



Resolution 26-03

Expressing the MIF Leaders' disappointment that airline travel in Micronesia is among the most expensive in the world and encourages exploration and expansion of affordable airline services in the region.

WHEREAS, our islands substantially rely on the availability of air service within our region and between our islands and major population centers in the United States and elsewhere to sustain and develop our economies; allow our people to work, live, and study overseas; ship goods to and from our islands; and allow for economic development in areas such as tourism; and

WHEREAS, the high cost of air travel is detrimental impacting the tourism industries in all of the jurisdictions of Micronesia; and

WHEREAS, United Airlines, as the primary provider of air services to Micronesia and the development of tourism and a critical partner in the economic development, tourism and in the improvement of people's livelihood, should work with the Island communities to establish reasonable air transportation rates instead of imposing unreasonably high prices for its services;

WHEREAS, a reduction in prices would result in expanded air travel and tourism in Micronesia and would ultimately result in increased tourism and economic development is beneficial to all parties involved;

WHEREAS, in other regions of the world, United Airlines provides incentivized air rates to encourage air travel and the expansion of air traffic;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the MIF Leaders register their serious concern to United Airlines regarding its excessive rate structure, demand fair and reasonable pricing, and seek to begin a dialogue regarding the establishment of market comparable pricing that is fair and reasonable that will encourage air travel to Micronesia;

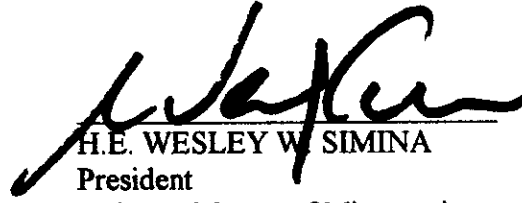
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MIF Leaders urge appropriate U. S. Government regulators to review the serious concerns expressed in this resolution, and open dialogue with the Micronesian Islands Forum to explore remedial measures to improve airline service that encourages affordable air travel to Micronesia; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Regional Committee on Transportation with the assistance and partnership of Australia Nauru, and Fiji, the Micronesia Islands Forum explores other potential airline services to Micronesia, including the expansion of current air transportation routes and services.

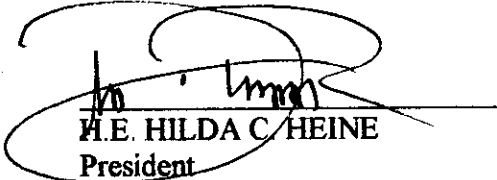
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MIF Secretariat disseminate this resolution to United Airlines, Other Airline partners and to the United States Government (Federal Aviation Administration - FAA and the U. S. Department of Transportation).



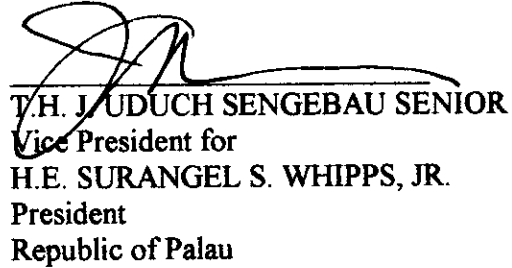
T.H. LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
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U.S. Territory of Guam



H.E. WESLEY W. SIMINA
President
Federated States of Micronesia



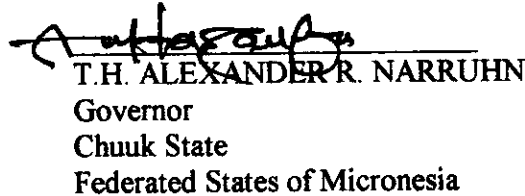
H.E. HILDA C. HEINE
President
Republic of the Marshall Islands



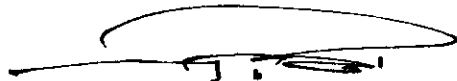
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