service Benefits Program.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF PACIFIC ISLAND LEGISLATURES:

WHEREAS, in 1967, the former Congress of Micronesia, upon the request of the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, adopted legislation which established the Trust Territory Social Security System and a supplemental retirement, survivor and disability benefit programme (also known as the Prior Service Benefits Program); and

WHEREAS, the Prior Service Benefits Program provides benefits to Trust Territory citizens who worked for the Administering Authority (namely, the United States) for five or more years prior to 1 July 1968, the date the Trust Territory Social Security System began; and

WHEREAS, the Prior Service Benefits Program has been funded by annual United States Government appropriations as part of the Trust Territory budget; and

WHEREAS, the need to continue funding the Prior Service Benefits Program will continue well into the future, long after the anticipated termination of the Trusteeship Agreement of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

WHEREAS, the United States Government has indicated that it expects the island Governments of the Micronesian region to assume responsibility for funding the Prior Service Benefits Program in the post-Trusteeship era; and

WHEREAS, the Governments of the Micronesian region have taken the position that the responsibility for funding the Prior Service Benefits Program is more properly that of the United States Government, inasmuch as the beneficiaries of the programme were employed by the United States or its agencies and the programme itself was established at the request of the United States, through the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory; and

WHEREAS, it is the sense of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures that future funding of the Prior Service Benefits Program should remain the responsibility of the United States for the reasons mentioned above; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, Third General Assembly, March 1984, does hereby support the position of the island Governments in the Micronesian region and urges the United States to reconsider its position on this matter and agree to assume the responsibility for funding future benefits for the many islanders who loyally served the United States and its agencies for many years; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President certify and the Secretary attest to the adoption hereof; and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honourable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States; to the President of the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations; to the United States Secretary of State, Secretary of Health and Human Services and Secretary of the Interior; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate; to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States Congress; and to each chief executive and legislative chief officer of the member nations, States and Territories.

Duly and regularly adopted on 31 March 1984.

(Signed) Carl T. C. GUTIERREZ
President

(Signed) Phillip MULLER
Secretary
