



Office of the Vice Speaker

**TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan*

**37<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature**

August 8, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Agnes Cruz, Chief Fiscal Officer  
**FROM:** Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes  
**SUBJECT:** Cancellation of 2437TA029 – Chirag M. Bhojwani

---

*Buenas yan Hafa Adai!*

Due to the Call to Special Session by request of *I Maga'hagan Guahan*, the Governor of Guam, this is to inform you that my Chief of Staff, Chirag Bhojwani, has canceled his planned travel to Palau to staff the 41<sup>st</sup> APIL General Assembly and the PIPG.

I ask that Chirag Bhojwani's travel authorization, 2437TA029, be canceled. Chirag Bhojwani will refund the Guam Legislature the total amount of \$4,575.89. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**GUAM LEGISLATURE  
FISCAL OFFICE**

**AUG 19 2024**

TIME: 1:01 | AM | PM  
RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

**GOVERNMENT OF GUAM  
I LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
TRAVEL AND AUTHORIZATION REQUEST  
STANDING RULE NUMBER XXXVII**

1. TO: CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON RULES      2. FROM: Office of Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes      3. DATE: 7/30/2024

THE FOLLOWING TRAVEL IS:       REQUESTED       AUTHORIZED

4. NAME OF TRAVELER: **Chirag M. Bhojwani**      5. TITLE OF TRAVELER: **Chief of Staff**      6. CHARGE ACCOUNT NUMBER: **6200-539**

7. ITINERARY      8. LENGTH OF TRAVEL (Days): **9**      9. APPROXIMATE TIME & DATE  
 FROM: **Guam**      DEPARTURE: **8/9/24 6:50 PM**  
 TO: **Palau**      RETURN: **8/17/24 6:15 AM**

10. DESCRIBE PURPOSE OF TRAVEL: **To attend the 41st APIL General Assembly and Pacific Islands Parliaments Group - 4th Conference in Korrór, Palau**

11. MODE OF TRAVEL: **AIR**      12. NAME OF TRAVEL AGENCY OR CARRIER: **United Airlines**

13. AMOUNT OF TRAVEL ADVANCE REQUESTED: \$ **4,575.89**

14. ESTIMATED COST OF TRAVEL:

A. PER DIEM

	<u>DAYS</u>	<u>RATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
First Day	1	\$ 430.00	\$ 430.00
Meals/ Lodging	7	\$ 471.25	\$ 3,298.75
Last Day	1	\$ 123.75	\$ 123.75
Meals			

B. Air Fare To: \$ 723.39

C. Miscellaneous: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL COST OF TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION: \$ 4,575.89

15. CERTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

16. SIGNATURE (REQUESTING SENATOR)

*[Handwritten Signature]*

*[Signature]* Agnes A. Cruz, CFO

*[Handwritten Signature]*

17. TO TRAVELER, YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO PERFORM THE ABOVE DESCRIBED TRAVEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF THE GUAM LEGISLATURE STANDING RULES XXXVII

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Joseph R. San Agustin, Acting Executive Director



LEHESLATURAN GUAHAN  
GUAM LEGISLATURE

163 W Chalan Santo Papa, Hagatna, Guam 96910

VENDOR NO: V25664

Transmittal Request Order No: TMB-90-2024  
Office of: Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes

A. Request For:

Purchase Order Date: \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Acct No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Disencumber P.O/ Contract Date: \_\_\_\_\_ P.O./Contract No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Acct No.: \_\_\_\_\_

In Favor of:

GUAM LEGISLATURE  
FISCAL OFFICE

	Qty	Unit of Measure	Unit	Unit Price	Amount
1					-
2					-
3					-
4					-
5					-
6					-
7					-
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$ -</b>

AUG 05 2024

TIME 9:25 AM JPM  
RECEIVED BY [Signature]

If more space is required, list separately and attach to this form

For Delivery to:

B. Request For Payment:

Purchase Order Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Voucher No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Acct No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Direct Payment Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Voucher No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Acct No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to:

Note: 8 Invoices per TRO	Amount	Invoice Number	Amount
1.)	_____	5.)	_____
2.)	_____	6.)	_____
3.)	_____	7.)	_____
4.)	_____	8.)	_____
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Purpose:

C.

Travel Authorization : Date: 7/30/2024 T/A No.: 2437TA029 Acct No.: 06200-539

Name of Traveler: Chirag M. Bhojwani Title: Chief of Staff

Itinerary: Fr: Guam To: Palau Days: 9

Purpose of Travel: To staff Vice Speaker at the 41st APIL General Assembly and Pacific Islands Parliaments Group - 4th Conference in Koror, Palau AMOUNT OF TA: \$ 4,575.89

Mode of Travel: Air Name of Travel Agency or Carrier: United Airlines

Amount of Travel Advanced Requested: \$4,575.89 Date of Departure: 8/9/2024 Return Date: 8/17/2024

D. Request For Transfer:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

From Account No.: \_\_\_\_\_ To Account No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature]  
Certified Funds Available

8/5/24  
DATE

[Signature]  
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

08/02/24  
DATE



**I LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
GUAM LEGISLATURE  
163 W Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910**

**REQUEST FOR TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION  
INSTRUCTION FORM**

**1) Fill out request for Travel Authorization Memorandum as indicated on the form.**

**2) Fill out the Travel Request and Authorization Form as follows by Item Number.**

- 1** CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON RULES
- 2** REQUESTING COMMITTEE, MINORITY, ATTACHE, ETC.
- 3** DATE
- 4** NAME OF TRAVELER - Please use legal name of the traveler. Traveler must be a member, employee, or contractor of the Guam Legislature.
- 5** TITLE OF TRAVELER
- 6** ALLOTMENT NUMBER - Indicate allotment number to be charged for travel expenses. DO NOT charge for travel expenses to Rental / Renovation Account.
- 7** ITINERARY - Detailed itinerary as prepared by travel agent should be attached. Must list all cities included in travel
- 8** LENGTH OF TRAVEL - Number of days.
- 9** APPROXIMATE DATE AND TIME OF DEPARTURE AND RETURN
- 10** PURPOSE OF TRAVEL - Explain in detail the purpose of official travel.
- 11** MODE OF TRAVEL - Air
- 12** NAME OF TRAVEL AGENCY OR CARRIER
- 13** AMOUNT OF TRAVEL ADVANCE REQUESTED - Please enter only the amount requested in advance.
- 14** COST OF TRAVEL PER DIEM - Multiply the number of days by the rate based on The Federal Government Transportation Allowance Committee (<https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/>) per Public Law #28-68 Chapter IV Section 114 §23104. Per Diem rates are subject to change due fluctuation of Seasonal rate.

NOTE: If the travel involves multiple destinations and different per diem rates please indicate the number of days authorized for each per diem rate.

- 15** CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS - To be completed by the Chief Fiscal Officer
- 16** SIGNATURE OF REQUESTING SENATOR
- 17** TO BE SIGNED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PRIOR TO T.A. RELEASE

**3) Submit ALL filled out forms to CHAIRPERSON - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE for acknowledgement and approval.**

**4) Submit ALL filled out forms to ACCOUNTING DIVISION.**

**5) Submit Transmittal Request Order (T.R.O.) attached to Travel Authorization form.**

**For further assistance regarding Travel Authorization Form, please contact Accounting Section.**



I LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
GUAM LEGISLATURE  
163 W Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

DATE: July 30, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: **Chairperson-Committee on Rules**  
VIA: **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

FROM: Office of the Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes

SUBJECT: **ATTACHED IS A TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION FORM**  
\_\_\_\_\_

YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION IN PROCESSING THIS TRAVEL REQUEST IS APPRECIATED.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SENATOR'S SIGNATURE

**Chairperson-Committee on Rules**

✓

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

DATE: 8-5-24

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Senator Chris Barnett*  
*Chairperson, Committee on Rules*



**I LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
GUAM LEGISLATURE  
163 W Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910**

**DATE:** July 30, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Senator Chris Barnett, Chairperson, COR

**VIA:** Joseph R. San Agustin, Executive Director

**FROM:** Office of the Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes

**SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION PAPERS BE PROCESSED IMMEDIATELY BASED ON THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

**1) NAME OF TRAVELER:** Chirag M. Bhojwani

**2) PURPOSE OF TRAVEL:** To staff Vice Speaker at the 41st APIL General Assembly and Pacific Islands  
Parliaments Group - 4th Conference in Korrer Palau

<b>3) APPROXIMATE DATE &amp; TIME OF DEPARTURE:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>TIME:</b>
	<u>8/9/2024</u>	<u>6:50 PM</u>

<b>4) APPROXIMATE DATE &amp; TIME OF RETURN:</b>	<b>TIME:</b>	<b>TIME:</b>
	<u>8/17/2024</u>	<u>6:15 AM</u>

**5) ITINERARY:** Guam - Palau - Guam

<b>6) COMMITTEE / OFFICE TO BE CHARGED :</b>	<b>GI Acct/Dept No.</b>
	<u>06200-539</u>

7) PER DIEM AUTHORIZED :

	Number of Days:	Rate:	Amount:
First Day - Meals and Lodging	A) <u>1</u>	A) \$ <u>430.00</u>	A) \$ <u>430.00</u>
	B) <u>7</u>	B) \$ <u>471.25</u>	B) \$ <u>3,298.75</u>
Last Day Meals	C) <u>1</u>	C) \$ <u>123.75</u>	C) \$ <u>123.75</u>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b><u>9</u></b>		<b><u>\$ 3,852.50</u></b>

8) (A) NAME OF TRAVEL AGENCY/ AIRLINES: United Airlines

8) (B) AMOUNT OF AIRFARE: \$723.39

9) MISCELLANEOUS ALLOWANCE: \$ -

10) REQUESTED BY: Chirag M. Bhojwani  
 PRINT NAME *Chirag M. Bhojwani*  
SIGNATURE

NOTE: PLEASE FILL IN ALL SPACES ABOVE.

CERTIFIED FUNDS AVAILABLE BY *[Signature]* DATE: 8/5/24  
 For Agnes A. Cruz, Chief Fiscal Officer

APPROVED: *[Signature]* DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

*[Signature]* DATE: 8/5/2024  
 Senator Chris Barnett  
 Chairperson, Committee on Rules



## Transaction Details



**United Airlines**

United Airlines

**\$723.39**

2,170.17 total rewards points earned



**Pay Over Time**

### Transaction Details

Type Sale

Transaction date Jul 15, 2024

Posted date Jul 16, 2024

233 S Wacker Dr # 710,  
Chicago, IL 60606

 (872) 825-4000

Description UNITED 0162404922253

Merchant type UNITED AIRLINES

Method Online, mail or phone

Category

Travel







<b>UNITED AIRLINES INC.</b>		Conjunction Ticket(s)	Origin / Destination	Point Of Sale : WEB <span style="float:right">Print</span>
			GUMROR Airline PNR/CTO ATO AR5RXE 0162	Point Of Issue : WEB Agency Name : UNITED AIRLINES Book/Tktg Agnt : 54990294 / Bkg Outlet :
Name of Passenger	Date of Issue	Original Issue Info:		
BHOPWANI CHERAGM	2024-07-15			
Restrictions / Endorsements	Tour Code	Extra Sec Id :		
NONREF/VALUAFDPT		Src Id : TCN Trans Type : S PED: 2024-07-15 Load Date: 2024-07-15	Pax Type : ADT Cpn Issn Usage : Doc Type : TKTT Load Id : 6000026316 Original Sale Info :	

Tkt	Cpn	Loc	Dest	OP Carr	Mrk Carr	OP Flt	Mrk Flt	Bkg /	Fare Basis / Ticket Designator	Dprt Dt	Dprt Time	Revenue Amt	VQ amt
0162404922252	1	GUM	ROR	UA	UA	0019J	0019J	T	TFE2TSO2 ZPBC	09-AUG-24	1850		
0162404922252	2	ROR	GUM	UA	UA	0019J	0019J	T	TFE2TSO2 ZPBC	17-AUG-24	310		

<b>FARE</b>	532.00 USD	<b>Fare Calculation Area</b>											
<b>Total Fare</b>	0.00 USD	GUM UA ROR 256.97TFE2TSO2 UA GUM Q18.00 256.97TFE2TSO2 NUC 531.94 END ROE 1.00 XT5.60AY66.00YQ7.00XY8.29GU4.50XF GUM4.5											
		Form of Payment	CC NUM FILTERED	CC Amt USD	Crd.Orig Curr	Cash USD	Cash Orig Amt	Exchange Amt	Certificate/Certl Num	Apprvl Cd/CC Expir Date/Usr Num			
		CCVI		723.39	723.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	09226D /			
		Eqtr Amt:0	Seq #	7		Other Fap: USD Amt/ Orig Amt:	Comm. Type	Category	Comm. Amt:	Base Comm. Amt:			
		Face Amt USD: 532.00					N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00			
		Tkt Doc USD: 0.00	Airline Form-serial	0162404922252		Tkt Exch. Info Cpas Surrendered	Atl Comm Amt	Overrd. Amt	Comm Rate	Ancillary Description			
							0.00	0.00	0.00				

Chirag M. Bhojwani

Korrer, Palau

Lodging	\$	245.00
5GCA §231104 (a)(1)(125%)	\$	306.25

Local Meals	\$	106.00
Local Incidental	\$	26.00
Total Meals	\$	132.00
5GCA §231104 (a)(1)(125%)	\$	165.00

\$ -

Max Per Diem	\$	377.00
5GCA §231104 (a)(1)(125%)	\$	471.25

**1st and Last Meals**

5GCA §231104 (a)(1)(125%)	165.00
Defense Travel Per Diem 75%	123.75

Per Diem;		Days		Amount
<b>First Day</b>				
Meals	\$	123.75		
Lodging	\$	306.25		
	\$	430.00	1	\$ 430.00
	\$	471.25	7	\$ 3,298.75
<b>Last Day Meals</b>	\$	123.75	1	\$ 123.75
<b>Total Per Diem</b>			\$	<b>3,852.50</b>

**MAXIMUM PER DIEM RATES OUTSIDE THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES**

COUNTRY/STATE: **P A L A U**  
PUBLICATION DATE (MM DD YY): **08 01 2024**

**NOTES:**

1. Use the **OTHER** rate if neither the **CITY, PLACE, ISLAND**, nor **MILITARY INSTALLATION** is listed.
2. For other allowances that are based on per diem rates (e.g., **TLE, TLA, TQSE, TQSA**), see the appropriate rules for those allowances regarding what per diem rate to use.
3. The standard **ONBASE INCIDENTAL RATE** is **\$3.50 OCONUS** wide.
4. When Government meals are directed, the appropriate Government meal rate, as prescribed in Appendix A of the Joint Travel Regulation (JTR), is applicable.
5. Per Diem Rate = Max Lodging + Meals (Local Meals, Proportional, or Government) + Incidental Rate (Local or OnBase)

Keyword Search

Search

Reset

\* All rates are in US Dollars

Export to Excel

Export to PDF

Print

Show 25 entries

Locality	Seasons (Beg-End)	Maximum Lodging	Local Meals	Proportional Meals	Local Incidental	Footnote	Footnote Rate	Maximum Per Diem	Effective Date
[OTHER]	01/01 - 12/31	245	106	62	26			377	01/01/2023
KOROR	01/01 - 12/31	245	106	62	26			377	01/01/2023

Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries

Previous

1

Next

\*Use the OTHER rate if neither the **CITY, PLACE, ISLAND**, nor **MILITARY INSTALLATION** is listed.



# ASSOCIATION OF PACIFIC ISLAND LEGISLATURES

41st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

August 12-13, 2024

Republic of Palau

## PROPOSED AGENDA

*“Human Development in Oceania: How can legislatures strengthen people-centered security for the Pacific Islanders? The state of and future perspective on food security, economic security, cyber security, and other indicators of human development.”*

### MONDAY, AUGUST 12TH (PALAU NATIONAL CONGRESS)

09:00am -09:40am Opening Ceremony (*official program*)

09:40 am -09:55 am *Session Break*

10:00am-10:10am Call to Order by APIL President: **Hon. Nelson Stephen**  
 Roll Call of APIL Member Entities: APIL Secretary: **Hon. Tessie Lambourne**

1. American Samoa
2. Commonwealth of the NMI
3. FSM State of Chuuk
4. FSM State of Kosrae
5. FSM State of Pohnpei
6. FSM State of Yap
7. Island of Guam
8. Republic of Kiribati
9. Republic of the Marshall Islands
10. Republic of Nauru
11. Republic of Palau
12. State of Hawaii

10:10 AM – 12:00NOON Opening Remarks and Country Reports by Member Delegations:

1. American Samoa
2. Commonwealth of the NMI
3. FSM State of Chuuk
4. FSM State of Kosrae
5. FSM State of Yap
6. Island of Guam
7. FSM State of Pohnpei
8. Republic of the Marshall Islands
9. Republic of Nauru
10. Republic of Kiribati
11. State of Hawaii
12. Republic of Palau

Lunch TBA

### PRESENTATIONS: “Human Development in Oceania and Cyber Security:”

1:20PM –2:10PM “The Social Contract: Supporting Human Capacity Building Needs?”  
Presenter: *Dr. Anita Enriquez, President: University of Guam*

2:10PM –3:00PM “Cyber and Theater Security”.  
Presenter: *Rear Admiral Greogory Hufman, Commander, Joint Task Force Micronesia-United States Navy*

3:00 PM –3:50PM “Port and Cyber Security for the Micronesia Region”.  
Presenter: *Capt. Robert Kistner, Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia Sector Guam*

7:00 PM **WELCOME RECEPTION: Island Paradise Hotel - Hosted by the Palau National Congress**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup>**

**PRESENTATIONS:** Continue with presentations: "Food Security"

9:00 am– 9:55 am            **"Food Security for Micronesia"**  
Presenter:                    *Dr. Christopher Utilong Kitalong, Vice President*  
   *PCC-Cooperative Research and Extension*

10:00am– 12:00 noon        **Introduction of Resolutions**  
   **Hon. Tessie Lambourne, APIL Secretary**  
   **Committee Meetings/Committee of the Whole**

12:00 noon – 1:00 pm      **Lunch hosted by: TBA**

1:30pm – 3:00pm            **Presentation of Committee Reports/ Discussion and Actions on Resolutions**  
3:30pm – 4:00pm            **Business Sessions:**  
   **Nomination and Election of Officers for the APIL 2024-2025 Term**  
   **64<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors Meeting:    Venue and Date**  
   **Adjournment**

6:00 PM                            **FAREWELL RECEPTION AND CLOSING REMARKS: *The Belau Museum - hosted by the***  
   ***Palau National Congress.***

**SATURDAY, August 17<sup>TH</sup> (ROCK ISLANDS PICNIC sponsored by OEK)**  
**Meet up at Drop Off-NECO, 9:00 AM**

**Submitted by: WALDEN K. WEILBACHER, APIL Central Secretariat**

**Approved By: SENATOR NELSON STEPHEN, APIL President**



## Pacific Islands Parliaments Group - 4<sup>th</sup> Conference Palau, 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> August 2024

*Human development in Oceania: How can legislatures strengthen people-centered security for the Pacific islanders? The state of and future perspectives on food security, economic security, cyber security, and other indicators of human development.*

Background: The Pacific Islands Parliaments Group

The Pacific Islands Parliaments Group (PIPG) is the premier organization of legislative branches in the Pacific Islands, currently comprising 18 members legislatures and parliaments. Established as a platform for parliamentary cooperation, PIPG aims to address common challenges faced by Pacific legislatures through dialogue, collaboration, and shared governance practices. Its objectives include promoting legislative best practices, enhancing democratic governance, and advocating for regional interests on international platforms. PIPG serves as a forum for parliamentarians to discuss and formulate policies on issues such as climate change resilience, sustainable economic development in particular the Blue Economy, Pacific Ocean stewardship, as well as cultural exchanges and preservation, reflecting the unique socio-economic and environmental challenges of the Pacific region. By fostering dialogue and cooperation among member states, PIPG strives to strengthen legislative institutions, uphold democratic principles, and contribute to sustainable development and peace in the Pacific Islands, while supporting regional integration and the work of the Pacific Island Forum and other CROPs agencies.

Introduction: the concept of Human Security

Human security is an evolving paradigm in international relations and development that seeks to protect individuals from critical and pervasive threats, emphasizing the need for people-centered, comprehensive, context-specific, and prevention-oriented responses. This approach transcends traditional notions of state security, which typically focus on defending territory from external aggression, by prioritizing the protection and empowerment of individuals and communities.

The concept of human security emerged in the early 1990s, driven by the recognition that many of the threats to human well-being, such as poverty, hunger, disease, environmental degradation, and political repression, were not being adequately addressed by the traditional security



framework. The United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) 1994 Human Development Report was instrumental in popularizing the concept, identifying seven key components of human security: economic security, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, and political security. This report argued that security should be centered on people rather than territories, on development rather than arms.

Human Security, a relevant concept for the Pacific Island Countries

In the Pacific Island Countries (PICs), the concept of human security is particularly relevant due to the region's unique vulnerabilities and challenges. These include climate change, economic instability, cultural erosion, internal and out-migration, food insecurity, cyber threats, illicit drug trafficking, and gender-based violence, among other thematic areas.

In its "2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent", the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) advances people-centered development as a cornerstone of its approach, bolstering human security across the region. This approach prioritizes community empowerment and inclusive decision-making, fostering resilience and social cohesion. By aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), PIF addresses poverty, health, education, gender equality, and environmental sustainability, essential for comprehensive human security.

#### *Climate Change and Environmental Vulnerabilities*

The PICs are on the front line of climate change, experiencing rising sea levels, increased frequency of natural disasters, and degradation of natural resources. These environmental changes threaten the livelihoods, health, and cultural heritage of Pacific Islanders. Small land areas and low-lying atolls mean that even minor changes in sea levels can have devastating effects, including the displacement of entire communities. Increased frequency of cyclones, droughts, and flooding disrupts agriculture, fisheries, and water supplies, which are vital for survival and economic stability.

Climate change also affects biodiversity and marine ecosystems, crucial sources of food and income. Coral bleaching, ocean acidification, and changes in fish populations threaten the marine resources that many communities rely on. The interconnectedness of regional security, sustainable development, and resilience necessitates urgent and coordinated regional cooperation to address these climate-induced challenges.



### *Socio-economic Pressures*

Economic instability in PICs is exacerbated by dependence on a narrow range of industries such as tourism, fisheries, and agriculture. These sectors are highly vulnerable to external shocks, such as global market fluctuations, natural disasters, and now, pandemics. Economic instability can lead to increased poverty and inequality, further exacerbating human insecurity. Diversified and sustainable economic development strategies are essential to enhance resilience and reduce dependence on volatile industries.

Tourism, a major economic driver, is susceptible to fluctuations in global travel trends and can be severely impacted by natural disasters and health crises, as seen with the COVID-19 pandemic. Agriculture and fisheries, while crucial, are threatened by climate change, leading to decreased productivity and food insecurity. Strengthening local economies through diversified industries and promoting sustainable practices are vital for economic stability.

### *Cultural Erosion*

Cultural heritage in the PICs is under threat from globalization, environmental changes, and migration. The erosion of traditional practices, languages, spiritual and knowledge systems undermines community cohesion and identity. Preservation of cultural heritage is essential for social cohesion and the psychological well-being of communities.

Traditional knowledge and practices play a crucial role in managing natural resources sustainably and adapting to environmental changes. Efforts to maintain and revitalize cultural heritage involve documenting traditional practices, promoting local languages, and integrating cultural education into formal and informal learning systems. Cultural festivals, traditional arts, and community rituals are also vital in keeping cultural heritage alive.

### *Internal and Out-migration*

Migration, both internal and external, poses significant challenges and opportunities for PICs. While migration can offer economic opportunities and relieve population pressures on small islands, it also poses challenges such as brain drain, social fragmentation, and the erosion of traditional support networks. Migration can result in the loss of skilled individuals who are crucial for local development, leaving communities with fewer resources to address local challenges.





Policies that protect migrant rights and facilitate their integration both within and outside their home countries are essential to ensure that migration contributes positively to human security. Effective migration management includes providing support for returning migrants, fostering diaspora engagement, and addressing the root causes of migration such as lack of economic opportunities and environmental degradation.

### *Food Security*

Food security is a critical concern in PICs due to limited arable land, dependence on food imports, and the impacts of climate change on local agriculture and fisheries. Ensuring reliable access to nutritious food requires sustainable agricultural practices, the protection of marine resources, and regional cooperation.

The adoption of climate-resilient agricultural practices, such as drought-resistant crops and agroforestry, can enhance food security. Protecting and managing marine resources through sustainable fishing practices and marine conservation areas helps ensure the long-term availability of seafood. Regional collaboration on food security initiatives, including sharing knowledge and resources, is crucial for building resilient food systems.

Nutrition, in particular, is crucial for food security in the Pacific Island States, where challenges like limited agricultural land and dependence on imported foods affect dietary diversity and health. Enhancing local agriculture with climate-resilient crops and sustainable practices is key to improving food availability and quality. Addressing nutrition also helps mitigate prevalent health issues like non-communicable diseases. Preserving traditional diets and knowledge enhances cultural resilience and dietary diversity, reinforcing efforts to build sustainable and resilient food systems in the Pacific.

### *Cyber-security*

As digital connectivity increases in the Pacific, so do cyber threats. These can range from data breaches and cyber-attacks to misinformation campaigns that undermine social cohesion and political stability. Enhancing cyber-security is essential for protecting individuals and critical infrastructure from these threats.

Developing robust cyber-security frameworks, promoting digital literacy, and fostering regional collaboration are key to addressing cyber threats. Governments, private sector, and civil society must work together to create secure digital environments that support economic and social



development. Investment in cyber-security infrastructure and capacity-building initiatives is essential to safeguard against cyber threats.

In the Pacific Island States, addressing online hate speech is a critical component of cyber security efforts. The rise of digital connectivity has brought both opportunities and challenges, with social media platforms and online forums increasingly used to propagate harmful and discriminatory content. Online hate speech not only undermines social cohesion but also poses threats to individuals' safety and dignity. Effective cyber security strategies in the region must include measures to combat hate speech, such as robust legislative frameworks, enhanced digital literacy programs, and cooperation with social media platforms to enforce community guidelines. Promoting digital respect and fostering inclusive online environments are essential for protecting Pacific Islanders from the negative impacts of hate speech while ensuring a safer and more secure digital space for all.

#### *Gender-based Violence*

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a pervasive human rights violation in the Pacific region, profoundly impacting the security and well-being of individuals and communities. Women and girls disproportionately experience high levels of violence, which not only harms their physical and mental health but also restricts their participation in social, economic, and political spheres. Addressing GBV requires a comprehensive approach encompassing legislative reforms, accessible support services, and targeted awareness campaigns.

Establishing and enforcing robust legal frameworks is fundamental to combating GBV. These frameworks should include laws that explicitly criminalize all forms of violence against women, with provisions for protection orders and harsh penalties for offenders. Effective implementation and enforcement of these laws are crucial to ensuring justice for victims and holding perpetrators accountable for their actions.

Accessible support services are essential for assisting GBV survivors in rebuilding their lives. This includes providing safe shelters, counseling services, medical care, and legal assistance tailored to the needs of survivors. These services not only offer immediate relief and protection but also empower survivors to seek justice and regain their independence.

Furthermore, raising awareness about GBV and promoting gender equality are vital components of prevention efforts. Awareness campaigns should challenge harmful gender stereotypes and norms that perpetuate violence. They play a crucial role in fostering a culture of respect and safety,



encouraging community members to recognize and speak out against GBV, and promoting healthy relationships based on mutual respect and equality.

By addressing GBV through legislative measures, support services, and awareness campaigns, Pacific Island States can effectively combat this pervasive issue, protect the rights of women and girls, and create safer and more inclusive communities for all individuals.

### *Illicit Drug Trafficking*

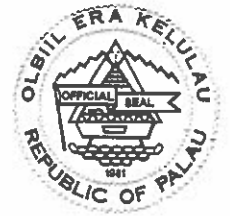
Illicit drug trafficking poses a significant and escalating threat to health, security, and development across the Pacific region. The trade in illicit drugs not only fuels increased crime rates and corruption but also destabilizes social structures and undermines community well-being. To effectively address this multifaceted issue, robust legislative frameworks must be established and enforced, supported by strengthened law enforcement cooperation among Pacific Island States and international partners.

Enhanced regional cooperation is crucial for sharing intelligence and coordinating efforts to disrupt drug trafficking networks. By pooling resources and expertise, law enforcement agencies can more effectively intercept illicit drug shipments and apprehend traffickers. Moreover, community-based prevention and rehabilitation programs play a pivotal role in addressing the root causes of drug abuse and mitigating its social consequences. These programs focus on education, outreach, and support services tailored to local communities, promoting drug-free lifestyles and providing assistance to individuals struggling with addiction.

In addition to law enforcement and community-based initiatives, effective border control and monitoring systems are essential to prevent the illicit trafficking of drugs into and within the region. Strengthening border security measures, such as enhanced surveillance and screening protocols, helps intercept illegal shipments and disrupt trafficking routes. By addressing both the supply and demand sides of the drug trade, Pacific Island States can work towards reducing the prevalence of illicit drugs, safeguarding public health, and promoting sustainable development across the region.

### The Role of Legislatures in Enhancing Human Security in the Pacific

Legislatures play a critical role in advancing human security by formulating, enacting, and overseeing laws and policies that address the specific needs and rights of individuals at national level. Legislative bodies have the power to influence national development plans and shape



budgets, ensuring they are aligned with the principles of people-centered development and human security.

Legislatures are uniquely positioned to:

1. **Create Enabling Legal Frameworks:** Develop and enact laws that protect human rights, promote social justice, and ensure equitable access to resources and opportunities.
2. **Oversight and Accountability:** Monitor and evaluate the implementation of policies and programs to ensure they effectively address human security threats.
3. **Resource Allocation:** Advocate for and secure adequate funding for initiatives that enhance human security, such as social protection programs, disaster risk reduction measures, and health and education services.
4. **Citizens' Representation / Public Awareness and Advocacy:** Raise awareness about human security issues and mobilize public support for legislative and policy measures that address these challenges.
5. **Regional and International Cooperation:** Foster collaboration with other countries and international organizations to address transnational threats and share best practices.

The PIPG conference aims to empower legislators to advocate for and implement policies that promote people-centered development and security, leveraging their legislative power to create resilient and secure communities.

The proposed Conference:

As the global context becomes increasingly volatile and unstable, the population of the Pacific Island nations are increasingly concerned by consequences on their daily lives. How confident are they that they will have continuous access to cheap and quality food, clean water, adequate infrastructures? How concerned are they about technology-related challenges, online hate speech, gender-based violence, illicit drugs trafficking? Are they worried that inflation could strain the economy? That migrations may affect their traditional and community ways of life?

Delegations will explore more specifically the topic of human security in the Pacific through the angles of food security, cyber security, gender-based violence and illicit drug trafficking.

The PIPG conferences in 2019 and 2023 (respectively on the *Blue Economy* and *Climate Change and Disasters*) largely focused on environmental challenges; while it will always be, of course, part



of discussions in a Pacific context, the 2024 conference will only address the matter through the lens of other hematic policies.

### Conference Objectives

1. **Raise Awareness:** Increase understanding among Pacific Island legislators about the concepts of people-centered development and human security, and their relevance to their constituents.
2. **Policy Development:** Facilitate the exchange of best practices and policy recommendations for addressing the identified thematic areas.
3. **Capacity Building:** Enhance the capacity of parliaments to develop and implement human security-focused legislation.
4. **Foster Collaboration:** Promote regional and international cooperation among PICs to address shared human security challenges.

### Expected Outcomes

1. **Comprehensive Policy Framework:** Development of, and adoption of a Pacific Parliaments declaration on human security in the Pacific, that provides general policy guidance and can be adapted by individual PICs legislature.
2. **Action Points:** the declaration will include concrete action points for national implementation and regional collaboration on human security issues, including mechanisms for monitoring through regional and national processes.

### Draft Agenda

The conference will run over three days (14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> August) and will include sites visits related to the sessions' topics. An off-program excursion will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> August.

Session 1: *People centered development, human security: Pacific Islands Countries amidst global changes*

Session 2: *Food for life: Pacific nutrition models under pressure from internal and external factors*

Session 3: *Technology, an opportunity and a risk for islands' life: cyber-crime, online hate speech, infrastructures and capabilities*

Session 4: *Gender base violence and illicit drugs trafficking – pathways for Pacific communities*

Session 5: *PIPG and the future of legislative cooperation in the Pacific*





**I LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN**  
**G U A M L E G I S L A T U R E**  
Guam Congress Building, 163W Chalan Santo Papa  
Hagatna, Guam 96910

**Bank of Guam ACH Payment**

Tracking Number: 8800071

Account: Guam Legislature - Operations Account Number: [REDACTED]

Payable To: Chirag Bhojwani

Amount: \$4,575.89

\*\*\*\*\*  
MEMO : ref. Travel Authorization 2437TA029

\*\*\*\*\*

CERTIFIED BY:   
Ethan A Camacho, Deputy CFO

DATE: 8/6/24

AUTHORIZED BY:   
Joseph R. San Agustin  
Executive Director

DATE: 8.6.24

  
Senator Chris Barnett  
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

DATE: 8/7/24

Good Afternoon, Ethan Camacho

Single Transactions    Recurring Transactions

Created date	Status	Transaction Type	Account	Amount
8/6/2024	Authorized	ACH Payment - Tracking ID: 8800071	PCA - PUBLIC -----1012	\$4,575.89

<b>Tracking ID:</b>	8800071	<b>Amount:</b>	\$4,575.89
<b>Created:</b>	08/06/2024 12:54 PM	<b>Company Entry Description:</b>	ACH Single
<b>Created By:</b>	Ethan Camacho	<b>From Account:</b>	PCA - PUBLIC -----1012
<b>Authorized:</b>	08/06/2024 12:54 PM	<b>SEC Code:</b>	PPD
<b>Authorized By:</b>	Ethan Camacho	<b>Recipient Name:</b>	39Chirag M Bhojwani
<b>Process Date:</b>	08/06/2024	<b>Recipient ACH Name:</b>	39Chirag M Bhojwani
<b>Effective:</b>	08/07/2024	<b>Recipient Account Number:</b>	
<b>ACH Header:</b>	Guam Legislature	<b>Routing Number:</b>	
		<b>Account Type:</b>	Savings
		<b>Addenda:</b>	ref. Travel Auth. 2437TA029