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ARTICLE I

Political Relationship

Section 101. The Northern Mariana Islands upon termination of the Trusteeship Agreement will become a self-governing Commonwealth, in political union with and under the sovereignty of the United States of America, to be known as the "Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands".

Section 102. The relations between the Northern Mariana Islands and the United States will be governed by this Agreement which, together with the provisions of the Constitution, treaties or laws of the United States applicable within the Commonwealth, will be the supreme law of the Commonwealth.

Section 103. The people of the Commonwealth will have the right to govern themselves with respect to local affairs in accordance with a Constitution of their own adoption.

Section 104. The United States will have complete responsibility for and authority with respect to all matters relating to foreign affairs and defense affecting the Commonwealth.

Section 105. The United States may enact, in accordance with its constitutional processes, legislation effective within the Northern Marianas, being guided by its traditional respect for local self-government; but the fundamental provisions of this Agreement, listed as follows, may be modified only with the consent of the Government of the United States and the Government of the Commonwealth: [list]

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(a). The basic Commonwealth relationship between the United States and the Northern Mariana Islands established in Article I of the Agreement.

(b). The right of the people of the Marianas to adopt and amend their own Constitution under Article II.

(c). The conditions under which citizens of the Marianas may become United States citizens or nationals under Article II.

(d). The application to the Northern Mariana Islands of specified provisions of the United States Constitution under Article V.

(e). The procedures to be followed in the exercise of Federal powers of eminent domain under Article VIII.

[Section 106. Legislation which the United States could not make applicable within a State of the Union may be made applicable within the Commonwealth only if such legislation specifically provides that it will be applicable within the Commonwealth and if, taking into account the right of local self-government of the people of the Commonwealth, there is a compelling national interest in the application of such legislation within the Commonwealth.]

Notes:

Resident Commissioner in Article IX
Consultation in Article IX
Oath of Office in Article II
Controversies in Article IX

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ARTICLE II

Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands

Section 201. The people of the Northern Mariana Islands will formulate and approve a Constitution in accordance with this Agreement and may amend their Constitution in accordance with the procedures provided therein.

Section 202. The Constitution will be submitted to the Government of the United States for approval on the basis of its consistency with this Agreement and the applicable provisions of the Constitution and laws of the United States. Thereafter the original provisions of the Constitution and amendments to the Constitution will not be subject to approval or disapproval by the Government of the United States, except that federal courts will be competent to determine whether amendments to the Constitution are consistent with this Agreement and with the provisions of the Constitution of the United States and federal laws applicable within the Northern Mariana Islands.

Section 203.

(a) The Constitution will provide for a republican form of government with separate executive, legislative, and judicial branches, and will contain a bill of rights.

(b) The executive power of the Northern Mariana Islands will be vested in a popularly elected governor and such other officials as the Constitution or laws of the Northern Mariana Islands may provide.

(c) The legislative power of the Northern Mariana Islands will be vested in a popularly elected legislature, and will extend to all rightful subjects of legislation. [Nothing in this Agreement or in the provisions of the United States Constitution or federal laws applicable within the Northern Mariana Islands shall prevent the Constitution from providing for a distribution of the membership of the legislature on a basis which takes into account matters such as geographical or historical interests as well as population, provided such distribution is ratified by the people of the Northern Mariana Islands by their approval of the Constitution or amendments thereto.]

(d) The judicial power of the Northern Mariana Islands will be vested in such courts as the Constitution or laws of the Northern Mariana Islands may provide. The operation of the courts of the Northern Mariana Islands will be compatible with the federal judicial system of the United States and consistent with applicable federal law.

Section 204. All members of the legislature of the Commonwealth and all officers and employees of the Government of the Commonwealth will take an oath or affirmation to support this Agreement, the provisions of the Constitution and laws of the United States applicable within the Commonwealth, and the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth.

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ARTICLE III

Citizenship and Nationality

Section 301. The following persons and their children under the age of 18 years on the effective date of this Section, who are not citizens or nationals of the United States under any other provisions of law, and who have taken no affirmative steps to preserve or acquire foreign nationality, are declared to be citizens of the United States, except as otherwise provided in Section 302:

(a) All persons born in the Northern Mariana Islands who are citizens of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands on the day preceding the effective date of this Section, and who on that date reside or are domiciled in the Northern Mariana Islands or in any area in or under the jurisdiction of the United States;

(b) All persons who are citizens of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands on the day preceding the effective date of this Section, who have been domiciled continuously in the Northern Mariana Islands for at least five years immediately prior to that date, and who, unless under age, have registered to vote in district elections in the Mariana Islands District prior to January 1, 197[5]; and

(c) All persons domiciled in the Northern Mariana Islands on the day preceding the effective date of this Section, who, although not citizens of the Trust Territory of the Pacific

Islands, do not on that day owe allegiance to any foreign state and who on that date have been domiciled continuously in the Northern Mariana Islands since at least January 1, 197[4].

Section 302. Any person who becomes a citizen of the United States solely by virtue of the provisions of Section 201 may within six months after the effective date of that Section or within six months after reaching the age of 18 years, whichever date is the later, become a national but not a citizen of the United States by making a declaration under oath before any federal court or any court of record in the Commonwealth in the form as follows:

"I.....being duly sworn, hereby declare my intention... to be a national but not a citizen of the United States."

Section 303. All persons born in the Commonwealth on or after the effective date of this Section and subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, shall be citizens of the United States.

Section 304. Citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states.

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Article IV

United States Judicial Authority

Section 401. (a) The United States will provide a court of record for the Northern Mariana Islands to be known as the "District Court ^{of} for the Northern Mariana Islands."

[(b) The President will nominate and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint a district judge for the District Court ^{of} for the Northern Mariana Islands, who shall hold office for a term of eight years, and until a successor is chosen and qualified, unless sooner removed by the President for cause, provided however that if the President appoints an incumbent judge of the District Court of Guam to be the judge of the District Court ^{of} for the Northern Mariana Islands, his term as such judge shall not extend beyond that as judge of the District Court of Guam.]

Section 402. (a) The District Court ^{of the Northern Mariana Islands} shall have the jurisdiction of a district court of the United States, except that in all causes arising under the Constitution, treaties, and laws of the United States it shall have jurisdiction without regard of the sum or value of the matter in controversy; it shall have original jurisdiction in all other

causes in the Northern Mariana Islands, jurisdiction over which has not been transferred by the legislature to another court or courts established by the Constitution or laws of the Northern Mariana Islands; it shall have such additional jurisdiction as is conferred on it by other Sections of this Agreement; and it shall have such appellate jurisdiction as the legislature shall determine. ^(of the Northern Mariana Islands) When the District Court sits as an appellate court, it shall consist of three judges, at least one of whom shall be a judge of a court of record of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(b) The Northern Mariana Islands will constitute a part of the Ninth Judicial ^{Circuit} District of the United States, and the decisions of the District Court ^{of} for the Northern Mariana Islands will be subject to review in the same manner as those of the District Court of Guam.

Section 403. (a) Final judgments and decrees rendered by the highest court of the Northern Mariana Islands will be reviewable by the Supreme Court of the United States in the same manner as those ^{rendered} by the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, unless they are reviewable by the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands pursuant to section 402.

(b) The relations between the courts of the United States, and the courts of the Northern Mariana Islands with respect to appeals, certiorari, removal of causes, the issuance of writs of habeas corpus, and other matters or proceedings shall be governed by the laws of the United States pertaining to the relations between the courts of the United States and the courts of the several States in such matters and proceedings.

ARTICLE V

Applicability of Laws

Section 501

(a) The following provisions of the Constitution of the United States will be applicable within the Northern Mariana Islands as if the Northern Mariana Islands were a State of the Union: Article I, Section 9, Clauses 2, 3 and 8; Article I, Section 10, Clauses 1 and 3; Article IV, Section 1, [sentence 1]; Article IV, Section 2; Amendments 1 through 9, inclusive; Amendment 13, [Section 1]; Amendment 14, Sections 1 and 5; Amendment 15, [Section 1]; Amendment 19, [sentence 1] Amendment 26, [Section 1].

(b) Future amendments to the Constitution of the United States which do not apply of their own force in the Northern Mariana Islands will become applicable within the Northern Mariana Islands only with the approval of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands and the United States Congress.

Section 502. The following laws of the United States in existence on the effective date of this section and subsequent amendments to those laws will be applicable in the Northern Mariana Islands:

(a) Except as otherwise provided for in Subsection (b) of this Section and Sections 503, 605 and 1003 of this Agreement, those laws which on that date are applicable to Guam and of general applicability in the several States.

(b) Those laws which provide financial assistance [spell out] or are part of the federal banking laws [spell out] will apply in the same manner and to the same extent as they apply within the Territory of Guam.

(c) Title I of the Public Health Services Act.

(d) The Micronesian Claims Act.

(e) Those laws not described in the preceding four paragraphs which are applicable within the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands but not their subsequent amendments, unless specifically made applicable to the Northern Mariana Islands. Unless expressly otherwise provided such laws will cease to be applicable to the Northern Mariana Islands upon the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement.

Section 503. The following laws of the United States presently inapplicable to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands will not apply to the Northern Mariana Islands except in the manner to the extent made applicable by the United States Congress at termination of the Trusteeship Agreement:

(a) The immigration and naturalization laws of the United States;

(b) The coastwise shipping laws of the United States, except as they apply to United States Government shipments; and

(c) The minimum wage provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, except as they apply to employees and contractors of the United States Government.

[Section 504.] The Secretary of Commerce will issue regulations which provide that persons who are nationals but not citizens of the United States and who are domiciled in the Northern Mariana Islands will be considered citizens of the United States for the purpose of such provisions of the maritime and shipping laws of the United States as he deems appropriate.]

Section 50[5]. The President will appoint a Commission on Federal Laws to survey the field of federal statutory laws and to make recommendations to the United States Congress as to which statutes of the United States not applicable within the Northern Mariana Islands should be made applicable and to what extent and in what manner, and which statute applicable should be made inapplicable and to what extent and in what manner. The Commission will consist of seven persons (at least three of whom will be citizens of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands who are and have been for at least five years domiciled continuously in the Northern Mariana Islands at the time of their appointments) who will be representative of the federal, local, private, and public interests in the applicability of federal laws within the Northern Mariana Islands. The Commission will make its final report and recommendations to the Congress within two years after the effective date of this section, and before that time may make such interim reports and recommendations to the Congress as it considers appropriate to facilitate the transition of the Northern Mariana Islands to its new political status. In formulating its recommendations, the Commission will take into consideration the effect of potential

effect of each federal law on local conditions within the Northern Mariana Islands, the federal policies embodied in the law, and the provisions and purposes of this Agreement. [Unless the House of Representatives or the Senate adopts a resolution which specifically disapproves all or part of the recommendations made in the final report of the Commission within one year after the final report has been received by the Congress, all or part of the recommendations therein, as the case may be, will have the force and effect of law.]

Section 50[6]. The laws of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, of the Mariana Islands District and its local municipalities, and all other Executive and District orders of a local nature applicable within the Northern Mariana Islands on the effective date of this Section and not inconsistent with this Agreement or with the provisions of the Constitution of the United States or federal laws applicable within the Northern Mariana Islands will remain in force and effect until and unless repealed by the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Notes:

Presidential suspension of application in Trusteeship to Article IX

Social Security in Article VII

Internal Revenue in Article VI

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ARTICLE VI

Revenue and Taxation Provisions

Section 601. [Awaiting proposals from MPSC Counsel on application of the Internal Revenue Code in the Marianas].
Section 60[2].

(a) The Northern Mariana Islands will not be included within the customs territory of the United States.

(b) The Government of the Northern Mariana Islands may, in a manner consistent with the international obligations of the United States, levy duties on goods imported into its territory from any area other than the United States, its territories or possessions.

(c) The Government of the Northern Mariana Islands will have the [exclusive] authority to impose duties on exports from its territory.

(d) To the extent such treatment would be consistent with the international obligations of the United States, exports from the Northern Mariana Islands into the customs territory of the United States, will be subject to the same treatment as exports from the Territory of Guam into the customs territory of the United States. The United States will, if necessary in order to extend such treatment, endeavor to obtain appropriate waivers or modifications of its international obligations.

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(e) The United States will seek to obtain from foreign countries favorable treatment for exports from the Northern Mariana Islands, and will encourage other countries to consider the Northern Mariana Islands a developing territory Section 60[3].

[(a) The United States may levy excise taxes on goods and services manufactured, sold or used in the Northern Mariana Islands in the same manner and to the same extent as such taxes are applicable within the several States.]

[(b) The Northern Mariana Islands will have the authority to impose excise taxes upon goods manufactured or sold within its territory or upon goods imported into its territory, provided that such excise taxes imposed on goods imported into its territory must be consistent with the international obligations of the United States.]

Section 604. [Proposals to be supplied by U.S.]

Section 605. All bonds issued by the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands or by its authority will be exempt, as to principal and interest, from taxation by the United States or by any State, territory or possession of the United States or any political subdivision of any of them.

(a) For so long as the United States Government provides direct financial assistance pursuant to Article VII of this agreement, the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands will authorize no public indebtedness (other than bonds or other obligations of the Government payable solely from revenue

derived from any public improvement or undertaking) in excess of ten percentum of the aggregate assessed valuation of the property within the Northern Mariana Islands.

*as
original
date*

ARTICLE VIII

Land

*this term
is not legally
clear*

Section 801. The title to real and personal property remains in the Mariana Islands District on the date of termination of the Trusteeship Agreement which is owned ~~or held~~ by the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands will be transferred to the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Section 802 ff. [Land areas to be acquired by the United States for defense purposes, to include disclaimer of present U.S. intent to acquire more land for defense purposes]

Section 80[3]. ~~In the event it should become necessary in the future for~~ ^{IF} the Government of the United States ^{must} acquire any interest in land not ~~already made available~~ ^{transferred} to it under this Agreement, it may, upon ^{prior written} notice to the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands, acquire for public purposes in accordance with established ^{United States} federal laws and procedures any interests in land in the Northern Mariana Islands, whether owned or controlled by private parties or by the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands, by purchase, lease, exchange, gift or otherwise under such terms and conditions as may be negotiated by the parties. In such event, however, the United States Government will:

(a) Seek to acquire only the minimum ^{area} of land necessary to accomplish the public purpose for which the land is sought,

*by careful
and reasonable
selection*

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respecting the scarcity and special importance of land in the Northern Mariana Islands;

(b) endeavor to obtain ^{only that} ~~the minimum~~ interest in land necessary to accomplish such public interest, acquiring title only if a lesser interest would not be sufficient to serve the public purpose; and

(c) attempt ^{endeavor?} to acquire an interest in public rather than private land whenever the public purpose can be accomplished by the use of such public land.

Section 80[4]. (a) The United States Government will in all ~~cases~~ ^{seek first} attempt to acquire ^{through negotiation} any interest in land for public purposes by voluntary means. ~~In the event~~ ^{if such negotiations do} this is not possible, the United States ~~will have and~~ may exercise within the Commonwealth

~~the power of eminent domain to the same extent and in the same manner as it has and can exercise the power of eminent domain in a State of the Union, observing~~ ^{taking into account} the principles set forth in subsection (a), (b) and (c) of Section 80[3]; provided, however that in addition to all other requirements of law ^{for} the United States ~~will not~~ ^{of} exercise the power of eminent domain ^{the United States will} ~~to~~ acquire any interest in land within the Commonwealth until the Congress of the United States has by law explicitly authorized and approved the exercise of the power of eminent domain to obtain a particular interest in a particular parcel of land in the Commonwealth.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (a) of this Section, upon a determination by the President that an

Pursuant to its federal laws and procedure.

proceedings

interest in land in the Commonwealth is needed for national defense purposes, the United States may take such an interest in land by eminent domain to the same extent and in the same manner as it can take an interest in land in eminent domain ~~in a State of the Union.~~ No interest in land taken pursuant to the ~~preceding sentence~~ ^{hereunder} will extend beyond nine months, at the end of which period the interest in land will revert to the original owner thereof, unless the United States shall have obtained an interest in such land under Section 80[3] or subsection (a) of this Section.

Section 80[5]. Except as otherwise provided in this Article and notwithstanding the provisions of Article V, the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands will regulate the alienation of all public and private real property or interests in such property for the purpose of restricting acquisition of such property or interests to persons of Northern Mariana Islands ancestry and will regulate the extent to which land now classified as public land can be held by individuals.

*Eminent domain
Section 80[5] -
From Federal
law.*

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Article IX

Resident Commissioner and Consultation

Section 901. (a) There will be a Resident Commissioner from the Northern Mariana Islands who will be entitled to receive official recognition as such Commissioner by all of the departments and agencies of the Government of the United States upon presentation, through [to] the Department of State, of a certificate of election by the Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(b) The Resident Commissioner will have a term of two years ^{will} and be elected at the first general election to be held in the Northern Mariana Islands following the effective date of this section by the people qualified to vote for the members of the legislature, and subsequently at such general election every second year thereafter.

(c) No person will be eligible to election as Resident Commissioner who is not--

(i) a bona fide citizen of the Northern Mariana Islands, provided that any Resident Commissioner elected after the termination

of the Trusteeship must be a citizen of the
United States;

(ii) at least twenty-five years of age; and
(iii) capable of reading and writing the
English language.

(d) The Resident Commissioner will receive a salary payable monthly by the United States, and shall receive the same allowances for stationery, clerk-hire, and transportation expenses as the Delegate from the Territory of Guam.

Section 902. Whenever it appears that the normal consultation process between the United States and the Northern Mariana Islands is inadequate to deal with any specific problem or problems, the President of the United States and the Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands may convene a meeting to settle those differences. Such meeting will be held at an appropriate time prior to the expiration of any multi-year period of financial assistance by the United States.

Section 903. (a) The Government of the United States will give sympathetic consideration to the advice of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands on international matters directly affecting the Northern Mariana Islands.

(b) The United States will assist and facilitate the establishment by the Northern Mariana Islands of offices in the United States and abroad to promote local tourism and other economic or cultural interests of the Northern Mariana Islands.

[(c) The United States will support membership by the Northern Mariana Islands in regional or other international organizations concerned with social, economic, educational, scientific, technical and cultural matters of concern to it, to the extent such organizations will permit such membership. The Government of the Northern Mariana Islands, with the approval of the Secretary of State, may negotiate and sign agreements with any international organization of which it is a member, provided that those agreements apply only to the Northern Mariana Islands and not to other parts of the United States.]

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ARTICLE X

Approval, Effective Dates and Definitions

Section 1001

(a) The Agreement will be promptly submitted to the Mariana Islands District Legislature for its approval. Within [120] days after its approval by the Mariana Islands District Legislature it will be submitted to the people of the Mariana Islands District for approval in a plebiscite to be called by the United States Secretary of the Interior. Approval must be by a majority of those voting in the plebiscite. All residents of the Mariana Islands who would be eligible to vote in elections in the Mariana Islands District if such elections were held on the day the plebiscite is conducted shall be eligible to vote in the plebiscite. The results of the plebiscite shall be certified by the Secretary to the President of the United States.

(b) The Agreement will be approved by the United States in accordance with its Constitutional processes.

(c) The President of the United States will issue a proclamation announcing a date upon which the Commonwealth will be established, when he finds:

(1) That the Agreement has been approved as set forth in subsections (a) and (b) ; and

(2) That the people of the Mariana Islands District have adopted a Constitution pursuant to the Agreement; and

(3) That the Trusteeship Agreement has been terminated or will terminate on the date on which the Commonwealth will be established.

Section 1002. The provisions of this Agreement shall become effective as follows, unless otherwise specifically provided:

(a) Article II, Sections 201-203 [Local Constitution] Article V, Section 505 [Commission on Federal Laws]; and Article X [approval, effective dates, definitions] will become effective upon approval of this Agreement by the United States and the people of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(b) Article I, Section 102, 103 & 105; Article IV; [U.S. Judicial Authority] Article V, Sections 501 - 504 [Applicability of U.S. Constitution and Laws] and Section 506; Articles VI and VII; Article VIII, Section 802 and Section 805 shall become effective 180 days after this Agreement has been approved and the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands has been approved as determined and declared by the President.

(c) The remainder of this Agreement shall become effective upon the establishment of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

provision of the United States Constitution which would otherwise apply within the Northern Mariana Islands or the effectiveness of any section of the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands may be suspended until termination of the Trusteeship Agreement if the President finds and declares that the application of such law or provision of the United States Constitution prior to termination of the Trusteeship Agreement would be inconsistent with the Trusteeship Agreement.

(b) Any determination of the President that the Trusteeship Agreement is or will be terminated on a certain day shall be final and shall not be subject to review by any authority of the [Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands,] the Northern Mariana Islands or the United States, including the courts thereof.

Section 1004.

The Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will become effective in accordance with its terms on the same day as those provisions of this Agreement described in subsection (b) of Section 1002 become effective, provided that if the President finds and declares that the effectiveness of any provision of the Constitution prior to termination of the Trusteeship Agreement would be inconsistent with the Trusteeship Agreement such provision shall be ineffective until establishment of the Commonwealth. Upon the establishment of the Commonwealth as provided in Section 1001, the Constitution shall become effective in its entirety in accordance with its terms, as the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Section 1005. As used in this Agreement:

(a) "Trusteeship Agreement" means the Trusteeship Agreement entered into between the Security Council of the United Nations and the United States of America, dated _____ pursuant to which the United States is the Administering Authority of the Northern Mariana Islands;

(b) "Northern Mariana Islands" means the area known at the time this Agreement is signed as the Mariana Islands District of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, consisting of those islands and territorial waters which lie within the area north of 14° north latitude, south of 21° north latitude, west of 150° east longitude and east of 144° east longitude;

(c) "Government of the Northern Mariana Islands" includes, as appropriate, the Government of the Mariana Islands District of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands at the time this Agreement is signed, its agencies and instrumentalities, and its successors, including the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(d) "Territory or possession" with respect to the United States includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and the Panama Canal zone.