

**CSD15 IPM – Day 1
PM session: SIDS**

**Intervention by AUSTRALIA
Mr Kevin Keeffe, Head of Delegation**

Madam Chair

When you opened this afternoon's session, you called on us to suggest policy approaches for addressing challenges associated with the CSD 15 cluster of themes - policy approaches that could be replicated or scaled up. We were very impressed with the presentation today by Paul Fairbairn (SOPAC). In his presentation, he put forward a number of approaches we believe could be applied on a wider scale

We should promote regional policy approaches that recognize the unique characteristics of individual islands. In this respect, we draw your attention to the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006-2015 as a practical blueprint that identifies adaptation as a key regional priority.

Madam Chair

Paul Fairbairn called for integrating renewable energy technologies and developing energy strategies based on the need for an appropriate and affordable energy mix. This will be a key element of a hands-on Pacific workshop with a focus on adaptation to be held in Australia in mid-2007, in cooperation with UNFCCC.

Previous speakers, particularly PNG and Tuvalu have focused on the need to ensure access to development funds, including through the GEF. With NZ, Australia is funding a position within SPREP to better access funding for strategies to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

We are also supporting the building of capacity of Pacific National Meteorological Services to better interpret weather and climate information and issue predictions to assist decision-making by key stakeholders, as well as community-generated adaptation projects in Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

All of these are examples of effective working partnerships which complement and supplement national programs and actions - partnerships that deliver real change and real policy action.

Madam Chair, we commend them for your consideration.

Thank you.