GU# 34-17-693
Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

July 3,2017

Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz
I Mina'trentai Kuåttro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

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Håfa Adai Speaker Cruz,

Pursuant to **8 GCA §8113.1,** enclosed is a copy of the Commission of Decolonization's meeting agenda, approved minutes, and other attachments and addendums discussed during the Commission's monthly meeting held June 13, 2017.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 475-9545.

Senseramente,

AMANDA FRANCEL BLAS
Executive Director
Commission on Decolonization

Enclosure

cc: Commission on Decolonization Meeting Packet

0693

COMMISSION ON DECOLONIZATION

Commission Meeting Agenda

June 13, 2017

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes: February 14, 2017

III. Sen Guaiya Hao Conference Recap

IV. UN Caribbean Regional Seminar Recap

V. Update on Self-Governance Study

VI. Discussion on District Court Ruling in *Davis v. Guam*

VII. Financial Report

- a. Task Force Accounts
- b. DOI Grant

VIII. Task Force Updates

- a. Free Association
- b. Independence
- c. Statehood

IX. Next Meeting: July 5, 2017

X. Open Discussion

XI. Adjournment

COMMISSION ON DECOLONIZATION
Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2017

Meeting called to order at **3 p.m.** by Chairman Governor Eddie Baza Calvo.

I. ROLL CALL

- **MEMBERS PRESENT**
  - Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo, Chairman
  - Sen. Therese Terlaje, Vice Chairwoman
  - Speaker Benjamin J. Cruz, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*
  - Victoria Leon Guerrero, Independence Task Force
  - Adrian Cruz, Free Association Task Force
  - Eddie Duenas, Statehood Task Force
  - Lisa Baza, Member-at-Large
  - Dr. Lisa Natividad, Member-at-Large
  - Tristan Quintanilla, Youth Congress
- **MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**
  - Sen. Fernando Esteves, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* (Minority)
  - Mayor Robert Hoffman, Mayors Council

II. CHAIRMAN WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

- Vice Chair Sen. Therese Terlaje, Speaker BJ Cruz, Sen. Fernando Esteves, and Mayor Robert Hoffman.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (December 20, 2016 meeting)

- Motion made by: Adrian Cruz, Free Association Task Force
- Motion seconded by: Eddie Duenas, Statehood Task Force

IV. UPDATE ON THE YOUTH CONFERENCE ON IDENTITY AND POLITICAL STATUS

Report (Item IV on agenda) given by Dr. Lisa Natividad

- Cost for the conference has increased because of expansion to two days and cost for use of museum.
- Dr. Natividad requests an additional $2,400 of funding from the Commission for the conference to cover catering of food and rental of museum.
  - **Motion: Allocate $3,900 for catering of food and rental of museum for the Youth Conference on Identity and Political Status** (Made by Victoria Leon Guerrero)

- **No objection, motion passed unanimously**

- Vice Chair Therese Terlaje asked if the Task Forces were involved in this event.
  - Dr. Natividad - Task Force will be involved. Once the logistics are figured out, there will be more discussion. Task forces will work closely with students to prepare for debate. The best thing about the conference is that it is youth-driven.
- Steven McManus and Executive Director to assist with debate
- 200 students anticipated to participate (including UOG students)
- No busing issue – students will be dropped to event
- Chairman – will event be televised or filmed?
  - Dr. Natividad – Yes – social media and public access channels
- Chairman – AG or representative needs to give the Commission a briefing on where the lawsuits are and what they might mean for the Commission's work
- Discussion: Whether or not age of students is relevant considering no set date for plebiscite vote and we might be spinning our wheels for nothing.
- Davis case deemed irrelevant to Commission's work at present.
- 70% voting requirement only relevant if we were having a plebiscite soon.
- Victoria Leon Guerrero – Footage of event
  - **Motion: Allocate $500 for videography and editing of footage for the event.** (made by Victoria Leon Guerrero)
  - **No objection, motion passed unanimously**

V. C.O.D. WEBSITE UPDATE

Report given by Ed Alvarez, Executive Director

- Concern about links to Task Forces' websites – links did not identify what website on was being forwarded to
  - Executive Director – he would look at it and correct it

VI. GUAM & CNMI REUNIFICATION BRIEFING

Report given by Mayor Melissa Savares

- Organization has been very active with meetings, conferences, and activities
- A bartering arrangement has begun
  - Produce from NMI are brought to Guam to sell
  - Guam produce sent to NMI in exchange
- They want to bring meat from Tinian but have issues with Department of Agriculture
- Current membership would like to strengthen ties with Guam and unify with us in a political status effort.
- Trading of produce is one of the confidence building activities which hope to lead to reunification in the future
- Eddie Duenas – who will be the Governor if we reunify?

- Chairman – has had discussions with the Governors and will bring this up during the MCES summit and hopefully the Legislature's organization with the CNMI

VII. UPDATE ON THE GOVERNANCE STUDY

Report given by Ed Alvarez, Executive Director

- Scope of work for project is with legal counsel for final review
- Request for Proposal will be out after final review and a vendor will be chosen accordingly
- Vice Chair Terlaje – what is the study for and what does it do for us?
  - Executive Director – it is an assessment of our government and the state it's in as far as governance. Does Guam meet the minimum standards of self-governance even though we are a colony?
  - It will be used as an educational and reference material to the public education program which will reveal how much control the federal government has on Guam and the effect of that control politically, socially, and economically
  - It is also an overlay to explain benefits and detriments of the current political status
  - It would also be an assessment on what might be possible under each of the three status options in areas such as trade/commerce, taxation, immigration, and culture.
  - It will expose the areas in the government where federal control is not supposed to be that controlling
- A draft of the study will be distributed at the next Commission meeting for review and approval
- Procurement has been slow and cumbersome. Delays continue.
  - Some requests have been delayed over a year. Most task force members are volunteers and can't follow up full time.
  - Chairman ordered for all involved to get issue cleared up.
- As for public law 33-196, everyone involved needs to meet and make a determination.
- Executive Director – Governance study will come out of local money
- Task forces will get their share of $120,000.00 from the DOI money

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION

- **Outreach Plan**
  - Executive Director – sub-committee met and decided to discontinue village outreach tour and agreed a social media marketing plan was a more efficient option.
  - The committee met with vendors and asked if proposals can be submitted for evaluation by the Commission



- GDOE Acting Superintendent Joe Sanchez – spoke about having a curriculum in the schools and then having the students go and provide outreach to the community.
- Victoria Leon Guerrero – offered to give some of task forces' DOI money to GDOE to enhance a public school program about Decolonization.
- Sanchez – program is written from the colonial perspective and fails to connect the history to the Guam experience, and this is what the students need to learn that is relevant to their everyday life.
- Marketing plan being developed to address questions such as
    - What is self-determination?
    - Who are the colonized people?
    - Why isn't status quo an option?, etc.
- Commission is currently working with vendors to formulate the plan and submit to the Commission for approval.

- **Dr. Mike Bevacqua – request to sponsor a conference during Charter Day**
    - No previous discussion so the matter was tabled until further notice.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

COMMISSION ON DECOLONIZATION

Sen Guaiya Hao Guåhan 2017 Youth Conference Recap

The *Sen Guaiya Hao Guåhan 2017 Youth Conference* was held on April 27 & 28, 2017 at the Guam Museum and the University of Guam. The conference was co-sponsored by the University of Guam Division of Social Work, Chamorro Studies, and School of Education; GALA, Inc., Inetnon Gef Pa'go, and the Commission on Decolonization.

The conference was structured after the youth empowerment model; it was *for* youth facilitated *by* youth. Nearly 150 of our island's high school students were in attendance to discuss important issues pertaining to the island. Some of the topics discussed were: decolonization and political status options, identity, environmental issues of the island, the role of cultural arts in promoting and perpetuating CHamoru customs and culture, the CHamoru language, the lived experiences of a young CHamoru and Micronesian woman, and lastly, barriers our LGBTQI youth populations face today.

Throughout the course of the two day conference, assigned scribes had been documenting statements and sentiments of the youths in attendance which was then used to create a resolution that we would like to present to you at your convenience. We quickly found that this platform was the first of its kind for many of our youths to express themselves; particularly with the LGBTQI population, which resulted in a very powerful and inspiring conference.

The resolution serves as a statement from the youths in attendance whereby they are advocating for what they feel, need, and have experienced.

With wishes for a productive meeting!

LisaLinda Natividad, PhD, LCSW



GALA, INCORPORATED, GUAM COMMISSION ON DECOLONIZATION, INETNON GEF PA'GO CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAM & THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

April 27, 2017 to April 28, 2017
The Guam Museum and the University Guam

Presentations By:

Joe-John Ada
Siena Aguon
Charli Arceo
Ma'ina Arceo
Mas Benevente
Tomalyn Benevente
Damien Breton
Isaiah Buendicho
Jeresa Camacho
Davin Chamberlin
Aleiah Chargualaf
Ha'ani Chargualaf
Isalyn Concepcion
Chelsea Cruz
Chris Cruz
Rem Cruz
Teihini Davis
Joseph Duenas
Lizzi Fegurgur
Franzelina Franz
Austin Garrido
Allyx Guerrero
Jenice Hernandez
Kvianna
Kovcel
Edward Leon Guerrero
Cody Lizama
Jaemica Lizama
Justin Lizama
Raymond Lujan
Rita Mafnas
Shannon McManus
Siobhon McManus
Nathaniel Nanoto
Atdao-mami Natividad
Mailie Rechirei Ngiriou
Lola Paulino
Rosario Perez
Imani Poasa
Nichole Quintanilla
Hope Reyes
Ricardo
Alyssa Roberto
Maria Rojas
Noah Rosalin
Lino Rosario
Ruzelle
Angelana Sablan
Evan James San Nicolas
Guaiya San Nicolas
Hila'an San Nicolas
Nathan Sanchez
Dolores Santos
Fu'una Sanz
April Torres
Kyana Tuncap
Gianna Tyquengco
Xavier Valante
Rachel Yatar

We, the youth attendees of the *Sen Guaiya Håo Guåhan* Youth Conference 2017, offer the following points on our island and culture today:

[1] To be CHamoru, means we: show respect, are family-oriented, practice our CHamoru traditions (e.g, *balutan, inafa'maolek*, "CHamoru borrow"), practice our religion, and show our pride and loyalty to our culture.

[2] As CHamorus, some struggles we experience include the influences of modernization and westernization that leads to the current language loss and the lack of knowledge of our culture and history.

[3] We acknowledge that we have different identities yet we experience the same struggles. In this melting pot of cultures, we are all Micronesians. Along with those struggles we are aware that there is a language barrier, but we can work to save it. We can save our language by coming out and not being ashamed to speak. We can save it by forms of art such as dancing. We can save the language by learning it, speaking it, and passing our knowledge down to the youth.

[4] We currently use arts as a form of expression for our culture. We use it to show our appreciation for our home. It aids us to share our beliefs and stories with one another because we have a home, identity, and culture to protect. Our culture is not fading.

[5] We face many struggles with our environment, but our current and continuous concern is our island's relationship with the federal government. President Trump and the U.S. Department of Defense are taking our lands. WE DON'T NEED YOUR MONEY, WE NEED OUR LANDS!

[6] When given the chance to create our dream island of Guahan, we chose characteristics that resemble Independence as our political status for Guåhan, without us being aware of it. However, some of us still appeal towards statehood and free association characteristics.

[7] We know that our elders were once punished for speaking the CHamoru language. Today, we are ashamed and discouraged by the people around us but instead, should empower one another to speak CHamoru regardless if [our skill level] is bad because in order to speak good CHamoru we need to speak bad CHamoru.

[8] We understand that we are surrounded by resources such as the internet, our family and our teachers. There is no single way or person to save the language. It is our responsibility to take initiative to save it. It is going to take all of us.

[9] We understand that language is the key to our culture. It is what makes us unique to the world because without our language, we have no culture, without a culture, we have no people and without our people we are alone.

[10] We are inspired to be the generation that changes the mentality, the perspective, and the stigma towards the language. We will not be ashamed and we will not give up because the movement starts with us.

[11] We are aware of the threats to our water source on Guam, especially with the buildup in Litekyan. Water is essential to life yet we only have three sources on Guam. We need to conserve water, establish awareness organizations and media accounts and be careful of dispensing chemicals properly.

[12] We have a desire to protect the soil and forests from the buildup in Litekyan by constructing rain gardens, permeable parking lots, getting our community engaged in the issue, and promoting agroforestry.

[13] We need to protect and respect the habitats because they are homes to other animals and plants. The buildup in Litekyan will take up 4,000 acres and will endanger other species, both plants and animals.

[14] We must acknowledge and respect the environment. The water, the soil, the forest and the habitats are all important elements to us, our island and our culture, that is why we must protect Litekyan.

[15] We resonate what it means to be CHamoru by being family oriented, having pride in your culture, and staying true to your values (respect, love, passion, etc.).

[16] We face struggles in terms of CHamoru identity, some include difficulty showing pride in our culture, labels, language issues, lack of desire to immerse oneself in the culture, others' lack of knowledge and ignorance toward our culture.

[17] We are aware of the stereotypes that CHamoru people encounter some include ideas that we are judgmental, that our language does not equal success, and that our looks are not "CHamoru enough."

[18] We need to strive for more clubs/organizations, CHamoru education emphasis, youth empowerment, and CHamoru as a core subject.

[19] We acknowledge that the role of arts in promoting culture whether it be traditional arts, literary arts, dance, music, and/or film, makes us who we are and gives us a sense of security and a purpose in life. It is an outlet for us to express ourselves and exert our negative energy into positive energy.

[20] We will strive to preserve and perpetuate our language and culture as well as influence the younger generations through the role of the arts. We would like to expand programs for everyone to engage in the arts.

[21] We understand that the role of the arts is universal and serves as a medium to communicate our language and culture to others. It is our way to connect with our ancestors, ourselves and our audience.

[22] We are aware that there will be negative perceptions regarding cultural arts. We will receive and accept the judgement as we continue to do what we love and keep our language and culture alive.

[23] We, the new generation of cultural perpetuators, will push aside our differences that were previously put in place and unite as one people. We will dedicate a day in which all forms of cultural perpetuation may occur without segregation. We will encourage the young to continue to further their knowledge in all cultural aspects. We will encourage our mothers and fathers not be intimidated to participate.

We, the Youth of this conference, hereby acknowledge these points of concern and have courage to continue to empower ourselves and our culture. We offer ourselves to protect and defend the beliefs, the culture, the language, the air, the water and the lands of the CHamoru people. ***Ufresen hami para ta prutehi yan difende i hinegge. i kottura, i lengguahi, i aire, i hanom yan i tano' CHamoru!***

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, Dignitaries, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Håfa Adai. My name is Amanda Francel Blas, and I am the newly appointed executive director for Guam's Commission on Decolonization. On behalf of the Honorable Eddie Baza Calvo, Governor of Guam, I will provide you with an update on our experience as a territory of the United States of America and on our island's decolonization efforts.

As a territory, Guam is subjected to many of the federal mandates that are imposed on the 50 states. These mandates are meant to help states and territories meet the goals of the U.S. government. Unfortunately, in the case of our island, many of those mandates are unfunded and beyond our control – requiring us to foot the bill and putting us in debt.

One unfunded mandate that heavily plagues Guam is the Earned Income Tax Credits, a tax credit for the working poor. Our island paid out almost $65 million in EITC last year, which makes up almost half of the tax refunds that are paid out each year. While the states are reimbursed for paying out EITC, we are forced to pay this out of pocket. In the last ten years, we have had to pay out $450 million in EITC, which has led us to barely being able to manage to keep up with this federal mandate.

Healthcare is another area as a territory where we face challenges in the form of federal mandates. The Affordable Care Act that was passed during the Obama administration expanded Medicaid, providing payment for medical services for low-income citizens. While the Affordable Care Act was generous with the states, which are covered 100% for the costs of Medicaid expansion, it ignored the

territories. We have to pay for 45% of Medicaid costs, which further impacts our debt. If Guam and the other territories received equal treatment with the states, we could avoid the adverse financial situations that other U.S. insular areas are facing.

Another unfunded mandate is the Compact of Free Association, which allows citizens of the Freely Associated States to enter the U.S. without visas. While FAS migrants can move to any of the states or territories, Guam has become their top destination. While the Compact recognizes there should be compensation for states and territories, the reimbursements Guam received has been inadequate of the costs it takes to host FAS citizens. In fiscal year 2016, Guam spent $142 million to provide educational and social services to FAS citizens, with annual costs exceeding the annual reimbursement, which has been about $16.8 million in the last several years.

Despite these challenges, we have seen consistent growth each year. Our GDP is measured at $5.7 billion, a 31-percent increase since 2007. It has been Governor Calvo's focus to improve the quality of life for our people.

The challenges we face as a territory are not only financial. In Resolution 70/102 that was adopted on December 9, 2015, the General Assembly requested our administering power, the U.S., work with our local government to transfer land to the original landowners. We had created a vehicle to make this possible through the Chamoro Land Trust program, which gives native Chamorros the opportunity to lease land for $1 for 99 years from the Chamorro Land Trust Program. However, the U.S. Department of Justice has threatened a lawsuit over the Chamorro Land Trust, stating it violates the Fair Housing Act which protects citizens from discrimination when it comes to housing. The Department of Justice

has made it clear the only way we can avoid the lawsuit is through a consent decree. Consent decrees imposed on our local government have cost our island hundreds of millions of dollars.

Since Governor Calvo relaunched the Commission on Decolonization in 2011, the island has taken significant strides in its efforts towards achieving self-determination. As the Chairman of the Commission on Decolonization, the Governor ensured local funding was available for the commission to begin the education process, providing local funding to the commission for the first time in 20 years. At the Governor's direction, his team also requested assistance from the Department of Interior and was granted $300,000 for the same purpose. Our Commission previously has organized village meetings, school presentations and debates, and produced printed materials to help the native inhabitants better understand decolonization, the plebiscite, and the political status options that will be voted on. As for the decolonization registry, more than 11,000 native inhabitants have been registered to vote in the plebiscite, a significant increase since 2000, the last time Guam came close to the possibility of a plebiscite.

As we talk about the future for decolonization in the non-self governing territories, at this point, Guam is up for a huge battle. In March, a U.S. federal court ruled that a self-determination plebiscite on Guam couldn't be limited to native inhabitants. The ruling stated such a plebiscite was unconstitutional because it violated the 15th Amendment, which gives all U.S. citizens the right to vote regardless of their race, color or gender. While our local government is appealing the decision, it remains a major obstacle on our road to self-determination. For more than two centuries, the United States has lived by its Constitution, a cornerstone of freedom guaranteeing

certain rights for its citizens. Yet the U.S. has used this same Constitution to oppress Guam.

We are three years away from 2020, the United Nations' targeted year to eradicate colonialism. However, Guam's ability to reach self-governance may still be beyond reach. The plebiscite has been brought to a halt, with the court decision also preventing us from continuing to populate the decolonization registry required by local law.

While the court of our administering power has greatly hindered us, we have not accepted defeat. Our Commission continues to move forward with its education campaign, which we plan to expand to include the use of social media and other online resources. Use of the island's public broadcasting service for the production of an informative television series is in the works, and a monthly newsletter is well on its way. The three task forces, who serve as advocates for the island's possible political statuses, continue to contribute to our education efforts by participating in forums, hosting monthly informative meetings, and more.

In our quest to self-determination, we have followed the rules. Our efforts have been consistent with the UN Charter, our local laws, and the laws created for us by U.S. Congress; yet the voice of our people continues to get taken away, preventing us from deciding for ourselves the political future of our island. In light of this, we are reaching out for support from not only the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization, but from the UN member states as well. We ask that you urge the U.S. to assume its responsibility in allowing the Guam to fully exercise its inalienable right to self-determination. We also request that you help us develop

ideas on how to overcome our current challenges that hinder our ability to reach self-governance.

Thank you, and *Si Yu'us Ma'åse* for the opportunity to share, dialogue and work with you all.

The Davis Decision and Updates on Guam's Quest for Decolonization

Michael Lujan Bevacqua, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Chamorro Studies at the University of Guam
Co-Chair, Independence for Guam Task Force

Si Yu'os Ma'åse na makombibida yu' mågi ta'lo para bai hu saonao gi este na dinanña'. Gi tinestigu-hu på'go, bai hu sangåni hamyo put i halacha na hiniyong gi islå-ku yan i kinalamten-måmi para in gi'ot i direchon-måmi komo taotao.

Your Excellency Chairman Ramirez, distinguished delegates, representatives and experts from fellow Non-Self-Governing Territories, I am honored to be here again speaking before you on the topic of Guam and its continuing quest for decolonization. In my statements today, I will be providing updates on recent activities related to the issue of Guam's decolonization, in particular a decision in a US Federal district court that threatened to derail long-standing efforts to hold a self-determination plebiscite. I offer these updates and my commentary based on my years of experience pushing for Guam's decolonization as a community activist, years as a scholar studying this issue and also my role as a the co-chair for the Independence for Guam Task Force and finally as a member of Guam's Commission on Decolonization.

The past year has seen a great deal of local activity with regards to decolonization, most notably through a variety of educational outreach efforts carried out through the task force I co-chair that are focusing on illuminating the future possibilities for Guam should it become an independent country. The Independence for Guam Task Force has held more than three dozen small to large community meetings in different areas of Guam, providing educational materials to attendees, but also documenting the concerns and ideas they have about Guam becoming an independent nation. The Commission on Decolonization, which is the government body tasked with guiding an educational campaign towards the goal of a self-determination plebiscite, has also undertaken some community outreach. Most notably, it organized a debate between high school students over the three possible political status options. A poll was taken of the 800 high school students present, with 48% choosing inclusion in the US, 34% selecting political independence, and 18% free

association with the United States. With the efforts underway, there was discussion within the Commission on Decolonization that a plebiscite might be held as early as 2018 or 2020.

March 8th of this year, however, represented a dark day in terms of efforts for decolonization and the prospects of working collaboratively with our administering power in ensuring that this process be carried out in the spirit of restorative justice. On that day, Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood rendered her decision in a case that had been looming over the island since 2011, that of Arnold Davis v. the Guam Election Commission.

Davis, a Caucasian man who has been a long-time resident of Guam, sued the Government of Guam in 2011 over a proposed self-determination plebiscite that was designed to ensure the voices of the island's native inhabitants would be heard in terms of determining a future political status for the island. Per current Guam law, Davis does not meet the requirements of a native inhabitant of Guam, or those eligible to participate in the self-determination plebiscite. He sued the Government of Guam on the basis that the plebiscite was "discriminatory" and "unconstitutional."

Justice Tydingco-Gatewood ruled in favor of Davis, basing her decision on a very narrow reading of US law. She called for the vote to be opened to any and all residents of Guam.

The problems with this ruling are apparent, even absent any legal training. In general, a process of decolonization that must follow the rules of the colonizer is not decolonization: it is an extension of colonization. It is a transformation of colonization into another form, while protecting the same structures of power and inequality.

If we dig deeper, however, we see even more problems. Firstly, the plebiscite is not race-based, but instead time-based. Those who are native inhabitants and can vote are those who were residents of Guam (and their descendants) at a time when the US Congress recognized that Guam had a unique and definable "people" through the passage of its Organic Act for the island in 1950. This population was comprised of approximately 90% indigenous Chamorro people, and 10% other

groups that had made Guam their home. Secondly, the court deemed that a self-determination plebiscite is of the same character as voting in regular elections within a polity. Rather than acknowledge the vast amount of history around the world on this issue, where dozens of countries underwent their own struggles for self-determination and held plebiscites to determine their next steps, the federal judge simply interpreted a self-determination plebiscite as an election and applied the US constitution to it without any reasonable or rational context.

When the court heard arguments on the case last year, Davis' attorney had gone so far as to claim that international law doesn't exist and no one knows what it is. Unfortunately, the district judge chose to agree with his vapid assessment, and her decision refused to acknowledge any relevance to international law or conventions in deciding this case. Finally, advocates of decolonization in Guam have long charged the administering power with rank hypocrisy, due to the way it selectively applies the US Constitution to the island and its indigenous people.

This decision had a chilling effect on activities that were already underway to educate the Guam community as to the three basic political status options. There was a great deal of confusion, especially among the island's indigenous community, as it appeared that the US federal government was denying their existence and their rights, including their right to restorative justice.

The administering power's lack of concern for UN resolutions and conventions, and its own obligations with regards to the maintenance and support of non-self-governing territories, has led to decades of policies which have increased the US military presence to the island of Guam and dramatically increased the number of non-Chamorros to the point where Chamorros now only make up 37% of the population.

This plebiscite is meant to assist in determining the desires of Guam's indigenous people, after being ignored or shut out of power for centuries. The decision of the US district court brings us to the odious point where now someone who has been on the island for just a few minutes can be considered to have just as much right to the island as someone whose family has been there for thousands of years.

The Guam Legislature was quick to respond to the threat posed by the Davis decision. Senator Therese Terlaje authored a resolution calling on the island's attorney general to appeal the Davis decision and defend the right of Guam's native inhabitants to determine their destiny without overt or undue interference by the administering power. The public hearing on this bill lasted six hours and was attended by more than a hundred community members, all expressing frustration over the Davis decision and supporting an appeal. The resolution passed soon after.

This hearing was followed by weeks of protests, demonstrations, and forums, all of which culminated in a large rally held on April 7th, attended by more than 800 individuals. The rally was organized by a grassroots collective under the theme of "Respect the Chamoru People." It was a multi-cultural event meant to provide a space where people of all ethnic backgrounds on Guam could come together to show their support for the Chamorro people and their continuing quest for decolonization. On that same day, the attorney general of Guam, Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson, announced her intention to appeal the Davis decision.

Over the past year, the island lost one of its staunchest advocates for decolonization, Ed Benavente, who was a Maga'låhi, a traditional male leader, of the protest group Nasion Chamoru. At this time of uncertainty, young and old have taken some of his words to heart: "I may not see decolonization in my lifetime, but I can leave this world knowing that the next generation will continue to fight for the rights of our people."

Si Yu'os Ma'åse para i tiempon-miyu. Thank you for your time.

PRELIMINARY SCOPE OF SERVICES
GUAM SELF-DETERMINATION STUDY

Description of Work Involved: On behalf of the Government of Guam, the Commission on Decolonization is soliciting proposals from an offeror to oversee a yearlong *Guam Self-Determination Study Project* ("Project"). The Project is intended to create resources that illuminate Guam's current political status as an unincorporated territory and the need for political status change. The Project shall also provide a framework for each of the three political status options available to Guam. The resources developed from the Project, whether in the form of studies or reports, will be integral in the development of an effective education campaign that will precede a decolonization vote.

This Preliminary Scope of Services describes the initial work sought to be accomplished. Upon final selection of a firm or individual, the scope of services may be modified and refined during the fee negotiation.

The scope of services solicited for by this RFP contemplates that the Project will be composed of two main phases:

PHASE 1: DEVELOPMENT OF A *SELF-GOVERNANCE ASSESSMENT FOR GUAM* STUDY AND REPORT.

The selected contractor shall develop and conduct a *Self-Governance Assessment for Guam* study that analyzes Guam's current political status as an unincorporated territory of the United States. A written report compiling the data and findings from the study shall be presented to the Commission. The report shall provide a complete political portrait of Guam in its current unincorporated territorial status and shall contain a detailed discussion of the ways in which Guam falls above or below the minimal standards for a non-self-governing territory.

In conducting the study, the selected contractor shall:

1. Research and analyze Guam's current unincorporated territory status by reviewing all available literature and laws related to Guam and other territories, including but not limited to U.S. Government studies, U.S. legislation on the political status evolution of U.S. territories, and United Nations reports and resolutions;

2. Collect from Government of Guam agencies and relevant non-governmental organizations any data necessary to create a complete and in-depth portrait of Guam's current unincorporated status; and

3. Formulate indicators to establish and determine Guam's current level of self-governance relative to the standards mandated by the Charter of the United Nations, General Assembly Resolution No. 1514 (XV), *Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples* (14 Dec. 1960); and General Assembly Resolution No. 1521 (XV), *Establishment of a United Nations Capital Development Fund* (15 Dec. 1960). [*See,* Attachment A].

PHASE 2: PREPARATION OF POLITICAL STATUS MODELS.

Upon the completion of Phase 1, the selected contractor shall develop and prepare a draft model that discusses Guam's future under each of the three political status options (Statehood, Free Association and Independence). The three models shall be based upon what Guam currently has in terms of resources, limitations and advantages, and it shall propose model frameworks of political, social, cultural and economic advancement that are in line with Guam's realities and the direction represented by each political status option.

In preparing the draft models, the selected contractor shall use the data and research gathered in the Phase 1 *Self-Governance Assessment for Guam* study and report. as well as data and findings to be gathered from ten (10) academic studies which will be conducted by the contractor or its subcontractor based upon criteria to be determined by the Commission on Decolonization and the three political status task forces. The 10 academic studies will be conducted by experts in their respective fields, whether located in Guam or elsewhere. Based on specific scenarios, the studies will provide concrete information on future realities and possibilities. The studies are intended to assist the task forces and the Commission in their educational outreach by providing statistics and data to support the various political status change positions.

Suggested topics for the academic studies may include, but are not limited to:

- A debt study for Guam and how each political status would affect it.
- A study of the market value of Guam lands currently controlled by the US Department of Defense.
- A study of tax changes and economic impacts under each political status.
- A study of tourism expansion that questions whether Guam control its own immigration.

In addition to the academic studies themselves, the selected contractor will also be responsible for creating a series of educational materials that distill the most pertinent aspects of what was gleaned from all of the research and academic studies into forms that are easily digested by the general public.

At the conclusion of the Project, the selected contractor will assist the Commission and the task forces in organizing a conference or public outreach program that will help disseminate the information that has been created.

********** **END** **********

should be admitted to membership in the United Nations,[31]

Having considered the application for membership of the Republic of Mali,[32]

Decides to admit the Republic of Mali to membership in the United Nations.

876th plenary meeting,
28 September 1960.

1492 (XV). Admission of the Federation of Nigeria to membership in the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having received the recommendation of the Security Council of 7 October 1960 that the Federation of Nigeria should be admitted to membership in the United Nations,[33]

Having considered the application for membership of the Federation of Nigeria,[34]

Decides to admit the Federation of Nigeria to membership in the United Nations.

893rd plenary meeting,
7 October 1960.

1495 (XV). Co-operation of Member States

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned by the increase in world tensions,

Considering that the deterioration in international relations constitutes a grave risk to world peace and co-operation,

Conscious that both in the General Assembly and in the world at large it is necessary to arrest this trend in international relations and to contribute towards greater harmony among nations irrespective of the differences in their political and economic systems,

1. *Urges* that all countries, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, refrain from actions likely to aggravate international tensions;

2. *Reaffirms the conviction* that the strength of the United Nations rests on the co-operation of its Member States which should be forthcoming in full measure so that the Organization becomes a more effective instrument for the safeguarding of peace and for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples;

3. *Urges further* that immediate and constructive steps should be adopted in regard to the urgent problems concerning the peace of the world and the advancement of its peoples;

4. *Appeals* to all Member States to use their utmost endeavours to these ends.

907th plenary meeting,
17 October 1960.

1503 (XV). Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly

Takes note of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the General Assembly for the year 1959-1960.[35]

943rd plenary meeting,
12 December 1960.

1513 (XV). Report of the Security Council

The General Assembly

Takes note of the report of the Security Council to the General Assembly covering the period from 16 July 1959 to 15 July 1960.[36]

943rd plenary meeting,
12 December 1960.

1514 (XV). Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the determination proclaimed by the peoples of the world in the Charter of the United Nations to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Conscious of the need for the creation of conditions of stability and well-being and peaceful and friendly relations based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of all peoples, and of universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recognizing the passionate yearning for freedom in all dependent peoples and the decisive role of such peoples in the attainment of their independence,

Aware of the increasing conflicts resulting from the denial of or impediments in the way of the freedom of such peoples, which constitute a serious threat to world peace,

Considering the important role of the United Nations in assisting the movement for independence in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Recognizing that the peoples of the world ardently desire the end of colonialism in all its manifestations,

Convinced that the continued existence of colonialism prevents the development of international economic co-operation, impedes the social, cultural and economic development of dependent peoples and militates against the United Nations ideal of universal peace,

Affirming that peoples may, for their own ends, freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international economic co-operation, based upon the principle of mutual benefit, and international law,

Believing that the process of liberation is irresistible and irreversible and that, in order to avoid serious crises, an end must be put to colonialism and all practices of segregation and discrimination associated therewith,

Welcoming the emergence in recent years of a large number of dependent territories into freedom and independence, and recognizing the increasingly powerful trends towards freedom in such territories which have not yet attained independence,

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[31] *Ibid.*, document A/4514.
[32] *Ibid.*, document A/4512.
[33] *Ibid.*, document A/4533.
[34] *Ibid.*, document A/4527.
[35] *Annual report of the Board of Governors to the General Conference, 1 July 1959-30 June 1960*, Vienna, July 1960 (A/4531 and Corr.1 and Add.1).
[36] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/4494).

Doc. No. 34GL-17-0693.

Convinced that all peoples have an inalienable right to complete freedom, the exercise of their sovereignty and the integrity of their national territory,

Solemnly proclaims the necessity of bringing to a speedy and unconditional end colonialism in all its forms and manifestations;

And to this end

Declares that:

1. The subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights, is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and is an impediment to the promotion of world peace and co-operation.

2. All peoples have the right to self-determination; by virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

3. Inadequacy of political, economic, social or educational preparedness should never serve as a pretext for delaying independence.

4. All armed action or repressive measures of all kinds directed against dependent peoples shall cease in order to enable them to exercise peacefully and freely their right to complete independence, and the integrity of their national territory shall be respected.

5. Immediate steps shall be taken, in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories or all other territories which have not yet attained independence, to transfer all powers to the peoples of those territories, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, without any distinction as to race, creed or colour, in order to enable them to enjoy complete independence and freedom.

6. Any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

7. All States shall observe faithfully and strictly the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the present Declaration on the basis of equality, non-interference in the internal affairs of all States, and respect for the sovereign rights of all peoples and their territorial integrity.

947th plenary meeting,
14 December 1960.

1592 (XV). The situation in the Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Republic of the Congo",

Noting that the previous resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly on this subject are still in effect,

Decides to keep this item on the agenda of its resumed fifteenth session.

958th plenary meeting,
20 December 1960.

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Note

Appointment of the Peace Observation Commission (item 18)

At its 960th plenary meeting on 20 December 1960, the General Assembly decided to reappoint, for the calendar years 1961 and 1962, the present members of the Peace Observation Commission. The Commission is therefore composed as follows: CHINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, FRANCE, HONDURAS, INDIA, IRAQ, ISRAEL, NEW ZEALAND, PAKISTAN, SWEDEN, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and URUGUAY.

COMMISSION ON DECOLONIZATION
Financial Report
As of June 1, 2017

- **Task Force Accounts**
  - Free Association
    - FY 16: $80,000
    - FY 17: $60,000
  - Independence
    - FY 16: $11,471
    - FY 17: $60,000
  - Statehood
    - FY 16: $80,000
    - FY 17: $60,000
- **DOI Grant for Self-Determination Educational Outreach**
  - **Funding Available: $300,000**
    - $121,000 allocated for Self-Governance Study including advertising for IFB (Decided during 12/20/16 meeting)
- **Local Funding for Educational Outreach**
  - **Funding available: $22,480**
    - $3,770 for Sen Guaiya Hao Youth Conference (food and facility rental approved during 2/14/17 meeting)
    - $500 allocated for Sen Guaiya Hao Youth Conference video editing (approved during 2/14/17 meeting)
    - $3,063.50 for catering for village meetings (approved during 8/16 meeting)