

## **Micronesian Archaeological Conference Resolutions**

Adopted on Guam, Sept. 12, 1987

- I Whereas additional research in linguistics, particularly historical linguistics, could help to answer many questions about population movements in Micronesia, and whereas research of this kind in the Micronesian region has been comparatively neglected,  
*Resolved:* that linguistic research should be fostered and efforts made to stimulate linguistic interest in this region.
- II Whereas archaeological research and interest has strongly tended to focus on the high islands of Micronesia, and whereas many of the pressing research questions in the region require data from low coral island situations,  
*Resolved:* that a continuing archaeological effort in the low islands should be sustained.
- III Whereas ethnographers, historians, and archaeologists have tended to drift apart in research interests in the Micronesian region, and whereas at this conference considerable progress has been made in restoring cooperation between these fields,  
*Resolved:* that further strong efforts be made to continue and to expand this cooperation.
- IV *Resolved:* that the participants in the Micronesian Archaeological Conference express the extreme concern of the archaeological community regarding the lack of appropriate facilities in most parts of Micronesia for the care and conservation of archaeological specimens, notes, photographs, and other data, and urgently recommend that the governments and organizations responsible for the management of archaeological sites in Micronesia give high priority to the development of such facilities.
- V *Resolved:* that the participants in the Micronesian Archaeological Conference commend Governor Joseph Ada of Guam for the support given by his administration to Guam's Historic Preservation Program, and for the personal support he has expressed for the goals and purposes of the Micronesian Archaeological Conference, and to express the gratitude of the Conference for the hospitality given the Conference by Governor Ada and his administration.
- VI *Resolved:* that the participants in the Micronesian Archaeological Conference commend the Council of Micronesian Historic Preservation Officers on the formation of their regional pan-Micronesian non-profit organization, the Micronesian Endowment for Historic Preservation, and to recommend the Endowment to any and all international and national funding organizations and agencies as a suitable vehicle for implementing projects intended to conserve the cultural and historic resources of the area.
- VII *Resolved:* that the participants in the Micronesian Archaeological Conference express their gratitude to Drs. Rosalind Hunter-Anderson, Michael Graves, and Hiro Kurashina; to the University of Guam; and to the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Associa-

- tion, who have gone to extraordinary lengths to bring about a highly successful Conference that will inform and stimulate archaeological research for years to come.
- VIII *Resolved:* that in view of the value of physical anthropological studies to an understanding of Micronesian origins or relationships, this Conference urges that further such studies be promoted, recognizing:
1. that any excavations of human remains must be carried out with the full support of the local people;
  2. that any such excavations should be carried out in collaboration with physical anthropologists;
  3. that human remains are precious for many reasons, including future scientific research and present cultural significance; and
  4. that the ultimate disposal of excavated remains should be decided in each individual case in discussions between archaeologists and local people.
- IX *Resolved:* to commend and support the recent decision of the U.S. Army to prepare a new Environmental Impact Statement to guide their further projects on Kwajalein Atoll, and to recommend that information gained in the development of this statement be incorporated into a comprehensive cultural and historic protection plan for the U.S. Army, Kwajalein Atoll.
- X *Resolved:* to commend and wholeheartedly support the recent initiatives of BARC and the Bikini Islanders Planning Council in their ongoing efforts to identify and evaluate their irreplaceable cultural resources in preparation for the resettlement of their homelands; and to recommend to any and all international funding organizations interested in assisting the Bikini Islanders in their plight all such archaeological projects as these Islanders deem necessary to preserving their cultural history.
- XI *Resolved:* that the participants in the Micronesian Archaeological Conference recommend more active collaboration between archaeologists and community groups in the implementation of national, territorial, commonwealth, and state historic preservation laws and regulations.
- XII *Resolved:* that social scientists recognize that a co-equal part of their research obligation is to disseminate the results of their studies to the community at large in terms understandable to them.
- XIII *Resolved:* that the Micronesian Archaeological Conference expresses its extreme concern about the destruction of historic shipwrecks through unregulated commercial salvage; supports the Government of Guam in its efforts to protect such wrecks in Guam's territorial waters; supports action by the U.S. Congress to protect such wrecks in cooperation with the states, territories, and commonwealth governments; and recommends that all Micronesian governments consider enacting legislation having similar intent.