

## RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE OF OKINAWA

WHEREAS the Japanese government pushes the construction of a new U.S. military base in Henoko, Okinawa despite strong local opposition and criticism, and the repression of peaceful protestors on Okinawa intensifies;

WHEREAS the plans to further expand U.S. military bases continue to threaten the peace and security of the people of Okinawa and contributes to the escalating threat of war, especially given the pro-militarism positions of both the U.S. and Japanese governments;

WHEREAS crimes against the people of Okinawa committed by U.S. military service members and base workers have been repeatedly documented, and chemical pollution connected to U.S. military installations have caused health concerns among the people of Okinawa;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the APALA Convention calls for the following actions:

- APALA will continue to support the movement for peace and environmental justice against U.S. military base expansion in Okinawa;
- APALA will continue to request that both the U.S. and Japanese governments respect the will of the people of Okinawa, their democratic rights, and their local autonomy;
- APALA will urge the U.S. military authorities to be transparent and accountable in their interactions with Okinawa and other communities suffering from U.S. military-related environmental contamination;
- APALA will encourage government leaders to engage in dialogue and peaceful diplomacy among nations, instead of solely depending on military deterrence;
- APALA will continue to educate U.S. union leaders, Asian American community leaders, and elected officials about the current situation in Okinawa; exchange information with our brothers and sisters of Okinawa, and encourage those leaders and all APALA members to travel to Okinawa to express our friendship and solidarity.

**Submitted by:**

The APALA International Solidarity Committee (Atley Chock and Kent Wong)

