

For Official Release  
PR001-07022024  
Office of the Governor  
Utulei, American Samoa  
July 02, 2024



## **Micronesian Islands Forum Issues Resolution Supporting American Samoa's PIF application**

American Samoa's application for Associate Membership in the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) is receiving support and endorsement from numerous governments north of the equator. Submitted by Governor Lemanu P. S. Mauga in December of last year, the application garnered a bit of attention at last month's meeting of the Micronesian Islands Forum (MIF). The MIF meeting produced several resolutions including MIF Resolution 26-05. Under Resolution 26-05, the MIF membership indicated that it "fully supports and endorses the application of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam for Associate Membership in the Pacific Islands Forum."

The Leaders of Guam, Federated States of Micronesia, the State Governments of Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap, along with CNMI, Guam, Palau, Nauru and Republic of Marshall Islands signed the resolution following the 26th MIF Annual Meeting held in Guam on June 3-5, 2024. The meeting was attended by Lt. Governor La'apui Talauega E. V. Ale. The resolution came just as American Samoa was preparing for last week's engagement with a delegation from PIF to assess its compatibility with membership criteria.

American Samoa will continue its advocacy at PIF's Foreign Officials Committee meeting next month with the aim to have the application considered by PIF Leaders at their meeting in Tonga at the end of August.

The 26th MIF Joint Communique and all of the Resolutions issued by the MIF can be found at <https://www.mifsecretariat.org/communiqués-and-resolutions/>.

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