



PACIFIC SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES
United Nations Member States

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Statement of H.E. Mr. Odo Tevi

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Vanuatu to the United Nations
On behalf of the Pacific Small Island Developing States
For the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development:
Session 9: The SAMOA Pathway: translating vision to action

New York, Wednesday, 01st July 2015

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1. I have the honor to speak on behalf of the 12 Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS) with presence at the United Nations. We align ourselves with the statement delivered by Maldives as Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), and for those of us that are members of the Group of 77 and China, with the statement delivered by South Africa as Chair of that Group. We thank H.E. Mr. Ronald Jean Jumeau for his excellent work in moderating a terrific panel, and thank the panelists as well. We are also appreciative for the presentations of our lead discussants.
2. PSIDS strongly welcomes the convening of this SIDS-specific HLPF event and we stress the importance of this avenue to SIDS as the mechanism to monitor the full and effective implementation of commitments under the Barbados Programme of Action, the Mauritius Strategy, and the SAMOA Pathway, as well as to follow-up and review progress in achieving the sustainable development goals, and any other efforts of SIDS to achieve sustainable development.
 - a. We reaffirm paragraph 123 of the SAMOA Pathway, which calls for the HLPF to devote “adequate time” to the sustainable development challenges of SIDS.
 - b. We recall that the Commission on Sustainable Development was “the sole forum to review the implementation of the outcomes of global conferences on SIDS” and note its shortcoming in delivering to SIDS the desired sustainable development outcomes.
 - c. And we anticipate the review of the Joint Inspection Unit that recommends that the General Assembly review the institutional set-up aimed at monitoring and reporting on effective implementation of the SAMOA Pathway’s effective implementation, with a view to preventing overlap and fostering synergies across the UN system.
3. In reviewing commitments to SIDS, we stress the importance of our time here as not merely an opportunity to monitor implementation, but as a dedicated space for proper assessment of progress, achievements, and challenges in seeking concrete and solution-oriented guidance to further implementation. This forum will be key for translating our vision and partnerships into action.

4. In this respect, the Partnerships Framework for SIDS called for in the SAMOA Pathway **is key**, and we are attuned to the need to create synergies with the HLPF in its formation. The HLPF is an appropriate forum for following up on existing partnerships, and will be an important moment in the creation of new ones.
5. Adequate time must be devoted to the follow-up of all international agreements of relevance to SIDS, including the post-2015 agenda and the SAMOA Pathway, with attention to promoting coherence and synergies, limiting duplication and reporting burdens on national administrations, and supporting their continued implementation.
6. We further stress that the SIDS “special case” extends to limitations in data and statistics collation and analysis and capacity, with small, vulnerable and dispersed populations and small national statistical bureaus common. Global efforts to enhance capacity building support for data and statistics should take into account these challenges, and provide targeted support to SIDS.

I thank you.