

A RESOLUTION

Urging the President of the Federated States of Micronesia to task the relevant Departments and Offices of the National Government to strengthen their efforts in examining the prospect of and preparing action plans for climate change-induced displacement of inhabitants of the low-lying atolls in the Federated States of Micronesia.

1 WHEREAS, the effects of climate change and rising sea water
2 are considered major environmental concerns internationally; and

3 WHEREAS, the low-lying atolls of the Pacific Islands are most
4 vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and rising sea water;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, the consequences of land loss in the low-lying
7 atolls in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) due to climate
8 change and rising sea water will continue to rise; and

9 WHEREAS, the inhabitants of the low-lying atolls of the FSM
10 are not immune to climate change-induced displacement; and

11 WHEREAS, it is foreseeable that climate change-induced
12 displacement may present new and greater challenges in the
13 environment, including the economic, social, cultural and
14 traditional sectors of the islands; and

15 WHEREAS, non-reversible displacement caused by climate change
16 and rising sea levels have yet to be fully grasped by states and
17 their peoples; and

18 WHEREAS, an assessment report of the consequences and the
19 impacts of climate change to this nation can assist policy makers
20 in formulating policies and measures to address the people's

1 plight in anticipating their separation of land and culture; and

2 WHEREAS, the Office of Environment and Emergency Management
3 (EEM), in collaboration with the Department of Foreign Affairs and
4 the Department of Justice, is charged with the responsibility to
5 coordinate efforts at the national government to ensure that
6 environmental considerations are integrated into strategic policy
7 formulation processes; and

8 WHEREAS, the Office of Environment and Emergency Management's
9 responsive strategic policy planning toward the effects of climate
10 change and rising sea water should integrate comprehensive
11 policies within the human rights framework; and

12 WHEREAS, both short and long-term policies should be similar
13 to those already in place following similar disasters and consist
14 largely of forced migration settlements, shelter programs and
15 other measures; now, therefore,

16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Sixteenth Congress of the Federated
17 States of Micronesia, Second Regular Session, 2009, that Congress
18 is hereby urging the President to task the relevant Departments
19 and offices of the National Government to strengthen their efforts
20 in examining the climate change-induced displacement of
21 inhabitants of the low-lying atolls in the Federated States of
22 Micronesia; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the relevant departments and
24 offices of the national government prepare action plans that will
25 address climate change-induced displacement of inhabitants in the

1 low-lying atolls in the Federated States of Micronesia, to afford
2 better understanding of the human rights aspects, to identify
3 remedies such as the provision of alternative homes and lands,
4 compensation and access to new and permanent resettlement
5 locations, to further identify unused land for possible future use
6 to resettle people and their communities should this become
7 necessary, and other areas as deemed proper; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
9 resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated States
10 of Micronesia, the Director of the Office of Environment and
11 Emergency Management, the Secretary of the Department of Foreign
12 Affairs, the Secretary of the Department of Justice, and the
13 Governor of each State of the Federated States of Micronesia.

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15 Date: 7/10/09

Introduced by: /s/ Fredrico O. Primo

Fredrico O. Primo

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