

***I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2008 (SECOND) Regular Session**

**Resolution No. 199 (LS)**

As amended.

Introduced by:

Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

R. J. Respicio

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Frank F. Blas, Jr.

Edward J.B. Calvo

James V. Espaldon

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J. A. Lujan

Tina Rose Muña Barnes

A. B. Palacios, Sr.

v. c. pangelinan

Dr. David L.G. Shimizu

Ray Tenorio

J. T. Won Pat, Ed. D.

**Relative to endorsing the Strategic Development Plan for the establishment of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, an administrative, research and development center for the Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit, and the Micronesian Presidents' Summit.**

1        **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN***  
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**

1           **WHEREAS**, the United States-affiliated Islands of Micronesia are  
2 experiencing a period of rapid growth, urbanization, westernization and  
3 increasing significance to national security; and

4           **WHEREAS**, in response to common challenges unique to small island  
5 developing states, and given the extraordinary opportunities within the  
6 region to preserve, leverage and integrate indigenous, natural, and human  
7 resource systems and to establish processes of collaborative governance, the  
8 member States have established two (2) sub-regional Chief Executive  
9 Summits: (1) the Western Micronesia Chief Executives' Summit (WMCES);  
10 and (2) the Presidents' Summit; and

11           **WHEREAS**, the WMCES is composed of the Chief Executives from  
12 Guam; the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; the Republic  
13 of Belau; the State of Yap, within the Federated States of Micronesia; the  
14 Republic of the Marshall Islands, and recently, the Federated States of  
15 Micronesia, and now the WMCES will be known as the Micronesian Chief  
16 Executive's Summit (MCES) to reflect that its membership encompasses all  
17 of the Micronesian Insular Affairs areas; and

18           **WHEREAS**, the Presidents' Summit is composed of the Chief  
19 Executives of the Republic of Belau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands,  
20 and the Federated States of Micronesia; and

21           **WHEREAS**, it has been the shared goal of these entities to create  
22 mechanisms that will develop and implement regional solutions to regional  
23 problems by harnessing expertise and resources from both within

1 Micronesia and from external parties holding a positive interest in  
2 Micronesia's future; and

3 **WHEREAS**, to achieve this goal, during the past five (5) years, the two  
4 (2) Summits have met bi-annually and have issued a series of joint  
5 communiqués to form a Micronesian Center for Sustainable Development  
6 (MCSD); and

7 **WHEREAS**, *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* has conveyed its  
8 full support in Resolution No. 140 (LS) for the work of the Micronesia Chief  
9 Executives' Summit (MCES) and the Micronesian Presidents' Summit (MPS)  
10 in establishing this institution; and

11 **WHEREAS**, under the direction of the Secretary General of the MCES,  
12 a Strategic Development Plan has been prepared to lay out the  
13 organizational structure, strategic direction, and action plan for the  
14 Micronesian Center for Sustainable Development (MCSD); and

15 **WHEREAS**, the Strategic Design and Planning Team (SDPT) appointed  
16 by the Secretary General should now be known as the Special  
17 Representatives of the Secretary General (SRSG) and should be charged  
18 with the responsibility of raising funds from the international community  
19 and also be responsible for implementing the strategic development plan;  
20 and

21 **WHEREAS**, the Strategic Development Plan delineates a specific course  
22 of action to develop the organizational capacities of the Center to serve the  
23 needs of the communities represented in the MCES, including, conducting a  
24 comprehensive socio-economic analysis of the region; the establishment of

1 information portals to facilitate inter-island communication and access to  
2 information; and the development of grant writing and fundraising  
3 capabilities; and

4 **WHEREAS,** the Strategic Development Plan provides for the  
5 involvement of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future in  
6 supporting and executing key programs of the MCES, including, the  
7 Micronesia Challenge, which has the objective of conserving at least thirty  
8 percent (30%) of near-shore marine and twenty percent (20%) of the  
9 terrestrial resources across Micronesia by 2020; the Pacific Islands Regional  
10 Recycling Initiative Council (PIRRIC), which focuses on environmental and  
11 solid waste issues in Micronesia; the Micronesia Regional Invasive Species  
12 Council which combats the threat of invasive species and the restoration of  
13 natural eco-systems; the establishment of regional energy initiatives to  
14 address the rising cost of fossil fuels and the development of alternative  
15 energy solutions; and the MCES Tourism Committee, including the  
16 implementation of a Regional Tourism Development Plan; and

17 **WHEREAS,** the Strategic Development Plan further specifies that the  
18 Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future will actively engage in several  
19 telecommunications initiatives in such areas as telemedicine to enhance  
20 accessible health care, regional distance learning to expand educational  
21 opportunities, and infrastructure upgrades, such as, submarine fiber-optic  
22 cable to improve access to high-speed telecommunications; and

23 **WHEREAS,** the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, as  
24 provided for in the draft business plan, will also implement, for the region,

1 specific Cultural and Historic Resource initiatives to support research in  
2 Micronesian heritage and history; regional festivals for traditional  
3 performing arts; training in meaningful translations of indigenous  
4 languages; academic conferences on Micronesian issues; inter-island field  
5 schools by academic institutions; internships in the fields of historic  
6 preservation and museum studies; as well as support for historic and  
7 cultural preservation efforts at all levels of government; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Strategic Development Plan also provides that by  
9 utilizing the planned informational portals, regional and international  
10 contacts, and resource base, the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future  
11 will serve as a strategic think tank for sustainable development for the  
12 Micronesian Chief Executive's Summit, the Micronesian Presidents' Summit  
13 and the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Strategic Development Plan further provides that the  
15 Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future will develop a broad and deep  
16 strategic alliance with the University of Guam; in the operation of the  
17 planned information portals, the establishment of a Micronesian Center for  
18 a Sustainable Future Research Fellows Program; and

19 **WHEREAS**, *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that this  
20 effort by the Micronesian Chief Executives Summit and the Micronesian  
21 Presidents' Summit to establish the Micronesia Center for Sustainable  
22 Future is worthy of both commendation and support by the people of  
23 Guam; and

1           **WHEREAS**, the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Development, as  
2 delineated in the Strategic Development Plan, will greatly benefit the people  
3 of Guam and the member states of the MCES and MPS; and

4           **WHEREAS**, the recent crisis in financial markets has demonstrated the  
5 serious need to remain cognizant of external factors that impact the people  
6 of Micronesia, and the development of realistic strategies for the island  
7 communities to address these impacts has emerged as a key concern of the  
8 Chief Executives; and

9           **WHEREAS**, although the Member States are largely shielded from the  
10 most immediate effects of the crisis, there are several adverse consequences  
11 that can be foreseen over the long term, including a decline in tourism. As  
12 new dynamics emerge in the global economy, the MCSD will play a central  
13 role in developing innovative options for policy; and

14           **WHEREAS**, as new challenges and opportunities emerge, the MCSD  
15 will continue to refine and deepen its approach to developing innovative  
16 and imaginative responses and solutions to creating the future. It is for this  
17 reason that this Strategic Development Plan remains – a living document;  
18 and

19           **WHEREAS**, with respect to Guam, specifically, the work of the  
20 Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Development will help effectuate  
21 solutions to our island’s environmental, social, and economic problems;  
22 provide vitally needed resources for the University of Guam; and provide  
23 important access to expertise and resources to meet public policy goals; and

1           **WHEREAS**, the Chief Executives of Micronesia, aware of the  
2 significance of this historical moment and the lessons learned from the  
3 ravages of war and the ways of the past, envision an independent and  
4 sustainable future for all of the people of Micronesia – this vision a gift that  
5 they will be proud to leave to generations yet unborn; now, therefore, be it


6           **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does  
7 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, convey its full endorsement of the  
8 Strategic Development Plan for the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable  
9 Future; and be it further

10           **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does  
11 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, respectfully urge the Micronesian  
12 Presidents' Summit and Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit, gathered  
13 on the stone altar of Pohnpei, in the presence of the holy city of Nan Madol,  
14 to adopt the Strategic Development Plan for the MCSD and to relentlessly  
15 pursue this initiative, which will be of enormous benefit to all the people of  
16 Micronesia; and be it further

17           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the  
18 Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be  
19 thereafter transmitted to each of the members of the Micronesian Chief  
20 Executives' Summit and the Micronesian Presidents' Summit; to the  
21 Honorable Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations; to the  
22 legislative presiding officers of all member states of the Association of Pacific  
23 Island Legislatures; to the Chair of the House Subcommittee on Insular  
24 Affairs; to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Delegate to

1 Congress; to the Staff Director of the House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs;  
2 to the President of the University of Guam; to the Chairman and Vice-  
3 Chairman of the Alliance of Small Island States; to the Regional  
4 Administrator, U.S. EPA Region IX; to the co-chairs of the White House  
5 Interagency Work Group of the Freely Associated States (IWGFAS); to the co-  
6 chairs and members of the White House Interagency Group of Insular Affairs  
7 (IGIA); to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Affairs; to  
8 the Secretariat of the Global Programme of Action (GPA); to the Executive  
9 Director and Chairman of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF); and to the  
10 Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA  
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 21<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2008.**



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**JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D.**  
Speaker



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**TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**  
Senator and  
Secretary of the Legislature