



10th States and National Leadership Conference

10th SNLC Resolution No. 002

A RESOLUTION

To Endorse the Establishment of a Diagnostic Health Facility as Remedy to a Referral System, and Support Health Man-Power Development Programs, National Legislative Measures and an Effective Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) Monitoring and Surveillance System.

WHEREAS, NCDs are categorized as chronic conditions or illnesses that gradually develop and/or may last a long time; NCDs cannot be contracted from others but are caused by unhealthy lifestyles and living conditions. NCDs include, but are not limited to diabetes, heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, high blood pressure, gout, lung disease and cancer; and

WHEREAS, all four FSM States have declared State of emergency due to the epidemic and impact of NCDs. Chuuk, first declared in October- 2011, followed by Kosrae in April 2012 (Kosrae State Executive Order No. 2012-03), Pohnpei in November 2013 (Pohnpei State Executive Directive No. 01-13), and Yap in October 2015 (Executive Order No. 2015-03); and

WHEREAS, the State of Health Emergency on NCDs has been declared by the Pacific Island Forum Leaders meeting held in New Zealand in September 2011, the Pacific Islands Health Officers Association (PIHOA) by its Resolution No. 48-1 endorsed by the Micronesian Chief Executive, Micronesian Presidents, Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures, Micronesian Traditional Leaders Council, Micronesian Chief Justices and the Pacific Island Forum Leaders; and

WHEREAS, the Nadi Statement on the Crisis of NCDs in the Pacific Island Countries is being adopted as a pan Pacific Statement of NCDs and has been addressed at the High Level Meeting in the United Nations General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the FSM is made up of the 4 island States whose geography, which is approximately 270 square miles of land mass of more than 600 islands, is home to more than 103, 549 people. The islands occupy more than one million square miles of the Pacific Ocean, which stretch 1,700 miles from East (Kosrae) to West (Yap); and

WHEREAS, the leading cause of morbidity and mortality for adults in all 4 States are NCD related; the Nation's top 3 morbidity hierarchy is led by Cancer followed by Diabetes and Heart Diseases, whereas mortality is led by Diabetes followed by Cancer and Heart Diseases (2015 Annual Report); and

WHEREAS, NCDs pose a threat to the FSM population, causing significant loss in longevity and quality of life; loss of workforce productivity are experienced in all 4 FSM States, thereby drastically posing a threat to the Nation's overall productivity;

WHEREAS, the FSM is experiencing a change in the food system in which its population have developed a preference for imported processed food over local healthy food; and

WHEREAS, rates for contributing risk factors for NCDs, such as obesity, alcohol abuse, tobacco and betelnut use are especially high among adults. Significant environmental and behavioral health barriers to healthy eating and healthy families, as well as a high prevalence of sedentary lifestyles contribute immensely to NCDs; and

WHEREAS, a large portion of the health care expenditures are spent on patient care, hospitalization, off-island referral for diagnostic purposes and other services due to NCD implications and socio-economic consequences; and

WHEREAS, a multi-sectoral approach is deemed appropriate to alleviate the NCD Crisis, due to the limited resources available to the FSM Department of Health & Social Affairs, especially for the prevention and control of NCDs in the FSM; and

WHEREAS, the current health care systems are stretched beyond capacity and few strong policies can adequately address the burden of NCDs efficiently. Revitalizing the health settings and strengthening the primary and preventive programs in the Health Departments are urgently needed at this time in order to stop, reduce and eliminate the incidences of NCDs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 10th FSM States and National Leadership Conference that the State and National Governments endorse the following;

1. The establishment of a National Diagnostic Center to service the FSM population
2. Support National Legislative Measures addressing the NCDs risk factors. The Tobacco Control Act bill is currently pending in the FSM Congress and the Healthy Trade Bill is en route to Congress.
3. Support Health Man-Power Development Programs in response to a shortage in Human Resources in Health.
4. Support an effective Monitoring & Surveillance System for the NCDs situation in the FSM.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption of this resolution copies hereof shall be transmitted to the Chief Executives and the Presiding Legislative

Officers of the State and National Governments of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Adopted in Tofol, Kosrae on this 21st day of March 2017

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**Head of Delegation
Chuuk State Government**

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**Head of Delegation
Pohnpei State Government**

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**Head of Delegation
Kosrae State Government**

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**Head of Delegation
Yap State Government**

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**Head of Delegation
National Government**