July 25, 1995

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LAND AND PERSONAL RIGHTS

ARTICLE XIV: NATURAL RESOURCES, SECOND READING

The Committee presents the following report to the delegates with respect to the Article XIV: Natural Resources, on second reading.

Delegate Proposals: The Committee's Report No. 5 was prepared on July 11, 1995. After that time, Delegate Proposal No. 601 was referred to and considered by the Committee.

Floor Discussion: The Committee of the Whole discussed Report No. 5 on July 11, 1995. The delegates raised a concern regarding a possible conflict between the recommendation that Anyota Island in Rota be set aside as a nature preserve and plans of CPA to develop it in connection with the Rota Ports Project. The Committee has decided to remove reference to Anyota from Article XIV, which covers uninhabited islands preserved entirely as wildlife conservation areas. The Committee will resolve any outstanding issues regarding Anyota Island in the context of Article XI.

The Committee of the Whole approved Report No. 5 without amendments. On July 13, the Convention passed the constitutional amendments proposed by Report No. 5 on First Reading.

Delegate Amendments: The Committee received Delegate Amendment No. 4 which proposes a new section 5 to Article IV.

This amendment would allocate five percent of any royalties or fees paid for the use of any natural resources protected by Article XIV, on public land or sea, to the municipality where the resource is located. With respect to any marine resources not located in any specific municipality, the five percent would be divided among the municipalities as provided by law.

This amendment is not intended to be self executing but rather constitutes a mandate to the legislature, under its general grant of power under section 4, to enact specific provisions to carry out the purposes of the new section. These provisions would include the territorial limits of each municipality with regard to marine resources. Nothing in this section is intended to diminish the authority of the Marianas Land Bureau with regard to the management and disposition of public lands.

The Committee recommends that the amendment proposed by Delegate Amendment No. 4 be adopted by the Convention.

<u>Committee Changes:</u> The Committee recommends the following changes to Article XIV as passed on First Reading:

1. Delete reference to Anjota Island, near Rota, from section 2.

2. Add new section 5 to read as follows:

Section 5. <u>Royalties and Fees</u>.

Royalties and other fees paid to the Commonwealth with respect to resources protected by this article shall be shared with the municipalities at the rate of five percent.

Respectfully submitted,

NIFØI. Chair Delegate JOSE

Delegate MARIAN ALDAN-PIERCE, Vice Chair

Delegate CARLOS S. CAMACHO

Delegate JOHN O. DLR. GONZALES Delegate HENRY D. HOFSCHNEIDER -100 Delegate DAVID L. Delegate BENJAMIN T. MANGLONA LIM Delegate DAVID Q. MARATITA Delegate DONALD B. MENDIOLA

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