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**Agenda Item 180**

**Observer Status for Small Island Developing States DOCK (SIDS DOCK) in the General Assembly**

**14th Plenary Meeting, Friday 6th November 2020 at 3:00 PM, Conference room 1+2+3**

1. Thank you Mr. Chair.
2. I have the honor, on behalf of all co-sponsors and my own country, to introduce draft resolution entitled , “Observer Status for Small Island Developing States DOCK in the General Assembly” contained in L-document A/C.6/75/L.5.
3. In addition to the co-sponsors listed in the L- document, the following countries have also co-sponsored the draft resolution: Portugal, Singapore, Italy and Ireland
4. Small Island Developing States DOCK widely known by its abbreviation “SIDS DOCK” serves as a “docking station” for the energy sector of small island developing states to connect with the global markets for finance, sustainable energy as well as emerging carbon markets.
5. The statute establishing SIDS DOCK was deposited with the Secretary General of the United Nations on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016, with registration number 5-3-4-7-1 and subsequently in 2017, its headquarters was designated as the city of Belmopan in Belize.
6. Today, 17 States are parties to the Statute, of which 16 are States Members of the United Nations. These States are representative of the cross regional membership of the Alliance of Small Island States with 10 states of the Caribbean, 3 states of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, 3 states of the Pacific, and 1 non-member state.
7. Mr. Chair, the Statute and the rules and procedures of SIDS DOCK are built upon the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as set out in the UN Charter. SIDS DOCK shares with the United Nations the centrality of multilateralism, collaboration and cooperation to effectively respond to transboundary challenges with comprehensive solutions
8. It is the only international platform led by small island developing States that addresses energy security in the context of climate change and resilience-building for small island developing States.
9. As a centre of excellence and advocacy, SIDS DOCK acts as a facilitator of shared experience and mutual learning amongst SIDS and as a catalyst for the uptake of renewable energy

technology. It also provides capacity-building opportunities to its State Parties on all matters relating to renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation.

10. In this way, SIDS DOCK addresses the vulnerabilities and aspirations of SIDS in line with the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and other international legal frameworks.
11. Of note is SIDS DOCK work to support its State Parties' efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goals 5 (Women), 7 (Energy), 13 (Climate Change) and Goal 14 (Oceans).
12. It has developed specialized flagship initiatives that target several of these goals. Through the Blue Guardians Programme, SIDS DOCK will support small island developing States in protecting and preserving the oceans, seas and marine resources, while combining those efforts with efforts to harness oceans as the largest renewable energy resource of SIDS.
13. Additionally, through the SIDS DOCK Island Women Open Network, the organization aims to support SIDS realize targets for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.
14. Mr. Chair, in sum, SIDS DOCK aims to be innovative by applying a small island developing States lens to energy transformation. Mr. Chair, For the foregoing reasons, I request the positive consideration of the Committee to grant Observer Status to the SIDS Dock by adopting draft resolution L-document A/C.6/75/L.5 and commending it to the General Assembly.
15. Thank you.