



## **Terms of Reference**

### **Small Island Developing States (SIDS) National Focal Points**

#### **Scope and Objective**

The National Focal Points is a network that facilitates the strengthening of coherence and coordination at the national, regional and global levels on SIDS-related issues and fosters peer-learning and exchange of best practices on the implementation and follow up of the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other global frameworks.

The overarching objective of NFPs is to strengthen coherence and coordination at the national, regional and global levels on SIDS-related issues and follow up of the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

#### **Main Functions of NFPs**

1. Play an active role within and/or work actively with the national institutional setup responsible of mainstreaming the SAMOA Pathway and SDGs into national priorities, policies, and development plans as well as their implementation and follow up.
2. Contribute to coherent national, regional and global monitoring, including developing reporting frameworks, for the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development goals (SDGs) and other global frameworks.
3. Support the follow up and monitoring of existing partnerships and encourage the launch of new partnerships for SIDS to be registered with the SIDS partnership platform and feed into the annual global multi-stakeholder partnership dialogue and the work of the SIDS Partnership Framework.

4. Keep abreast of programmes, projects and activities carried out by development partners, including the UN system, on the ground and identify potential areas for increased donor collaboration and coordination in supporting the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development goals (SDGs) and other global frameworks.
5. Participate in a forum for SIDS NFPs and meet on a regular/predictable basis to:
  - i) to exchange information, share experiences and best practices on mainstreaming global and regional frameworks into national development processes as well their implementation and follow up, ii) network, and iii) better understand existing means of implementation, including viable financing and business models for implementing the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SDGs.
6. Support efforts to raise awareness about the SAMOA Pathway at national level, in particular by ensuring that this programme of action is known and understood by SIDS member states, relevant sectoral units of government, the national planning entities, academia and other relevant stakeholders for continued buy-in and ownership of the framework. These efforts include the dissemination of knowledge materials produced by the office and other relevant stakeholders.
7. Strengthen country level coordination on the preparation of an inclusive Secretary- General report on SIDS and other relevant documents in line with member states' Requirements.
8. Contribute to the design and operationalization of a relevant active online platform and other ICT tools for exchange of information and ideas with regard to the implementation of the SAMOA pathway and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SDGs.
9. Provide and coordinate country specific analysis and information to feed in the knowledge products produced by OHRLLS and other relevant development partners.
10. Play an active role in catalyzing south-south cooperation, supporting the preparation of voluntary national reports to support the preparation of the HLPF, including to ensure the necessary inter-agency coordination and the validation of the partnerships at the national level.

## **Composition of Membership**

1. Membership of the SIDS national focal points shall consist of SIDS Government designated officials from the 38 SIDS member states. The designated focal point

will be an official who is heavily involved in the localization of the SAMOA Pathway and the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and SDGs as well as their national implementation, monitoring and review. He/She could be either from the ministry of planning or finance or foreign affairs or environment or any other relevant ministry with a working knowledge of the international agreements and effective development cooperation.

2. Non-UN Members/Associate Members of the Regional Commissions will participate in the SIDS national focal point network, as appropriate. The representatives of Associate Members will consist of senior officials designated by the respective governments of the 20 Associate members of Regional Commissions.
3. Membership in the SIDS focal point network implies a commitment to participate regularly and to share information, in a timely manner, in order to enable and facilitate coordination and cooperation in SIDS related issues to enhance coherence at the global, regional and local levels.

## **Modalities of operation**

1. Subject to availability of resources, SIDS national focal points shall meet at least once annually for substantive meetings, preferably in the margins of an international or regional meeting that are closely linked to the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway.
2. Subject to availability of resources, besides its annual meetings, the network will hold regional consultations on an ad-hoc basis on the sidelines of relevant regional meeting organized by the UN secretariat on key accelerators of sustainable development, including climate change and resilience building, sustainable energy, oceans, food and nutrition security, structural transformation and graduation, public private partnerships, broadband connectivity, and statistics and data etc.
3. The hosting of SIDS meetings should alternate annually between the three SIDS regions: AIMS (AIS), Caribbean and Pacific.
4. The Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) will be responsible, with host countries, where applicable, for arranging, convening and facilitating the SIDS NFP meetings.
5. The host country for a SIDS NFP meeting has a shared responsibility in the preparation, staging and servicing of the meeting.

6. The Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) will provide support and act as the secretariat of the SIDS NFP network.
7. The SIDS NFP network may invite to its meetings, on an ad-hoc basis, experts, NGOs, private sector and other entities whose expertise may contribute to the NFP work, as observers and contributors to its discussions.
8. The SIDS NFP network and OHRLLS should ensure that the work of the network complements the work mandated by GA resolution that focus on SAMOA pathway implementation and the work of the SIDS Steering Committee; including avoiding as much as possible clashes with other SIDS related international and regional meetings.
9. The Office of High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) will lead efforts to mobilize extra-budgetary resources needed for the funding of the NFP meetings and follow-up actions. Guided by its resource mobilization strategy, OHRLLS will deploy well-coordinated and coherent efforts to solicit, acquire, utilize as well as report and monitor extra-budgetary resources devoted to the activities of SIDS national focal points.
10. The SIDS NFP network shall be guided by its programme of work and keep a public record of the proceedings of its meetings.