

ALLIANCE OF SMALL ISLAND STATES (AOSIS) INTERVENTION
On Means of Implementation/Global Partnership for Sustainable Development for the 11th
Session of Open Working Group on Sustainable Development
9 May 2014

Thank you, Co-Chairs for giving me the floor.

I am honored to deliver this statement on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States. We align ourselves with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of Bolivia on behalf of the G77 & China.

Co-Chairs,

Let me underscore that Focus 15, means of implementation/global partnership are indispensable for translating sustainable development commitments into tangible sustainable development outcomes. For SIDS, means of implementation is a fundamental prerequisite to reaching our goals, particularly given that we remain a special case for sustainable development in view of our unique and particular vulnerabilities, such as small size, remoteness, narrow resource and export base, and exposure to global environmental challenges and external economic shocks. The impacts of climate change and more frequent and intense natural disasters have made our effort all the more challenging. In this regard, we highlight the lack of reporting on progress for SIDS on MDG 8 – despite a SIDS specific target.

Indeed, the five-year review of the Mauritius Strategy concluded that SIDS have made less progress than most other groupings, or even regressed, in economic terms, especially in terms of poverty eradication and debt sustainability. Rio+20 provides for continued and enhanced efforts to assist SIDS in implementing the BPOA and MSI and in keeping with the multiple ongoing and emerging challenges we face in achieving sustainable development.

The efficient flow of adequate and predictable means of implementation underpin meaningful, durable, and genuine global partnerships -- the linchpin to our sustainable development.

Co-Chairs,

Under the sub-title **Trade**, we recommend the following:

- **Target b** to be modified as follows: **Provide greater duty-free and quota-free access to special case countries including SIDS in keeping with World Trade Organization decisions.**
- **Target c** to be amended as follows: **Improve market access for tourism, fisheries, agricultural, and industrial exports of developing countries, especially countries with unique and particular vulnerabilities such as SIDS, and double the share of these countries' exports in global exports by 2020.**

We would also add the following target under Trade:

- Improve export promotion and import substitution, through appropriate policies, when there is comparative advantage based on production costs, for developing countries, particularly those special case countries with unique and particular vulnerabilities such as SIDS.
- Strengthen implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries who have ratified the Convention and urge countries who have not ratified it to ratify and implement it.

For Technology transfer, technological capabilities,

We would make the following changes:

Target b: promote transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies to developing countries, **particularly those countries with special circumstances and particular vulnerabilities such as SIDS**

Target c: fully operationalize the Technology Bank and STI Capacity Building Mechanism **for countries with special circumstances and particular vulnerabilities such as SIDS**

Target d: **develop and strengthen human and institutional capacity in developing countries, to countries with special circumstances and particular vulnerabilities such as SIDS** undertake research, development and adaptation of technologies, including clean and environmentally sound technologies.

Target e: support fully the research and development of vaccines and medicines for common diseases of developing countries, **notably those countries with special circumstances and particular vulnerabilities such as SIDS.**

We would furthermore add the following targets:

- Assist developing countries, particularly **countries with special circumstances and particular vulnerabilities such as SIDS** in the creation and implementation of online market access information, social and economic statistics, science and innovation information, and energy repository and database, which promotes international cooperation for research, skills, knowledge-sharing, technological development.
- By 2030, achieve universal access to telecommunication and ICT for all, particularly countries in unique and particular vulnerabilities such as LDCs and SIDS.

For Financing and Debt Sustainability:

We generally support the targets and seek to highlight the importance of efficiency, in terms of time and costs, in the flow of capital. And would suggest the following:

Target a: full implementation by developed countries of outstanding ODA commitments **by 2018.**

Target b: mobilize additional financial resources from multiple sources **by improving the rate of domestic savings and investments and foreign capital inflow.**

Target c: encourage long-term private foreign investment and inclusive finance **for developing countries, particularly those in unique and particular vulnerabilities such as SIDS.**

Target d: ensure adequate **and predictable** financial resources for investments in sustainable development.

Target f: we would add after developing countries, **particularly those in unique and particular vulnerabilities such as SIDS,** in international financial institutions.

Target g: is too long and would be more effective using our formulation under target b. In fact, when developing indicators, these are better placed under target b.

For Capacity building:

Again, we are generally in support of the targets and would make the following changes:

Target a: expand the number of scholarship for students from **countries in special case** to enroll in higher education programs in both developed and developing countries, with a focus on science, engineering, **medicine, health, business, economics, finance, and sustainable development.**

Target b: substantially strengthen capacities for sustainable development data collection and **statistical** analysis with a focus on generating disaggregated, timely, **credible**, and high-quality data.

Target c: progressively introduce expanded measures of progress beyond GDP into national accounting with supportive statistical capacity building in developing countries, particularly those in special case with unique and particular vulnerabilities.

Target d: develop and implement human and institution capacity building programs in developing countries, **especially those in unique and particular vulnerabilities such as SIDS**, in support of national plans implementing sustainable development goals, including in agriculture, **fisheries, tourism**, water, energy, health, as well as in disaster prevention and reduction capacity and sustainable natural resource management.

For **Strengthened global partnership for sustainable development**

We generally support targets **a** and **b**.

Thank you.