

Draft PSIDS PREPCOM2 Conclusion Statement to be delivered by the PSIDS Chair Friday 29 August 2025

Distinguished Co-Chairs,

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the Pacific Small Island Developing States.

As we come to the end of the second session of the Preparatory Commission, I wish to express our profound gratitude to you, Co-Chairs, for your steadfast commitment in ensuring that our discussions remain within the ambit of the PrepCom mandate. Under your guidance, we have made tangible progress in clarifying institutional arrangements, advancing discussions on financial issues, and progressing our exchanges on the clearing house mechanism. In this regard, we would like to thank Ms. Lowri Griffiths and Ms. Juliette Babb Riley for their tireless efforts.

We want to thank the Secretariat, and in particular DOALOS, for their support throughout this process and the preparations made before its commencement. We also wish to recognise with appreciation the cooperation, discipline and flexibility demonstrated by all delegations, which has enabled us to make substantial progress during this PrepCom.

From the beginning, PSIDS have engaged in this process with commitment and clarity of purpose, knowing what is at stake for our ocean and our peoples. We have been consistent and ambitious in communicating our priorities. We will continue to reiterate that the special circumstances of SIDS must guide the work of this Agreement. Inclusivity, dedicated SIDS representation, full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities in implementing the entire Agreement, and adequate, accessible, new and additional and predictable financial resources are the common priorities we carry forward into implementation.

We also see the value in focusing on what should be advanced before the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties. We encourage the Co-Chairs to build on the progress achieved here and to guide us to a successful PrepCom3. Having said that, we underscore the importance of reaching consensus, on keeping processes efficient and straightforward, so that the time leading up to COP1 is used as effectively as possible. We also ask for the early release of revised papers by DOALOS to facilitate our ability to effectively engage during the intersessional period.

The PSIDS look forward to working constructively with all delegations in the intersessional period to advance preparations for PrepCom3, while emphasizing that our task is to build on the Agreement and progress the work before us. To do this, we will work together with delegations to continue to provide the necessary flexibility on issues of importance.

As custodians of the largest oceanscape on Earth, the Pacific also, makes up one of the largest blocs of countries who have signed and ratified the Agreement. We are committed to seeing this treaty and its work succeed and so we call on more States to come forward and ratify the BBNJ Agreement. Let us work together to ensure that the BBNJ Agreement becomes historic in its entry into force and more critically transformative in its implementation.

Co-chairs, PSIDS reaffirms its confidence in your capable leadership to guide us safely to COP1, and we pledge our full support and cooperation for the remainder of this process.

Mr. Co-Chair, following your tradition and the extended courtesy in recognising the different word of thanks in different languages beyond the UN Official languages, please allow me to end my intervention by pronouncing the different words of gratitude from the PSIDS family.

Meitaki ma'ata from the Cook Islands, Kalahngan from the Federated States of Micronesia, Vinaka vakalevu from Fiji, Ko rabwa from Kiribati, Tubwa kor from Nauru, Mesulang from Palau, Tenk yu tru from Papua New Guinea, Fa'afetai tele lava from Samoa, Tangio tumas from the Solomon Islands, Malo Aupito from Tonga, Kommol tata from Marshall Islands, Fakafetai lasi from Tuvalu, and Tengkyu tumas from Vanuatu.

I thank you, Co-Chairs!