

A RESOLUTION

Ratifying the Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission, 1990, as amended.

1           WHEREAS, in 1972 the Committee for Coordination of Joint  
2   Prospecting for Mineral Resources in the South Pacific Offshore  
3   Areas was formed to facilitate and promote effective cooperation  
4   in the prospecting, research and development of non-living  
5   resources; and

6           WHEREAS, the members of the Committee resolved in 1990 to  
7   reconstitute the Committee, which had been reconstituted in 1984;  
8   and

9           WHEREAS, the Federated States of Micronesia became a founding  
10   member of the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Committee ("SOPAC")  
11   on October 24, 1990, by placing its signature on the Agreement  
12   Establishing the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission  
13   (SOPAC Constitution); and

14           WHEREAS, SOPAC has been established to promote, facilitate,  
15   undertake, coordinate, advise on, and cooperate in the prospecting  
16   for and research into the non-living resources in the offshore,  
17   coastal and onshore areas of member countries, and in other  
18   oceanic areas of the South Pacific region and to assist in  
19   activities relating to the prospecting, research and development  
20   of such resources; and

21           WHEREAS, in furtherance of these purposes, the Secretariat of  
22   SOPAC:

1 (1) promotes, undertakes and coordinates the work programme  
2 of SOPAC;

3 (2) establishes working arrangements with relevant regional  
4 and international organizations;

5 (3) promotes manpower development and training;

6 (4) disseminates relevant information and data to members  
7 of the Commission;

8 (5) assists members in the interpretation and evaluation of  
9 technical data;

10 (6) advises members on problems and opportunities with  
11 regard to activities consistent with the Commission's purpose,  
12 including the management of non-living resources; and

13 (7) reviews and reports on progress made with projects  
14 included in the work programme, among other duties; and

15 WHEREAS, the Federated States of Micronesia contributed  
16 \$8,000 to SOPAC in fiscal year 2000; and

17 WHEREAS, the annual benefit the FSM receives from this  
18 contribution to SOPAC in the form of technical assistance far  
19 exceeds the FSM's annual contributions; and

20 WHEREAS, the Federated States of Micronesia has not yet  
21 formally ratified the SOPAC Constitution; and

22 WHEREAS, at the 22nd Annual Session of SOPAC the members of  
23 the Committee recommended certain changes to the Agreement  
24 Establishing the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission,  
25 which amendments only enter into force thirty days after receipt

1 by the Depository of instruments of acceptance or ratification  
2 from all members; and

3 WHEREAS, ratification of the SOPAC Constitution and  
4 ratification of the amendments proposed to that Constitution will  
5 formalize the Federated States of Micronesia's status as a party  
6 to the SOPAC agreement and convey the FSM's support for the  
7 amendments proposed to that agreement; now, therefore,

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Twelfth Congress of the Federated  
9 States of Micronesia that the Congress hereby approves the  
10 Federated States of Micronesia's membership in SOPAC and accepts  
11 the obligations of the Agreement Establishing the South Pacific  
12 Applied Geoscience Commission, 1990;

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress hereby ratifies the  
14 amendments to that Agreement recommended at the 22nd Annual  
15 Session of the members of SOPAC;

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon receipt of this resolution  
17 the President of the Federated States of Micronesia shall deliver  
18 a certified copy of this resolution to the Government of Fiji,  
19 which serves as Depository under Article 13 of the SOPAC  
20 Constitution;

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated States  
3 of Micronesia, the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs,  
4 the Secretary of the Department of Economic Affairs and the FSM  
5 Embassy in Fiji.

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7 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Introduced by: \_\_\_\_\_

Joseph J.Urusemal  
(by request)

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