



PACIFIC SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES United Nations Member States

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**Statement of H.E. Mr. Mahe 'U. S. Tupouniua
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Tonga to the United Nations
Chair of the Pacific Small Island Developing States
For the Preparatory Process for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development:
Second Drafting Session General Views**

New York, Monday, 13th April 2015

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Co-Facilitators,

1. I have the honor to speak on behalf of the 12 Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS) with presence at the United Nations. We align ourselves with the statement delivered by Maldives as Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), and for those of us that are members of the Group of 77 and China, with the statement delivered by South Africa as Chair of that Group.
2. At the outset, we would firstly commend the Co-Facilitators for your leadership and guidance in this important intergovernmental process and secondly, to thank you for the timely introduction of the zero-draft, which offers us a starting point for further discussions of the Outcome Document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. We therefore welcome this opportunity to provide our Group's preliminary general comments on the Zero draft.

Co-Facilitators,

3. On the process going forward to Addis Ababa, in our view we are tracking in the right direction. However, mindful of the time constraints we face in this process, it is highly important that we must set a clear schedule for the timing and duration of intersessional meetings to contribute to the advancement of the outcome document. This must also take into consideration the representational capacity challenges that small delegations such as PSIDS continue to face in the context of other ongoing processes. We would therefore urge that the additional draft modalities resolution for the Third International Conference on FfD that is being considered, adequately account for this. For PSIDS, we would further suggest that the intersessional meetings ought to be concluded before the Addis Ababa Conference.
4. PSIDS echo the statement of the G77 and China in considering the Monterrey Consensus and Doha Declaration as an appropriate basis for the Addis Ababa outcome document. Continuity with the structure and holistic approach of these two outcomes is critical. We are however, supportive of the inclusion of the sections on Technology, Innovation and Capacity Building and Data, Monitoring and Follow-up, which are of critical importance to us, as in our view, these are fundamental building blocks that will also facilitate the successful implementation of our sustainable development agenda.

5. As pertaining to the inter-linkages and synergies of the FfD process with the Means of Implementation in the context of the post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda, the PSIDS consider these processes to be on two distinct tracks. The report of the Open Working Group on SDGs serves as the main basis for the post-2015 intergovernmental negotiations, including the Means of Implementation Chapter. We note that the Zero Draft of the FfD does contain some elements that are in the proposed SDG 17 on the Means of Implementation of the Report of the OWG on SDGs but not by any means all of them, as far as the MoIs under the different SDGs, there are no corresponding paragraphs in the FfD Addis Ababa Zero Draft text. In this process, it is therefore pertinent that we must focus on ensuring the complementarity and coherence of this outcome with that of the post-2015 development agenda process.

Co-Facilitators,

6. PSIDS would further like to advance the following substantive remarks, to be elaborated on in following sessions.
- a. PSIDS do welcome attention to the special needs of SIDS within the outcome document, including in the context of international tax cooperation, need for ODA, provision of finance from Multilateral Development Banks, capacity in the field of health, vulnerability to debt crises, efforts to upgrade sustainable energy technology, and financial support for data and statistics. However, there are several areas in the draft provided where we can improve in order to highlight the special challenges faced by SIDS so that the Addis Ababa outcome can provide a framework relevant also to SIDS and vulnerable economies, like members of our group.
 - b. The constraints on PSIDS, including limited resources, a narrow economic base, isolation from markets, diseconomies of scale, capacity limitations, and susceptibility to climate change, are particularly germane to our capacities to mobilize domestic resources, and these challenges that make SIDS a special case, are worthy of special attention in this context.
 - c. We strongly affirm the importance of meeting in full existing commitments under international conventions, in particular climate finance. We acknowledge the importance of aligning all financing flows, including ODA, and further underline that climate finance in this context is additional, given the challenges we face and that these will continue to increase from climate change. In other words, climate change related financing under the UNFCCC process **must not be double counted** as part and parcel of development financing.
 - d. Finally, access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy is a critical priority for PSIDS, and we therefore call to strengthen efforts to provide financing for sustainable energy.

Co-Facilitators

7. In closing, PSIDS will speak directly to different Chapters to fill in general positions and additional points as set out above. We look forward to engaging constructively on the text over the coming week.

I thank you Co-Facilitators.