



Republic of the Marshall Islands

GOVERNMENT

Statement by the Republic of the Marshall Islands
Given by: Ms. Yumi Crisostomo

3 minutes

Republic of the Marshall Islands response to Chairman's text re CC
Monday 5/1/07 5pm UNCSD15

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation wishes to align itself with the statements given on behalf of AOSIS, particularly on energy and climate change. Given the few minutes available, I will only highlight certain important points.

The cost of climate change to the survival of our nation's existence continues to remind my Country that our efforts on sustainable development will mean nothing if climate change is not mitigated but continues in its current trend in the increase of greenhouse gas emissions. With our large EEZ of over 2.1 million square kilometers of ocean water, I am sure that other countries will also be affected if sea level rise takes its course from the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Thus, we recommend the following policy recommendations:

- ✓ Encourage Policies and measures of Annex I Countries for reduction of ghg emissions
- ✓ All Parties to address climate change, particularly ghg emissions in development plans
- ✓ Capacity building support for removal of barriers and implementation of actual RE and biofuel projects
- ✓ Sustainable financing for RE mixes
- ✓ Participation of communities, Governments, private sector and NGOs
- ✓ Support for capacity building in adaptation strategies and implementations thereof
- ✓ Support for full operations of the adaptation fund

Like many SIDS, we still need to learn about adapting to climate change and implement adaptation projects addressing these issues, including: conservation of our significant marine resources, coral reefs, protecting our shorelines through enhancement of our natural species resources, and food security through native species. To demonstrate our

commitments, we have joined partnerships, including with the newest initiative, the 'Micronesia Challenge' which commits 5 jurisdictions namely the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam and the Northern Marianas. The objectives compliment the UNCBD and aim to effectively conserve 30% of marine resources and 20% of terrestrial resources by 2020 and we look forward to working with existing as well as future international partners.

Thus, much work and activities exist but we still face a number of constraints, inter alia including high dependency on fossil fuel, lack of technical expertise, limited or no access to sustainable financing, and transportation. Therefore, for the Chair's document, we would like to see CSD outcomes include concrete recommendations in the aforementioned areas.