



**Statement by
the Republic of Maldives
on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)
at the Session on Review and Followup of the Post2015 Development Agenda**

22 May 2015

Co-Facilitators,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS). We align ourselves with the statement delivered by the distinguished delegate of South Africa on behalf of G77 and China.
2. At the outset, allow me to commend you Excellencies for your continued exceptional leadership in steering this process. We remain satisfied with the richness of our discussions and also take away much, in terms of food for thought.
3. We join the G77 in welcoming the Co-Facilitators "Food for Thought Paper on a Possible Technology Facilitation Mechanism". The importance of technology for sustainable development, especially in developing countries has been clearly established. The Rio+20 Outcome Document "The Future We Want", and more recently the OWG Report on Sustainable development Goals outlined this fact. For SIDS, investment in modern clean technology is necessary in ensuring connectivity, providing affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy, and managing and sustainably using oceans, among others. And we therefore see the facilitation of technology transfer, and the necessary know-how, as a key deliverable towards sustainable development, and would like to see this reflected in the outcome document.
4. This week, we have heard a variety of views about the modalities, the organisation and process of the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. We thank you Co-Facilitators for your non-paper on preliminary impressions from that debate.
5. Having listened closely to the discussion, we believe that on review and followup, we should start the discussion by determining how much detail we wish to include in the outcome document of the summit, and how much we will leave for other forums to determine in the following months, the second to last point of your non-paper.
6. We are of the view that the outcome document should address the *why* and the *what*:
 - a. *Why* review and followup is necessary,
 - b. *What* that review and followup entails,
 - c. *What* levels would the review and followup be conducted at, and *why*,
 - d. *What* mechanisms would be used and *why*, and so on.
 - e. *What* principles we would adhere to: and for us, this would include
 - i. A focus on the primacy of national ownership recognising that one-size does

not fit-all.

- ii. A commitment to transparency, inclusivity, robustness and effectiveness.
 - iii. A holistic approach to development, making every effort to make development sustainable through the full integration of the economic, social and environment dimensions.
 - iv. A reliance on evidence-based policy, through the collection of reliable and timely data.
 - v. A conscious effort to reduce reporting burden on States and in that regard reduce multiple reporting, enabling data collected at national level to be used across various platforms.
 - vi. A commitment to review the activities of UN system and stakeholders on their efforts to contribute to the realisation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.
7. The *how* could be left for further clarification and discussions, and out of the outcome document.
8. We concur that the HLPF is the agreed venue for the regular review and followup of the sustainable development goals and their means of implementation at the global level as per resolutions 67/290 and 69/214,. It is also the home of following up on other international agreements and sustainable development commitments such as the SAMOA Pathway for SIDS. And we once again, reiterate the need to ensure coherence across these review processes, although they are different in scope.
9. We appreciated the briefing we received from the UN Statistical Commission on the work of the Inter Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Indicators. We concur with them on the need to ensure that there is support for capacity building in data collection, and developing national statistics, which is a key challenge and concern for SIDS. We look forward to hearing back from the IAEG on their progress in June.

Co-Facilitators,

10. The next time we meet we will have an outcome document in front of us. The outcome document reflects the collective hopes and dreams of all our people.
11. As we have expressed in previous sessions, resources of small missions such as those of SIDS are stretched thin, and will be further stretched come June. Therefore, we would kindly request that parallel sessions be avoided as we start the negotiations.
12. Please, rest ensured of the continued support and constructive participation of AOSIS members. And as we embark on this most important exercise, it must be our collective will, to realise our collective dream to eradicate poverty, to transform people's lives, to provide change for the better, and improve the lives of the marginalized, truly leaving no one behind. And we trust in your leadership to help us realize it.