The Penghu Declaration – September 27, 2014

A declaration issued by the delegates present at the 13th *Islands of the World* Conference of the International Small Islands Studies Association (ISISA) on the theme, "Small is Beautiful: Island Connections and Innovations," meeting in the Penghu archipelago, Taiwan, September 22-27, 2014, herewith referred to as **The Penghu Declaration**.

The delegates hereby:

1. **Acknowledge** the United Nations (UN) designation of 2014 as the International Year of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the 20th anniversary of the establishment of ISISA.
2. **Express** their commitment to promoting research on, understanding of, and engagement with, the specific challenges facing small islands and their communities. These include the absence of economies of scale, resource limitations, environmental sensitivity and exposure to natural disasters; as well as identifying development opportunities and innovations based on the celebration and distinctiveness of island lives and spaces.
3. **Reaffirm** the particular challenges facing small islands in a globalized world that jeopardize the quality of island life. These require more recognition by international bodies, highlighting the role of policy makers at all levels, and demanding their commitment to the accelerated modalities of action as prescribed by the 'Samoa Pathway' document, agreed upon at the recently held third international UN conference of SIDS in Apia, Samoa.
4. **Support** grassroots and local island organizations and the collaboration and exchange of island networks, in order to inform national, regional and international policies of the particularities of island constituencies.
5. **Build** on the spirit and intent of past ISISA declarations, including the Kinmen Declaration of 2004, urging the adoption and expansion of appropriate initiatives that are based on the recognition of local island cultures, diversity and resilience, in recognition of the growing interconnectivity and partnership of islands worldwide.
6. **Encourage** island-focused study and action to inform, support and service the islands of the world and to promote culturally appropriate strategies that respond to the impact of global climate change and other hazards.
7. **Emphasize** the promotion of responsible tourism which is sensitive to local needs and which supports the uniqueness of natural and cultural island environments.
8. **Recognize** that, by being 'geographies of hope', islands can guide policy by showcasing various initiatives that offer viable examples of blue/green sustainability and community engagement, and which can be transferable to larger contexts. These include the promotion of small scale and locally owned enterprises, creating alternative island economies and socially just communities.
9. **Understand** that, despite having experienced a history of political and economic marginalization, small islands lead the globe in addressing urgent environmental issues which are quite central to both their island residents and the world at large.
10. **Encourage** collaboration among island based institution, including our hosts (National Penghu University, the County of Penghu), and institutions in Taiwan and beyond, to build local capacities, strengthen formal and informal educational opportunities, and partake in the comparative and interdisciplinary study of islands, through ISISA and other channels
11. **Thank** and offer their sincere appreciation to the local organizers and sponsors of the 13th 'Islands of the World' Conference for extensive community engagement, facilitation and participation, assuring a high degree of transferability of knowledge, friendship, expertise and experiences, providing generous opportunities and spaces for conversations, debates and future plans regarding the challenges facing islands worldwide. We particularly appreciate the considerable presence of youth in every aspect of this memorable event.
12. **Suggest** that this declaration be titled *The Penghu Declaration on the theme* ***Small is Beautiful: Island Connections and Innovations*** and recommend its adoption.

On Behalf of the Delegates

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ISISA

International Small Islands Studies Association

Islands of the World XIII

Small is Beautiful: Island Connections and Innovations

Penghu Archipelago, Taiwan, 22-27 September 2014

第十三屆世界島嶼會議暨學術研討會

澎湖宣言

第十三屆世界島嶼會議「小即是美：島嶼的連結與創新」於 2014 年在台灣澎湖群島舉辦，與會人士共同提出宣言，以下稱為「澎湖宣言」。

與會代表謹此

1. **致謝**：對聯合國指定 2014 年為「國際小島國年」及國際島嶼研究學會（ISISA）成立二十週年，表達謝忱。
2. **表達承諾** 對小島及其社區所面臨的特殊挑戰，將積極推動研究、理解、及參與介入；這些挑戰包括經濟規模之缺乏、資源之侷限、環境敏感性、自然災害前緣等，以及在個別島嶼的生活與空間之特殊性下，發掘其發展機會與創新內涵。
3. **重申** 小島在全球化世界所面臨的問題可能危及島嶼生活品質。這些困境需要國際社群更多的體認，強化各層級的決策者的角色、需要決策者承諾加速推動「薩摩亞路徑」（2014 年 9 月初在薩摩亞 Samoa 舉行的第三次聯合國國際小島國會議結論）倡議之各種形式的行動方案。
4. **支持** 草根及在地島嶼組織，以及島嶼網絡間的合作與交流；並將島嶼社會特殊決策機制告知國家、區域與國際政策。
5. **奠基** 國際島嶼學會之精神與宣言，包括 2004 年「金門宣言」，督促採納並延伸體認在地島嶼文化、多樣性與韌性的各種合宜行動計畫，並重視全世界島嶼間日益增長的相互關聯與夥伴關係。
6. **推動** 以島嶼為核心的研究及行動，以告知、支持及服務全世界的島嶼，並推廣適合在地島嶼文化的策略，以因應全球氣候變遷及其他災害可能之衝擊。
7. **強調** 推動負責任的旅遊模式，能細緻感受在地需求、並支持島嶼環境文化與自然的獨特性。.
8. **體認** 島嶼曾被視為「具希望的地理實體」，島嶼能提供各種新啟動計畫之指引，提供藍海或綠色永續策略之各種範例及社區參與，並能據以轉化為更大尺度與脈絡的政策；這些新啟動計畫包括微型企業與在地企業的推廣，創造另類島嶼經濟、以及符合社會公平正義之島嶼社區。
9. **瞭解** 雖然小島經歷過政治與經濟邊緣化的歷史，今日的小島則正引領全球重視急迫的環境議題，這些議題對於島嶼居民及全球皆為中心、而非邊陲。
10. **鼓勵** 以島嶼為基礎的機構，包括本次會議主辦者（國立澎湖科技大學、澎湖縣政府）、台灣的機構與其他地區島嶼機構，彼此間的相互交流合作，建構在地能力，強化正規與非正式教育機會，經由國際島嶼研究學會（ISISA）及相關管道，促進參與跨領域島嶼研究及比較研究。
11. **感謝** 本屆會議與會代表誠摯感謝地方籌備團隊對第十三屆世界島嶼會議的支持與贊助，會議期間地方社區的積極投入、引導與參與，保證了更高層次的知識、友誼、專業與經驗的交流；感謝慷慨提供許多空間與機會進行對話、辯論、及對於全球島嶼所面對之挑戰的未來計畫之討論。我們也特別欣賞會議期間許多年輕人在各方面的參與及服務，為本屆會議留下深刻的記憶與珍貴的經驗。
12. **建議** 本宣言以大會主題為名，「小即是美：島嶼的連結與創新 澎湖宣言」並推薦採納宣言建言。

會議代表「國際島嶼研究學會」會長

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