

NITIJELA OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
42ND CONSTITUTION REGULAR SESSION, 2021



Republic of the Marshall Islands
Jepilpilin Ke Ejukaan

RESOLUTION 33ND1

A RESOLUTION to endorse the Mekreos Communiqué and reaffirm the full support of the nomination of Ambassador Gerald M. Zackios to the post of Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat based on the Gentlemen's Agreement of Sub- Regional Rotation.

WHEREAS, the Pacific Islands Forum, founded in 1971 and now consisting of eighteen (18) member states, including the five Micronesian nations of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru, and the Republic of Palau, is dedicated to advancing regional interests, including as defined in the Agreement Establishing the Pacific Islands Forum (2005); and

WHEREAS, the Forum promotes a vision of a region of peace, harmony, social inclusion and prosperity, so that all Pacific peoples can lead free, healthy and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, equity and fair representation among Forum member states is essential for the full realization of regionalism and the vision of the Forum, as demonstrated by the long-standing and time-honored prior agreement of Forum

Leaders on the principle of sub-regional rotation of the Secretary General in furtherance of respect, regionalism and integrity of the Forum; and

WHEREAS the Micronesian sub-region has held the post only once since the Forum's founding, with all other sub-regions having served over the years; and

WHEREAS, H.E. Gerald M. Zackios, Ambassador of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to the United States, is eminently qualified for the posting of Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum, possessing the unique background needed to effectively serve in this post, with a depth of regional body administration and diplomatic experience, being fully committed to building consensus between member states and advancing a bold and inclusive vision for a dynamic Forum fit to address contemporary challenges; and

WHEREAS, the appointment of Ambassador Zackios to the post of Secretary General demonstrates the commitment of the Forum to its vision for regionalism and equity amongst members, empowering the Micronesian sub-region to contribute its voice and experience to the legacy-building work of the Forum to the benefit of the region as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the Micronesian Presidents' Summit Special Leaders Meeting held in Palau from 30 September to 2 October of 2020 adopted the Mekreos Communique, which highlighted sub-regional cooperation regarding the reiteration of the Micronesian sub-regional endorsement of Ambassador Zackios to the post of Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum; and

WHEREAS, the Micronesian Leaders concluded in the Mekreos Communique that they would see no benefit to remaining in the Pacific Islands Forum if the Gentleman's Agreement of sub-regional rotation is not honored; and now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the People of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, through their Nitijela at its 42nd Constitutional Regular Session 2021, that the Nitijela, on behalf of the Government and the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands that Nitijela hereby endorses the nomination of Ambassador Zackios to the post of Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum.

CERTIFICATE


I hereby certify:

1. That Nitijela Resolution No: 33ND1 was passed by the Nitijela of the Republic of the Marshall Islands on the 2nd day of February 2021; and

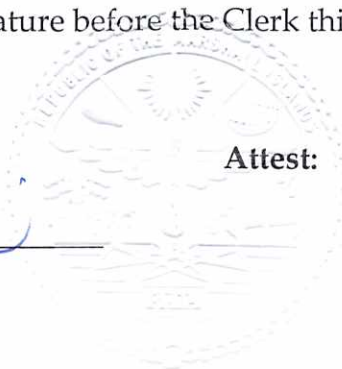
2. That I am satisfied that Nitijela Resolution No: 33ND1 was passed in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Rules of Procedures of the Nitijela.


I hereby place my signature before the Clerk this 2nd day of February 2021.

Attest:



Hon. Kenneth A. Kedi
Speaker
Nitijela of the Marshall Islands





Morean S. Watak
Clerk
Nitijela of the Marshall Islands

