



# **SOLOMON ISLANDS**

## **Statement for the CSD15 IPM**

**By H.E. Ambassador Collin Beck  
Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to the  
United Nations**

**26 February 2006, New York**

**(please check against delivery)**

Mr President,

Solomon Islands wish to begin by associating this statement with the statement issued by Cape Verde on behalf of AOSIS and welcome this policy discussion on sustainable issues. On the thematic areas, Solomon Islands identify access to energy as a challenge where 80% of its population have no access to any form of energy. It is the country's intention to have 70% of its population hooked up to renewable energy, through, hydro and bio fuel means, this is due to the scatterness of the islands and large rural population.

Madam Co-chair,

Noting that the Pacific region has been identified by the UN report as off track in terms of meeting its MDGs, as stated in my other colleagues, the Pacific region continue to be heavily dependant on imported fossil energy . In the case of Solomon Islands, import of fossil fuel account for more than a third of the government's annual budget. In this connection we are looking for partnerships in bulk purchasing of fossil fuel with producing countries hoping this arrangement will free up funds to allow the country to address other MDGs.

Madam Co-chair,

As a Small Island State, Solomon Islands looks to renewable energy as a mitigating measure in also addressing climate change issues and to trigger clean industrialization process. In this regards we hope, that there would be a UN wide coordinated approach of providing technical support in assisting member states realizing this goal.

Madam Co-chair,

Financing for developing continue to be a challenge in translating the country's energy strategies and activities. We continue to look for innovative ways of coming up with funds, Solomon Islands wish to share a concept it explored last year, this is the establishment of a renewable energy revolving funds set up within the country's Central Bank, details of the mechanism is being worked out and hope once established all partners could support and contribute towards such a worthwhile concept. We support the establishment of a similar concept at international level.

Solomon Islands close by assuring you of our ongoing support as we continue the deliberation on an issue that is central to development of our people.