



Summary/Feedback –

Launch of the Engagement Strategy Small Island Developing States National Focal Points Network 28 May 2024, 8am – 9:30am American University of Antigua, Room 5

The SIDS National Focal Points (NFP) Engagement Strategy was launched on 28 May 2024 in the margins of the Fourth International Conference on SIDS. The event convened stakeholders from SIDS, the UN system, regional and international partners to present the strategy and showcase the tangible outcomes achieved through the NFP Network.

The event underscored the vital role of the NFP Network in measuring progress towards sustainable development priorities at the national level. Participants agreed on the significance of fostering greater collaboration among SIDS NFPs, stakeholders, and international partners to bolster coordination and amplify support for the Network's mission to ensure coherence between international processes and national implementation. Moreover, the event highlighted the capacity challenges encountered by the Network and the need to effectively support the network in strengthening its ability to guide national implementation of the SIDS programme of action. Juggling multiple hats in their national capacities, NFPs often contend with competing priorities, which can inadvertently sideline their NFP duties.

Importantly, the UN system reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the NFP Network, through the Resident Coordinator system, UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and UN regional commissions. The UN system emphasized readiness to provide resources and technical assistance to facilitate the effective implementation of the Engagement Strategy. Similarly, regional inter-governmental organizations, namely CARICOM and PIF, expressed support for the NFP network and look forward to exploring avenues to support the network. Participants also underscored the urgent need for capacity building among NFPs in relation to the monitoring and evaluation of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS) and explored potential avenues for securing dedicated resources to bolster their roles.

Looking ahead, the NFP Network expressed its eagerness to take forward the Engagement Strategy in alignment with the ABAS, signaling a collective resolve to drive sustainable development efforts for SIDS over the next decade. Additionally, discussions

revolved around opportunities for the NFP Network to contribute to the new Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of the ABAS, further reinforcing its significance in the pursuit of sustainable development goals.

The event served as a catalyst for renewed commitment and strengthened collaboration among stakeholders, positioning the NFP Network as a key partner for national implementation of the goals and deliverables of the ABAS.

As part of efforts to implement the engagement strategy, OHRLLS is now embarking on a resource mobilization effort to secure financial support for activities of the network.

The next in-person meeting of the Network is tentatively scheduled for October 2024 in the Pacific.