



SOLOMON ISLANDS

Statement on the CSD15 Policy Session on the Thematic Cluster of Climate Change for the implementation cycle 2006- 2007

By

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United Nations**

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(Please check against delivery)

Mr. Chairman,

Solomon Islands associate itself with the statement made by the distinguished delegate of Maldives on behalf of the AOSIS and Pakistan on behalf of the G77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

On the issue of climate change, the impact of climate change to our fragile environment, have seen the intensification of natural disasters, only less than four weeks ago earthquakes and tsunami hit a portion of my country, that has caused land slides, shifted fishing grounds, disrupted agriculture, damaged coastal infrastructure and marine habitat, uplifted corals, sunk islands, created environmental refugees and contaminated water sources. Climate Change is a security, economic and social issue and underlines the sustainable development and the existence of the world's vulnerable members of the UN, the SIDS.

In addressing climate change, an appropriate response is to double our efforts to have the matter discussed as a thematic issue within the General Assembly. My delegation would like to call for a General Assembly Special Session on this and ECOSOC to examine who is doing what and how to coordinate the international system to address the challenges of climate change. No commitment must be made without resources. Matters relating to OCHA in responding to disaster must be improved in which immediate basic needs of food, water, medicine and shelter must be dispatched when disaster strikes. Solomon Islands hopes its experience could underline the importance of having a quick response from the International community and the UN system and an early warning system be put in place.

Mr. Chairman,

The UN wider system needs to structurally respond to the impact of climate change. The UN system needs to streamline its common commitments in implementing agreed Climate change international frameworks such as the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol. These Agreements have not been matched by resources, for SIDS there is the Mauritius Strategy; it remains a strategy unless it is translated into action. The challenge of adaptability is something we live and will continue to do so.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation calls on the CSD15 to come up with a doable document that provides for real commitments matched by resources to implement climate change mitigation and adaptation challenges facing the most vulnerable countries such as SIDS and LDCs.

My delegation would like to close by thanking your government for its assistance to Solomon Islands recent tsunami including France, United States, Turkey, Taiwan, Singapore, EU, OCHA, UNDP, WMO, UNICEF, and all UN Agencies including my own

neighbours Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Pacific states through our regional framework.

Thank you Mr. Chairman,