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PREAMBLE

The United States of America and the People of Micronesia,

Recognizing that among the responsibilities of the Government of the United States as Administering Authority of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is the obligation to promote the development of the inhabitants of that territory toward self-government or independence, and

Recognizing their common interest in developing a new political status for the people of Micronesia to replace the present trusteeship,

AGREE to establish through this Compact of Free Association a system of self-government appropriate to the particular circumstances of Micronesia and its people and in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned. This Compact, approved by the people of Micronesia through their sovereign right of self-determination and by the Government of the United States, shall determine the respective rights and responsibilities of the Government of Micronesia and the Government of the United States.

TITLE I

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Section 101

The people of Micronesia have the right to adopt their own constitution and form of government and to amend or change any such constitution or form of government at any time, provided that the constitution and laws of Micronesia shall remain consistent with the provisions of this Compact, and shall guarantee to the inhabitants of Micronesia their fundamental human rights and shall establish a governmental structure consistent with the principles of democracy.

Section 102

The duly constituted Government of Micronesia shall have full responsibility for and authority over the internal affairs of Micronesia.

Section 103

The people of Micronesia, in the exercise of their right of self-determination, may in the event of termination of this Compact freely choose their own future political status in accordance with Title ___ of this Compact.