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**PACIFIC SCIENCE ASSOCIATION**  
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## **Pacific Science Council Resolutions for the 21<sup>st</sup> Pacific Science Congress Okinawa, Japan**

19 June 2007

Upon the recommendation of session leaders and participants, the Pacific Science Council has endorsed the following official resolutions of the 21<sup>st</sup> Pacific Science Congress:

### **Communicating Science**

The 21<sup>st</sup> Pacific Science Congress endorses the exploration of a new PSA Working Group on Science Communication to develop new communications tools such as Web-accessible information systems, to more effectively address the need to stimulate broader and more inclusive science communication throughout the Pacific region.

### **Biodiversity**

The 21<sup>st</sup> Pacific Science Congress endorses the following:

1. A comprehensive biological survey to document the distributions of species and their ecological requirements, and that the PSA Biodiversity Task Force play a leading role in this endeavor; and
2. Development of new communications tools, especially Web-accessible information systems, to facilitate the dissemination of important information on the biodiversity of the Pacific region; and
3. Strenuous efforts to develop the local institutional capacity in Pacific regional institutions, particularly in the areas of biological sciences, taxonomy, parataxonomy, and bioinformatics, which are essential to understanding and supporting sustainable resource utilization; and
4. Prioritization of research on large-scale environmental processes in the region; and
5. More intensive and sustained field-level conservation efforts working in authentic partnership with local communities and other stakeholders; and
6. The greater use of social science tools and community-driven approaches to address on-the-ground conservation efforts; and
7. Prioritizing efforts by scientists, conservation practitioners, and other stakeholders to document and to support traditional systems that effectively promote the sustainable use and management of natural resources in the Pacific.

### **Coral Reef Fisheries and Ecosystems**

The 21<sup>st</sup> Pacific Science Congress endorses the following actions in order to enhance the effectiveness of Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management in the Pacific region:

1. More inclusive resource management approaches that ensure that all stakeholders and users of reef resources are actively engaged in the sustainable management of these critical ecosystems;



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2. Greater collaboration between scientists and resource managers to develop appropriate research programs and management and policy plans, and easy-to-use data processing tools that will facilitate more effective monitoring and managing of reef fisheries;
3. Enhanced cooperation between scientists, local fishers, and local stakeholders to increase data collection on coral reef fisheries and ecosystems, which will facilitate more effective implementation of Ecosystems-Based Fisheries Management;
4. More intensive efforts to increase international and inter-regional institutional collaboration, particularly between those with advanced marine science expertise and regional Pacific institutions;
5. Enhanced information sharing and collaboration between projects and programmes in the Pacific region to ensure more efficient Ecosystems-Based Fisheries Management;
6. Strengthening the PSA Coral Reef Task Force in order to more effectively address these issues.

### **Ocean Acidification**

Recognizing that available scientific evidence indicates that the phenomenon of ocean acidification is likely to have significant negative effects on marine species and habitats that are vital to ecological processes and the natural services they provide to human societies locally, regionally, and globally, the 21<sup>st</sup> Pacific Science Congress endorses the immediate prioritization of research on the species-, ecosystem-, and societal-level implications of ocean acidification, and the establishment of a PSA Task Force on Ocean Acidification to facilitate this research.

### **Education For Sustainable Development In The Pacific Islands**

Recognizing that current development models in the Pacific region are inherently unsustainable; and that education is a fundamental force driving attitudes that shapes social, economic and environmental change, therefore enhancing educational contexts is essential to promoting sustainability and the attainment of Millennium Development Goals. The 21<sup>st</sup> Pacific Science Congress endorses the establishment of a PSA Task Force on Education for Sustainable Development in Pacific Islands Region. This Task Force will facilitate communication and collaboration between regional and international universities and research organizations in order to promote the implementation of the objectives of the U.N. Decade for Education on Sustainable Development. It will promote integration of modern scientific methodologies with traditional knowledge systems in order to establish new and more appropriate and effective educational approaches. The Task Force will also aim to organize a major session on "Education for a Sustainable Island Pacific: A Synthesis between Local and Globally Emerging Values and Issues" for the 11<sup>th</sup> Pacific Science Inter-Congress that will be held in Tahiti, French Polynesia in March 2009.

### **Strengthening Linkages Between Science and Policy**

Recognizing that scientific knowledge and evidence is essential in informing society and policymakers on important and emerging issues and the courses of action required to effectively address them, the 21<sup>st</sup> Pacific Science Congress endorses using the PSA network to identify key opportunities for collaboration between various institutions that will strengthen linkages between scientists and policymakers.