



## ALLIANCE OF SMALL ISLAND STATES

22 APRIL 2025

CONFERENCE ROOM 3

### ***INTERVENTION ON MODALITIES FOR THE SELECTION OF THE SECRETARIAT***

On the modalities for the selection of the host of the secretariat, transparency is a cornerstone of the entire BBNJ Agreement and must continue to inform how we make recommendations regarding secretariat host selection.

For the way forward, AOSIS proposes two practical steps, without prejudice to when they will be implemented and by whom:

First, establishing a formal, time-bound period for countries to express their interest and develop their proposal for hosting the secretariat.

Second, ensuring all potential host candidates are publicly disclosed to all parties in a comprehensive manner.

AOSIS remains open and flexible to consider approaches to facilitate a clear and transparent process

This is a critical institutional decision that will shape the Agreement's effectiveness for years to come, and therefore merits thorough and full consideration. AOSIS hopes that a consensus can be found in selecting the host.