## RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE RELINQUISHMENT OF A PLAN TO BUILD A NEW MILITARY BASE IN HENOKO, BASED UPON RESPECT FOR THE WILL OF THE PREFECTURAL CITIZENS

In the gubernatorial election held in Okinawa on November 16, the biggest issue was whether to admit or halt the construction of a new military base in Henoko. The successful candidate was Mr. Takeshi Onaga, the new Governor of Okinawa, who stated that he would "use all possible means to prevent the new base from being constructed." He won the election by a wide margin of approximately 100,000 votes over the previous governor who supported the Henoko relocation plan.

Afterwards, in the House of Representatives election held on December 14, candidates "against the construction of a new military base in Henoko" won in all of the four constituencies in Okinawa Prefecture.

Moreover, candidates who "opposed the construction of a new military base in Henoko" won both the mayoral election in Nago City in January, and the Nago City Council election in September. All of these results clearly show that the will of the overwhelming majority of the prefectural citizens is firm and solid.

Although Okinawa Prefecture accounts for only 0.6 percent of Japan's land area, the prefecture is forced to host 74 percent of the U.S. military's exclusive-use facilities in the country. The people of Okinawa, who have suffered incidents and accidents deriving from the presence of U.S. military bases, strongly oppose the initiatives of the Japanese government to relocate MCAS Futenma to within the prefecture, and request the relinquishment of the relocation plan.

Japan, as a democracy, should set a good example to the rest of the world. Should the government steamroll the will of the majority of the Okinawan people, however, even if Okinawa is just one of the prefectures in Japan, the basis of democracy will be put in question.

We, the people of Okinawa, have strongly requested, as a collective will embodied in the petition submitted to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on January 28, 2013, the withdrawal of the deployment of MV-22 Osprey Aircraft, closure and removal of MCAS Futenma, and renouncement of the Henoko relocation plan.

Therefore, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly, based upon the collective will of the prefectural citizens, demand the following:

- 1. Total respect for the people's will demonstrated in the gubernatorial election and other occasions, and relinquishment of the construction of a new military base in Henoko.
- 2. Closure and removal of MCAS Futenma based on the results of the gubernatorial election and other occasions.

The above is resolved as stated on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2014.

**Okinawa Prefectural Assembly**