



Intervention by the Republic of Maldives on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States
High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the Auspices of ECOSOC
ECOSOC Annual Ministerial Review

2 July 2015

“Sustainable Consumption and Production”

Mr. President,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS).
2. We strongly support Sustainable Development Goal 12, ensuring the integration of sustainable consumption and production patterns and the implementation of the 10 Year Framework.
3. At the international level, SIDS participated in the May meeting of the 10 Year Framework and we appreciated having the opportunity to contribute and further explain our dedication to this issue. As such, we welcome the perspective of Mr Ulf Jaeckel, Chair of the 10YFP Board, on today’s panel. We believe that there is great potential to harness the 10 YFP as a key delivery modality for the Post-2015 Development Agenda and are encouraged that the 10 YFP is now operational with a clear governance structure and we look forward to watching it advance. Nationally, several SIDS are working to integrate SCP into our domestic policy space.
4. The importance of promoting SCP is also highlighted in the SAMOA Pathway as an important step in achieving sustainable development, not only for SIDS, but for the entire international community.
5. While we welcome the commitment to SCP, it is critical to recognize the many challenges faced by developing countries, particularly those in special situations such as SIDS, in their efforts to adopt sustainable methods of consumption and production. Some of these challenges include limited resources, as well as limited scientific and technical capacities and the adverse effects of climate change.
6. For example, the vast majority SIDS rely heavily on fossil fuels for energy provision,

greater than 90 percent, and despite ambitious programming and sincere commitments, it is incredibly difficult for countries to transition to more sustainable energy sources without building substantial partnerships geared towards energy utilization and deployment of renewable energy technologies. Therefore, we identify partnerships as an essential method for countries to work towards achieving SCP, and the SIDS Action Platform was created to help spur greater partnership development. We see this platform as an arena to facilitate new, fruitful relationships with other governments, international organizations and other actors, moving SIDS towards a more sustainable future by increasing access to resources, sharing best practices, and providing opportunities for dialogue with private sector and MGoS.

7. One such partnership is the "SCP for SIDS Initiative", a program between UNEP, 10YFP, South Pacific Tourism Organisation, and many SIDS. It also serves as a contribution to the SAMOA Pathway. The multi-sector program is designed to help countries prepare and implement national plans and sub-regional coordination, seek financial assistance, and build capacity. Another contribution to the SCP is the establishment of the SIDS-SIDS partnership for sustainable energy and climate resilience building –SIDS DOCK.
8. From our experience, we offer the following suggestions to strengthen SCP efforts, beginning with an active encouragement to increase partnership systems. We urge scaling up financing for the 10YFP Trust Fund. There also needs to be widespread education and awareness at the regional and national levels explaining SCP and available options for implementation. Lastly, we recommend looking to the lessons of the Marrakesh Process to better inform SCP decisions.
9. In terms of the HLPF's role, we see the forum as a place for countries and partners alike to share lessons learned, identify existing gaps, and discuss and commit to solutions. Its mandate to support science-policy dialogues will hopefully assist in knowledge sharing and informing the political process with useful, technical information. Support innovative technology research that reduce the need for waste disposal.
10. We have a positive outlook on achieving progress in SCP given the commitment of member states to moving forward with the SDGs and the cross cutting nature of SCP. The SIDS are eager to continue their leadership on this subject and to engage with new partners through mechanisms such as SIDS DOCK.

Thank you.