

Leading the way: Raising Ambition for 1.5°C-compatible Climate Action

Joint AOSIS-LDC Group event at Climate Week NYC
8:00 - 9:30, 25 September 2020 | Microsoft Teams Platform

At a time when the impacts of COVID-19 are creating much uncertainty on climate action, the pandemic also provides tremendous opportunities to build back better with climate-friendly policies and actions that deliver better outcomes both for economies and the environment. Communicating enhanced nationally determined contributions (NDCs) in 2020 will be a critical cornerstone of recovery efforts from COVID-19 that need to put us on track to a 1.5° C world. A failure to move collectively onto an emissions reduction pathway consistent with the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C warming limit will affect all countries but will have the greatest impact on the poorest and most vulnerable people in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Despite LDCs and SIDS being among the most vulnerable countries, hardest hit by the compounding crises of COVID-19 and climate impacts, many of our member countries are taking determined actions and many are aiming to communicate updated NDCs this year. It will be important that other countries and in particular major emitters do the same this year, with their highest possible ambition and fair share of the global effort, and in line with 1.5°C pathways. With 2020 being a critical year for accelerated climate action, this side event will focus on ambition. It will bring together LDCs and SIDS to discuss the implications of inaction, the opportunities of bold green recoveries, and how to build the momentum for collective action to end the climate crisis.

Event Agenda

Time (EDT)	Event segments
8:00-8:05 AM	Welcome Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Sonam P Wangdi, Chair of the LDC Group at climate change negotiations, Bhutan (5 Mins.)
8:05-8:10 AM	Keynote Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (5 Mins.)
8:10-9:25 AM	Moderated Panel Discussion: Ambition for climate action; priorities and experiences Moderator: Mr. Selwin Charles Hart, <i>Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Climate Action and Assistant Secretary-General for the Climate Action Team</i> Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LDC representative, <i>Rwanda (Confirmed)</i> AOSIS representative, <i>Jamaica (TBC)</i> H.E. Mr. Silvio Gonzato, <i>Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative, EU Delegation (confirmed)</i> Mr. Archie Young, <i>Chief Climate Change Negotiator and Incoming COP 26 Presidency, UK (confirmed)</i> Open discussion on expectations in raising ambition & promoting climate action
9:25-9:30 AM	Closing remarks

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Lois M. Young, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Belize to the United Nations, and Chair of AOSIS |
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Information about the hosts:

The Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group has a membership of 47 low-income countries across Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. These countries are confronted with severe structural impediments to sustainable development, have low levels of human assets and are highly vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks. The Group is led by Malawi at the Global Coordination Bureau and by Bhutan at the climate change negotiations.

The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) is a coalition of 44 small island and low-lying coastal developing states, including five observers. As a voice for the vulnerable, its mandate goes beyond amplifying marginalized voices, as it also advocates for these countries' interests. The Group is currently led by Belize.