



## **MEETING SUMMARY**

### **FIFTH (5<sup>TH</sup>) ANNUAL IN PERSON MEETING OF THE SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS) NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS (NFP) NETWORK, 14 – 16 OCTOBER 2024, PORT VILLA, VANUATU**

#### ***Coherent Implementation of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS) – strengthening the role of the SIDS NFP Network***

1. Government designated National Focal Points (NFPs) and representatives of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) met in person on 14 - 16 October 2024 in Vanuatu. The meeting sought to (i) offer a deep dive into ABAS – conducting a comprehensive analysis of ABAS's fundamental aspects and goals to ensure effective understanding and implementation, (ii) discuss and identify specific challenges and opportunities in implementing ABAS, including identifying potential obstacles and opportunities for NFPs in implementing ABAS, sharing successful experiences and lessons learned, and exploring collaboration opportunities with the UN System, including Resident Coordinators, UN Country Teams, and UN Regional Commissions and (iii) strengthen NFP Partnerships, to foster stronger relationships and collaborative efforts among NFPs to support ABAS implementation, and discuss the importance of monitoring and evaluation and NFPs' potential role in these processes.
2. The meeting was attended by participants from Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Palau, Samoa (as the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) and NFP representative, Solomon Islands, Trinidad & Tobago, Tuvalu, United Kingdom and Vanuatu (Host). The UN system included representatives from OHRLLS (Organizer), UN DESA, UNESCAP, UNMCO - Barbados, UNMCO – FIJI, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN WOMEN, UNDP, IOM, WHO and FAO. Other organizations represented included the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG), PIF and Vanuatu Association of NGOs (VANGO).
3. The structure of the meeting included an Opening segment and 4 main sessions; (1) Setting the Scene - Unpacking the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS); (2) Reporting,

Monitoring and Evaluation of the ABAS; (3) In-Depth Discussion on ABAS Focus Areas and (4) Strengthening NFP Partnerships.

4. The opening segment, chaired by Mr. Sylvain Kalsakau, Head, UN Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (DFAIC) as the Master of Ceremony received remarks (video) from Ms. Rabab Fatima, USG and High Representative of United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UNOHRLLS) and a Keynote Address from Hon. Matai Seremaiah, the Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Vanuatu.
5. The opening segment underscored the need of a whole of society approach to advance the implementation of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS, the role NFPs could play, the development of the M&E framework for ABAS, the MVI and the integral role the private sector could play, including in the context of the work of the SIDS Global Business Network.

***Session 1: Setting the Scene - Unpacking the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS)***

6. The session was moderated by Ms. Andie Fong Toy, Head of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) Subregional Office for the Pacific, and focused on unpacking the ABAS, its objectives and key outcomes. The session also held discussions on integrated planning and localization of ABAS through sharing lessons learned and best practices from the SAMOA Pathway.
7. Presentations were delivered by (1) H.E. Fatumanava Dr. Pa'olelei Luteru, Permanent Representative of Samoa and Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), (2) Ms. Kereeta Whyte, Deputy Permanent Representative of Barbados to the United Nations and AOSIS Bureau member, and (3) Ms. Tishka Francis, Head of the SIDS Sub-Programme at UN-OHRLLS. Further presentations were received from (1) Mr. Parasram Gopaul, Minister Counsellor and Head of IGO Political at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and International Trade of Mauritius, and (2) Ms. Matsuko Pelomo, Chief Planning Officer at the Ministry of Planning and Development of Solomon Islands. Additionally, the session heard focused interventions by Ms. Andie Fong Toy from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and Mr. Viliame Cativakalakeba from the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat as lead discussants.
8. The meeting heard the ABAS emphasizes a comprehensive approach structured in 5 main pillars: (1) SIDS' unique experiences, reflecting past action programs and the distinct circumstances of SIDS; (2) SIDS' aspirations across four priority areas of sustainable

development; (3) path to achieving goals, highlighting 10 action clusters where partnerships are essential; (4) the role of the UN and other stakeholders, including international financial institutions, civil society, and the private sector; and (5) Monitoring and Evaluation system to ensure progress is measured and tracked by SIDS themselves. National Focal Points (NFPs) can engage with ABAS to leverage these pillars, promote inclusive approaches, and prioritize regional partnerships for shared experiences.

9. The critical role of National Focal Points (NFPs) was highlighted, emphasizing the potential task of localizing ABAS, aligning national efforts with global frameworks, engaging with the Inter-Agency Task Force on ABAS, and integrating ABAS with agreements like the Pact for the Future, COP29, and the Financing for Development Forum into national development plans.
10. Some of the barriers to the localization of ABAS include amongst others (1) financial constraints and gaps in skills and capacity, (2) fragmented policy implementation, and (3) cultural challenges. Advocating for comprehensive support through strong local leadership, public awareness campaigns, and fostering innovation and entrepreneurship can be key drivers. Stakeholders should leverage these strategies, collaborate effectively, and engage in regional partnerships to enhance localization efforts.
11. Successful implementation of ABAS will also require (1) securing international access to concessional and grant based financial support, climate finance, and technology transfer and support to integrate the global value chains, (2) enhancing regional cooperation to address maritime security, marine conservation, disaster management, and early warning systems, and (3) focusing at the national level on institutional capacity-building, climate policy enhancement, and fostering blue and green economies. Stakeholders are encouraged to leverage ABAS initiatives, collaborate on these priorities, and promote regional partnerships for shared learning and progress.
12. Debt sustainability support is urgently needed as 40% of SIDS face debt distress. The ABAS emphasizes the importance of the Debt Sustainability Support Initiative (DSSI) and stresses the need for multilayered approaches to foster climate-resilient development.
13. To leave no one behind, the importance of SIDS-SIDS cooperation and partnerships in enhancing resilience and sustainability was underscored. The integration of existing regional frameworks and resources, such as the EU-ACP partnership, to maximize ABAS's impact through coordinated regional and national action was highlighted.

14. The session advocated for strong SIDS-SIDS partnerships and the necessity of fostering regional cooperation to complement external assistance, facilitated by committees such as the Ambassadorial Coordination Committee under AOSIS.
15. The meeting noted the lack of a clear framework for monitoring, and reporting of the SAMOA Pathway, which was one of its key impediments. Additionally, the absence of dedicated funding and limited awareness at the national level posed significant challenges.
16. The need for a clear framework for monitoring and reporting, with a focus on increasing awareness and securing financial resources for the implementation of ABAS was therefore stressed. The latter should focus on strengthening institutional arrangements and fostering partnerships with donors and regional organizations, including leveraging relationships with development banks and multilateral institutions.
17. The meeting also underscored the importance of involving youth in raising awareness of ABAS, the alignment of ABAS with regional strategies like the Pacific Islands Forum's [2050 Blue Pacific Strategy](#), and emphasized the focus on climate resilience, the blue economy, and participatory governance and the integration of ABAS into National Development Strategies.
18. Participants underscored the need for the integration of environmental and climate-related commitments into national strategies, particularly through updated NDCs expected by 2025. The discussion highlighted the adaptation opportunities for SIDS, given their limited emissions but significant vulnerability.
19. The importance of private sector involvement in implementing strategic recommendations, particularly in areas like green economy development and community empowerment, was highlighted.
20. Some of the key takeaways includes (1) the pivotal role of National Focal Points (NFPs) in ensuring successful implementation, (2) addressing debt sustainability as a major challenge for SIDS, necessitating international community support, (3) fostering SIDS-SIDS cooperation and multi-level partnerships to effectively achieve ABAS, (4) harmonizing ABAS with global frameworks to streamline efforts and maximize resource efficiency and (5) private sector engagement. NFPs are encouraged to fully engage with ABAS, collaborate on innovative solutions, promote inclusive strategies, and prioritize regional partnerships to share and learn from collective experiences.

## ***Session 2: Reporting, M&E of ABAS and UN Collaboration***

21. This session focused on the reporting, monitoring and evaluation of ABAS, including the work of the Interagency-Taskforce (IATF) for ABAS. The session, drawing from various experiences of NFPs, discussed collaboration between SIDS and the UN system, highlighting successes, challenges, and opportunities for improvement.
22. The session was moderated by Ms. Juliette Hakwa, Head of the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit at the Office of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu. Presentations were given by (1) Ms. Tishka Francis, Head of the SIDS Subprogramme at UN-OHRLLS, (2) Ms. Anya Thomas, Economic Affairs Officer at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), and (3) Ms. Kennethia Douglas, Senior Programme Manager for the Sustainable Development Technical Co-operation Unit at the Ministry of Planning and Development of Trinidad and Tobago. The session also included a discussion led by Mr. Christopher Ryan from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP). Further presentations sharing country experiences were delivered by (1) Ms. Aishath Saadh, Deputy Director General at the Ministry of Housing, Land, and Urban Development of the Maldives, and (2) Ms. Kereeta Whyte, Deputy Permanent Representative of Barbados to the United Nations. The session also included discussions led by Ms. Emily Wilkinson from the Overseas Development Institute's Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (ODI RESI) and Ms. Sasha Jattansingh, a Loss and Damage Expert at Climate Analytics.
23. The meeting received an update on the Inter-Agency Task Force's (IATF) work in developing the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework for the ABAS, with respect to the methodology, progress, timeline, and outreach efforts undertaken by the MVI interim Secretariat – UNOHRLLS and UNDESA. The goal is also to ensure minimizing the reporting burden on SIDS.
24. The IATF's work is envisaged to take place in three phases: (1) mapping existing international and relevant regional frameworks, (2) identification of a set of targets, and (3) development of a corresponding indicator framework. The indicator framework is to be completed by early 2025, with a validation process in April/May and finalization in June 2025.
25. Outreach efforts include formal consultations that have been conducted with AOSIS, a briefing with the IATF which took place in October, and ongoing outreach with regional commissions. A Resident Coordinator meeting on the IATF is also planned during the Global Resident Coordinator Retreat scheduled for 17 October.
26. The meeting emphasized harmonization in reporting - the need for SDG targets to complement ABAS, incorporating lessons from the SAMOA Pathway and developing new

indicators. Reporting is suggested to start in 2027, allowing time for capacity-building. Effective data collection and collaboration with government counterparts are crucial for successful reporting and decision-making.

27. The meeting also heard a suggestion for potential tailoring indicator selection to national circumstances, in setting target values to allow SIDS to set their own targets for each indicator and developing methodologies for ABAS goals. Flexibility allows countries to reflect their national development plans, albeit requiring added effort. The "[National SDG Tracker](#)" from ESCAP was mentioned as a tool adaptable for ABAS tracking.
28. The Indicator Guidelines for Policy Monitoring in the Pacific, developed by ESCAP and SPC, was noted to provide holistic guidance for producing frameworks aligned with global, regional, and national initiatives. While the ABAS framework is pending, these guidelines can inform strategies for indicator development in Pacific SIDS.
29. Presentations further underscored the importance of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) to track ABAS progress, promoting data-driven decisions, and alignment with global standards. M&E aids in setting realistic targets, ensures resource efficiency, and enhances accountability. Building local M&E capacity and including marginalized groups are critical.
30. For IATF effectiveness, clear roles, technology integration, broad stakeholder engagement, and national framework alignment were suggested. Flexibility in indicators could ensure relevance, and alignment with existing reporting can reduce the reporting burden to SIDS who are resource constrained. Collaboration across government, private sector, and civil society is vital for the integration of ABAS.
31. Partnerships are crucial for M&E success. UN agencies, regional bodies, and development partners can offer support, while private sectors and civil society contribute innovation and grassroots perspectives. Aligning ABAS within national plans and avoiding duplicative reporting can enhance implementation.
32. The meeting emphasized for early M&E integration to avoid issues seen with the SAMOA Pathway. Coordination gaps and capacity constraints need to be addressed. The SIDS Global Data Hub and SIDS-SIDS cooperation initiatives, like the Blue-Green Knowledge Transfer Hub, were highlighted as key to supporting ABAS implementation.
33. *Interactive discussions* underscored the importance of addressing data gaps, regional frameworks, and breaking government-CSO silos for effective program monitoring. The need for data collection capacity and partner support monitoring was underscored.
34. The interactive discussions noted the need for clarity and involvement in data-driven reporting, emphasizing the importance of understanding the sources and processes behind

quantitative and qualitative assessments. It was highlighted that national inputs should play a crucial role in the formulation of indicators and targets.

35. There was a strong emphasis on establishing effective monitoring and evaluation systems to support the sustainable development agenda. Challenges such as uneven data availability and limited resources, particularly in smaller economies, were noted. The importance of creating country-led systems that reflect unique national contexts was stressed.
36. The discussions underscored the significance of coherent support and collaboration among agencies. It highlighted the need for pooling resources and expertise to strengthen national statistical systems and ensure efficient use of resources.
37. The necessity for capacity building and resource mobilization was discussed, particularly for enhancing national statistical capacities in the Pacific and Caribbean regions. This involves coordinated efforts among UN agencies, development partners, and national governments to address data gaps and improve statistical governance mechanisms.
38. The interactive dialogue emphasized the importance of flexibility in adapting the M&E frameworks to national contexts, while also maintaining a core set of indicators to enable consistent comparisons across regions. This balance is essential for effective monitoring and evaluation.
39. The need for timely reporting and the implementation of M&E framework was stressed to ensure that countries can effectively track progress and identify needs in preparation for midterm reviews. This involves starting assessments and putting structures in place even if the full framework is not yet operational.
40. The meeting highlighted the importance of partnerships and interagency collaboration in supporting data and statistics initiatives. Existing mechanisms, such as regional commissions and task force, were recognized for their role in facilitating cooperation and ensuring alignment with international frameworks for sustainable development.
41. The conversations also touched on the need for consistent engagement with development partners to secure necessary resources and foster cross-learning among countries. This involves advocating for coherent, sustainable long-term support to bolster national capacities and institutional arrangements for monitoring and evaluation.
42. Some of the key takeaways and way forward includes (1) strengthening national capacities by investing in M&E capabilities and digital tools, (2) actively engaging stakeholders like local governments, civil society, private sector, and academia in the M&E process, (3) aligning ABAS with national development goals to ensure cohesion with local policies and priorities, (4) fostering regional collaboration to promote knowledge exchange and develop systems that avoid duplication and enhance capabilities, (5) ensuring future relevance of the M&E framework by making it adaptable to emerging global challenges with a focus on long-

term sustainability, and (6) mobilizing resources by securing international funding for M&E capacity-building and engaging private sector partnerships to drive innovation (7) monitoring and evaluation should not be limited to implementation of ABAS by SIDS but also by international development partners.

### ***Session 3: In-Depth Discussion on ABAS Focus Areas***

43. This session focused on in-depth discussions on some of the key areas of the ABAS including inter alia, the Debt Sustainability Support Service (DSSS), Oceans and the BBNJ Agreement, the SIDS Center of Excellence, and digitalization. Additionally, the discussions touched on the upcoming High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2025, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be reviewed, and the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and broadly how to implement ABAS.
44. The session was moderated by Ms. Andie Fong Toy, Head of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) Subregional Office for the Pacific. Presentations were received from (1) Mr. Garth Simon, Monitoring and Evaluation Associate and Project Technical Officer at the Department of Environment of Antigua and Barbuda, (2) Mr. Bridge Thomas, Policy Coordinator in the Office of the President of Palau, and (3) Mr. Dominic Sofo, Programme Management Officer at UN-OHRLLS. Further presentations were delivered by (1) Ms. Kennethia Douglas, Senior Programme Manager for the Sustainable Development Technical Co-operation Unit at the Ministry of Planning and Development of Trinidad and Tobago, and (2) Ms. Juliette Hakwa, Head of the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit at the Office of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu. The session also included discussions led by (3) Mr. Kenroy Roach from the UN Resident Coordinator's Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, and (4) Dr. Suella Hansen, an UN-OHRLLS Consultant.

### ***Centre of Excellence (CoE)/ DSSS***

45. The meeting heard SIDS' CoE as a hub for data, innovation, and investment constituting three components: (1) SIDS Global Data Hub seeks to support decision-making through data analytics and visualization across all SIDS; (2) Technology and Innovation Mechanism to foster entrepreneurship and technology transfer and (3) Island Investment Forum to connect SIDS with global investors biennially.
46. The DSSS will: (1) Provide debt management assistance and solutions for long-term sustainability (2) Offer technical expertise in loss and damage assessments, financial planning, and climate finance mobilization and (3) serve as a model for SIDS to pursue sustainable debt management.



47. The DSSS underscores non-reactive fixes, but more comprehensive support through (1) creating a fiscal space, (2) future protection measures (3) resilient investment (4) expert advisory and legal support. NFPs can engage with the DSSS, CoE, leverage data hub, collaborate, promote inclusive approaches and prioritize regional partnerships to share experiences

#### *Oceans and the BBNJ Agreement*

48. The meeting underscored the importance of Oceans for SIDS with the rich marine biodiversity fundamental to their livelihoods, culture and identity, and as stewards of the ocean (managing 19.1% of the world's EEZs). The drive to promote Sustainable Blue Economies, Drive Digital Transformation and Advance the BBNJ Agreement is paramount for SIDS.
49. The meeting also underscored the importance of ratifying the BBNJ. SIDS are currently with 10 Ratifications, 18 Signatures and 11 with No action. Initiatives such as “Unlocking Blue Pacific Prosperity” were also highlighted.

#### *Digitalization*

50. The meeting underscored the importance of digitalization and adoption of digital technologies in a digital world. ABAS underscores the need for digital Cooperation, national roadmaps, enabling Policy Environment, Capacity Building & Innovation, inclusive Digital Societies, expanding Digital Commerce, and digital & Financial Literacy.
51. The opportunities for digital transformation are abound; with potential dividends in economic diversification, E-Government Service, Climate Resilience (Digital tools can enhance disaster preparedness) and in Global Partnerships. However, for SIDS the key challenges remain; inadequate digital infrastructure, affordability (*Broadband in SIDS costs 46% more than the global median*), Skills Gap and fragmented Policy Actions.
52. Robust and reliable connectivity is a pre-condition for digital transformation. This requires improvements in ITC infrastructure, including submarine cables, and satellite and microwave infrastructure for inaccessible islands.
53. Technical assistance training, improving digital literacy, building digital trust, promoting of digital initiatives are key to promote digital inclusion. Partnerships remain critical to advance digitalization in SIDS.

### *VNR process*

54. To mainstream the ABAS into VNR process, there is a need to have dedicated specific VNR chapters to SIDS, highlighting lessons from the SAMOA Pathway, and addressing institutional and capacity gaps. To ensure robust integration of ABAS, the need for funding opportunities, stakeholder coordination, and evidence-based reporting was emphasized.
55. The UN System can provide support through technical assistance, capacity building, and sharing best practices. Other stakeholders such as civil society, the private sector, and academia, play a vital role in advocacy and implementation, enhancing the process through their unique strengths.
56. Advocacy by civil society, the private sector's ESG initiatives, and contributions from academic research could enrich the VNR process. Greater engagement and communication with these entities about government priorities can help align efforts with international frameworks such as the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and SDGs.
57. Recommendations for effective integration include (1) enhancing capacity building, (2) fostering early engagement between governments and the UN, and (3) improving public awareness of the ABAS agenda. Additionally, establishing a forum such as a localized SIDS National Business Network Forum can further facilitate stakeholder involvement and promote the ABAS alongside the SDGs.
58. The meeting also underscored the importance of aligning national reporting to regional and international platforms and partnerships with regional Commissions, RCOs, etc. A possible stock take on what SIDS capabilities are for reporting on SIDS could be taken on as part of the IATF's scope.
59. Investing in national systems which are built by and with the people, capabilities, resources, context (including climate and geography), and their unique cultures in mind could be a boon for SIDS.
60. *Further discussions* drawing from country experiences underscored the importance of digital transformation and legal frameworks, and how efforts to modernize government and public services have been accelerated by COVID-19. However, challenges remain due to outdated legal frameworks including the need for enhanced cybersecurity measures. The transition to digital services, such as e-banking and e-government, is significant in benefiting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and facilitating greater economic diversification.

61. The conversations also emphasized the significance of technological innovation and connectivity. The need to focus on harnessing technological advancements to support social development, with interest in exploring satellite connectivity and artificial intelligence (AI) was raised. Concerns were raised about the potential digital divide and the need for thoughtful integration of AI to prevent disparities.
62. Partnerships and inter-governmental collaboration were recognized as key components for achieving sustainable development goals. The need for clear principles and detailed planning at, national, regional and intergovernmental levels was highlighted, particularly in areas like data science, technology, and ocean health. These partnerships are essential for addressing cross-cutting issues and ensuring effective management of resources and initiatives.
63. The discussions underscored the importance of sustainable development and environmental priorities, particularly in relation to ocean health and fisheries management. Efforts to address illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing are seen as vital for economic prosperity and environmental sustainability. Collaborative actions are necessary to manage these challenges and enhance resilience.
64. Data sharing and resource mobilization were discussed as critical to supporting development goals. Tools and frameworks for data collection and protection need to be developed and shared collaboratively to ensure sensitive information is handled appropriately. Engaging with donors and leveraging financial and technical resources are essential steps in achieving sustainability objectives.
65. The importance of integrating artificial intelligence (AI) and digitalization into regional development strategies, noting the need for updated legal frameworks and cybersecurity measures was raised. AI's potential impact on sectors such climate, and agriculture was discussed, with emphasis on aligning AI efforts with global priorities.
66. There was an emphasis on policy integration and alignment as a way to ensure implementation of global frameworks like the SDGs. Challenges faced by small economies, such as limited resources and climate vulnerabilities, were discussed, underscoring the need for coherent national frameworks that integrate diverse policy areas such as climate adaptation and economic diversification.
67. The conversations underscored the significance of multi-stakeholder engagement and participatory governance. Collaboration between governments, private sectors, civil societies, and international partners was deemed essential for effective SDG implementation. Emphasis

was placed on ensuring all voices, especially marginalized communities, are heard in these processes.

68. The need for digital infrastructure development was recognized as critical for connectivity and economic growth. Initiatives like e-money and digital government payments have shown potential in boosting GDP and facilitating economic activities, particularly for SMEs, highlighting the need for investment in broadband and digital skills.
69. Data-driven decision-making and the role of technology, such as blockchain in managing resources like fisheries, were emphasized. The need for infrastructure to support data collection and ethical data use was discussed, highlighting how technology can support sustainable practices and economic development.
70. The importance of international cooperation and partnerships was stressed, with discussions on leveraging the expertise and resources of development partners to support digital transformation and infrastructure development. The role of private sector innovation was recognized as crucial in driving efficiency and effectiveness across various sectors.
71. Some of the key takeaways from the session included (1) the Centre of Excellence (CoE) and Debt Management Strategy Services (DSSS) to enhance institutional capacities within SIDS, focusing on data analytics, technology transfer, and sustainable investment, (2) promoting sustainable blue economies and advancing the BBNJ Agreement to maintain marine biodiversity and support economic growth, (3) driving digital transformation by improving infrastructure, enhancing digital literacy, and building strategic partnerships to address barriers such as high costs and inadequate policies, (4) integrating civil society and fostering multi-stakeholder engagement to ensure alignment with global frameworks like the 2030 Agenda and SDGs, and (5) fostering international cooperation and partnerships to leverage resources and expertise for digital transformation and infrastructure development.
72. Additionally, a key takeaway is the need for a concerted effort in the implementation of ABAS that integrates key pillars including (i) alignment by integrating ABAS into existing plans and strategies, (ii) Coordination through institutional mechanisms to enhance capacity and avoid siloes, (iii) planning to action through key entry points, (iv) financing (*domestic and international, public and private*), (v) Monitoring and Reporting through enhanced data ecosystems and integration of ABAS into VNR reporting and (vi) advocacy and partnership through a whole of society approach to raise awareness and shared commitment to the implementation of ABAS.

#### ***Session 4: Strengthening NFP Partnerships***

73. This session focused on building partnerships and building capacity of SIDS NFPs, on how to engage the Partners, Civil Society through its Action Plan and Roadmap as well as how SIDS can work closely with the business community through the SIDS Global Business Network and the Centre of Excellence.
74. The session was moderated by Mr. Kenroy Roach from the UN Resident Coordinator's Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean. Presentations featured (1) Ms. Rebecca Fabrizi, Special Envoy for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) from the United Kingdom, (2) Ms. Gabriella Cassola from the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade of Malta, (3) Ms. Millie Ogden, Founder and CEO of 3 Link and Vanuatu Trade Commissioner to California, (4) Ms. Sasha Jattansingh, a Loss and Damage Expert at Climate Analytics, (5) Ms. Juliette Hakwa, Head of the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit at the Office of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu, and (6) Mr. Damien Sass, Sustainable Development Officer at UN-OHRLLS. The session also included discussions led by (7) Ms. Lisa Macalister, Managing Director of Savvy Vanuatu, (8) Mr. Viliame Cativakalakeba, Research Officer at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, and (9) Ms. Kelen Tapa from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development of Tuvalu.
75. The meeting underscored the essential role of partnerships in implementing ABAS by connecting sectors, utilizing diverse expertise, and mobilizing resources efficiently. It focused on how National Focal Points (NFPs) could lead the development of cross-sector partnerships to transform recommendations into actionable initiatives, emphasizing key implementation areas such as capacity building, statistical system strengthening, technology transfer, digital transformation, and sustainable financing.
76. Presentations detailed various international efforts supporting SIDS, focusing on climate finance, institutional capacity, and disaster resilience. For instance, the UK's approach emphasized building practical outcomes through partnerships, while Malta positioned itself as a bridge for SIDS within European and global forums, advocating for issues like climate finance and sustainable development. The UK asserted its unique role as a donor committed to SIDS, particularly through bilateral support and as a change agent in international systems like the UN and the World Bank. The importance of policy and partnerships in advancing issues such as climate finance, ocean governance, and sustainable development were underscored.
77. Grassroots initiatives, such as 3 Link and others in Vanuatu, were highlighted for leveraging digitization and renewable energy to empower communities economically and enhance

climate resilience. These efforts demonstrate how local partnerships can overcome challenges and improve connectivity in remote areas.

78. The importance of integrating local culture into national development plans was underscored, with strategies in Vanuatu showcasing how cultural authenticity and traditional knowledge can guide policy making and stakeholder engagement for sustainable development aligned with global goals like the SDGs and ABAS.
79. The role of civil society was highlighted as pivotal in promoting climate action and sustainable development. A recently launched SIDS Civil Society Action Plan and Roadmap, which outlines the role civil society organizations can play a huge role in implementing the ABAS and ensuring a whole-of-society approach. Civil society organizations are crucial for holding governments accountable, representing marginalized groups, and implementing projects on the ground. The plan seeks to incorporate civil society organizations into ABAS implementation. This approach aims to build resilience and sustainable economies by holding governments accountable and representing marginalized groups.
80. The SIDS Global Business Network was noted as a vital platform for fostering partnerships between private sectors, governments, and international organizations. It can guide NFPs in identifying private sector contributions to national development goals, facilitating technical cooperation and capacity building. The next SIDS Global Business Forum will be held in 2026, in the Atlantic, Indian Ocean, and South China Sea (AIS) region, with the aim of further strengthening public-private collaboration and would be aligned with the Island Investment Forum under the SIDS Center of Excellence in Antigua and Barbuda.
81. Regional strategies, particularly in the Pacific, were outlined, focusing on engaging partners for post-COVID economic recovery through collaboration with private sectors and civil society. This includes initiatives that foster trade and investment, like the E-commerce Grant Facility and economic recovery projects supported by coordinated efforts among regional agencies and international partners. Cooperation with the UN was also emphasized through the CROP-UN Country Teams Principles for Dialogue and Engagement, aimed at improving collaboration for sustainable development under the 2030 Agenda and the Pacific's 2050 strategy.
82. Efforts in Tuvalu to align national strategies with ABAS goals were highlighted, shedding light on restructuring to improve collaboration across ministries and with civil society. The restructuring helped enhance advice to leaders, removed silos, and made the government more responsive to emerging issues. Key projects like the Tuvalu Coastal Adaptation Project,

Submarine Cable Project and Floating Solar Panel Project support climate resilience and digital transformation, underscoring the successful execution of the ABAS agenda will rely on both financial and technical support from partners.

83. Activities by civil society organizations like Vanuatu NGO Association (VANGO) in Vanuatu emphasize empowering NGOs to lead development efforts, ensuring their involvement in monitoring and progress reporting of ABAS initiatives. This involves establishing formal partnerships with specific indicators for tracking civil society and private sector contributions.
84. Interactive discussions stressed that transitioning from "durable" to "sustainable" partnerships requires meaningful contributions from SIDS. This involves engaging all stakeholders, including governments, private sectors, and civil society, to ensure long-term viability and mutual benefits.
85. Addressing gaps, particularly where private sectors are limited, a regional approach was suggested to pool resources for larger projects. The importance of profit for private sector sustainability was noted, alongside the need for governmental frameworks to balance public interests and private operation efficiency.
86. The establishment of a global data hub was emphasized as crucial for making informed decisions. Such a hub would provide accurate data to track impacts and enhance resilience, requiring collaboration among international partners to establish effective monitoring and evaluation frameworks.
87. Education and youth engagement were highlighted as crucial, advocating for integrating ABAS priorities into curricula and media to raise awareness and inspire youth activism.
88. The need for partnerships and a coordinated approach across government departments to implement ABAS effectively was emphasized, avoiding silos and ensuring all stakeholders are aligned towards unified development objectives in a variety of areas such as data collection, financing, and technology transfer and institutional development.
89. Some of the key takeaways from the session include (1) enhancing institutional capacities within SIDS is crucial for successful ABAS implementation, with a focus on strengthening national statistical systems and building robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks, (2) addressing the transformative potential of technology through digitization and technology transfer to overcome development barriers and integrate SIDS into the global economy, (3) securing sustainable financing, including climate finance initiatives and innovative models

like the DAC-SIDS partnership, to support both governments and SMEs, (4) integrating civil society organizations into the ABAS process, utilizing the Civil Society Action Plan from SIDS4 to address service gaps in remote areas, and (5) emphasizing private sector involvement through networks like the SIDS Global Business Network to stimulate innovation, investment, and economic diversification. Participants also underscored the necessity for multi-stakeholder partnerships, aligning resources, and building capacities, ensuring SIDS participate actively in their sustainable development with resilient systems to withstand their unique vulnerabilities.



## PARTICIPANTS LIST

| FIRST NAME                                    | LAST NAME                | ORGANISATION  | COUNTRY                      |
|---|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| <b>SIDS NATIONAL FOCAL POINT &amp; OTHERS</b> |                          |   |                              |
| <b>Garth Emanuel Junior</b>                   | <b>SIMON</b>             | <b>Department of Environment</b>                                    | <b>ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA</b>   |
| <b>Chanel Bianca</b>                          | <b>WILLIAMS</b>          | <b>Office of the Prime Minister</b>                                 | <b>BAHAMAS</b>               |
| <b>Kereeta Nicole</b>                         | <b>WHYTE</b>             | <b>Mission of Barbados</b>  | <b>BARBADOS</b>              |
| <b>Danielle Lisa</b>                          | <b>SKEETE</b>            |   | <b>BARBADOS</b>              |
| <b>Ana Silvia</b>                             | <b>RODRIGUEZ ABASCAL</b> | <b>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</b>                                  | <b>CUBA</b>                  |
| <b>Aishath</b>                                | <b>SA ADH</b>            | <b>Ministry of Housing</b>  | <b>MALDIVES</b>              |
| <b>Gabriella</b>                              | <b>CASSOLA</b>           | <b>Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade of Malta</b> | <b>MALTA</b>                 |
| <b>Parasram</b>                               | <b>GOPAUL</b>            | <b>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</b>                                  | <b>MAURITIUS</b>             |
| <b>Bridge</b>                                 | <b>THOMAS</b>            | <b>Policy and Planning Mission</b>                                  | <b>PALAU</b>                 |
| <b>H.E Paolelei</b>                           | <b>LUTERU</b>            | <b>Ambassador - Samoan Mission [AOSIS Chair]</b>                    | <b>SAMOA</b>                 |
| <b>Matsuko</b>                                | <b>PELOMO</b>            | <b>Ministry of National Planning</b>                                | <b>SOLOMON ISLANDS</b>       |
| <b>Kennethia Teresita Loreen</b>              | <b>DOUGLAS</b>           | <b>Ministry of Planning and Development</b>                         | <b>TRINIDAD &amp; TOBAGO</b> |
| <b>Sasha Gaitri</b>                           | <b>JATTANSINGH</b>       | <b>Climate Analytics Caribbean</b>                                  | <b>CLIMATE ANALYTICS</b>     |
| <b>Kelena</b>                                 | <b>TAPA</b>              | <b>Ministry of Finance and Economic Development</b>                 | <b>TUVALU</b>                |
| <b>Rebecca</b>                                | <b>FABRIZI</b>           | <b>UK - Special Envoy for SIDS</b>                                  | <b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>        |
| <b>Juliette</b>                               | <b>HAKWA</b>             | <b>PMO - DSPPAC</b>   | <b>VANUATU</b>               |
| <b>Sanlan</b>                                 | <b>WILLIAM</b>           | <b>Mission of Vanuatu</b>   | <b>VANUATU</b>               |
| <b>Anna Faye</b>                              | <b>MADDRICK</b>          | <b>Mission of Vanuatu</b>   | <b>VANUATU</b>               |
| <b>UNITED NATIONS REPRESENTATIVES</b>         |                          |   |                              |
| <b>Anya</b>                                   | <b>THOMAS</b>            | <b>Staff - UN DESA</b>  | <b>UN DESA</b>               |
| <b>Andie Mary</b>                             | <b>FONG TOY</b>          | <b>Staff - UNESCAP</b>  | <b>UNESCAP</b>               |

|                                |                   |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Emery Kenroy</b>            | <b>ROACH</b>      | <b>Staff - UNMCO</b>           | <b>UNMCO –<br/>BARBADOS AND<br/>EASTERN<br/>CARIBBEAN</b> |
| <b>Agus</b>                    | <b>WANDI</b>      | <b>Staff - UNMCO</b>           | <b>UNMCO – FIJI</b>                                       |
| <b>Dominic</b>                 | <b>SOFE</b>       | <b>Staff - OHRLLS</b>          | <b>OHRLLS</b>   |
| <b>Damien</b>                  | <b>SASS</b>       | <b>Staff - OHRLLS</b>          | <b>OHRLLS</b>   |
| <b>Themba</b>                  | <b>PHAKATHI</b>   | <b>Staff - OHRLLS</b>          | <b>OHRLLS</b>   |
| <b>Tishka Hope</b>             | <b>FRANCIS</b>    | <b>Staff - OHRLLS</b>          | <b>OHRLLS</b>   |
| <b>Michael</b>                 | <b>TAURAKOTO</b>  | <b>Staff - UNRC</b>            | <b>UNRCO</b>  |
| <b>Roslyn</b>                  | <b>DAVID</b>      | <b>Staff - UNFPA</b>           | <b>UNFPA</b>  |
| <b>Eric</b>                    | <b>DURPAIRE</b>   | <b>Staff - UNICEF</b>          | <b>UNICEF</b>   |
| <b>Betty</b>                   | <b>ZINNER-TOA</b> | <b>Staff - UN WOMEN</b>        | <b>UN WOMEN</b>   |
| <b>Sherryl</b>                 | <b>MAHINA</b>     | <b>Staff - UNDP</b>            | <b>UNDP</b>   |
| <b>Carl Stuart</b>             | <b>ADAMS</b>      | <b>Staff - IOM</b>             | <b>IOM</b>  |
| <b>Eunyoung</b>                | <b>KO</b>         | <b>Staff - WHO</b>             | <b>WHO</b>  |
| <b>Graham</b>                  | <b>NIMOHO</b>     | <b>Staff - FAO</b>             | <b>FAO</b>  |
| <b>DIPLOMATIC CORPS</b>        |                   |                                |   |
| <b>Gu</b>                      | <b>ZIHUA</b>      | <b>Staff - Chinese Embassy</b> | <b>EMBASSY OF<br/>CHINA</b>                               |
| <b>Emily</b>                   | <b>FISHER</b>     | <b>Staff - DFAT</b>            | <b>AUSTRALIAN<br/>HIGH<br/>COMMISSION</b>                 |
| <b>Mehaka</b>                  | <b>ROUNTREE</b>   | <b>Staff - MFAT</b>            | <b>NEW ZEALAND<br/>HIGH<br/>COMMISSION</b>                |
| <b>Holly</b>                   | <b>PEACOCK</b>    | <b>Staff - MFAT</b>            | <b>NEW<br/>ZEALANDHIGH<br/>COMMISSION</b>                 |
| <b>Sébastien</b>               | <b>Jaunâtre</b>   | <b>Staff - French Embassy</b>  | <b>EMBASSY OF<br/>FRANCE</b>                              |
| <b>Rebecca</b>                 | <b>FABRIZI</b>    | <b>Staff - United Kingdom</b>  | <b>BRITISH HIGH<br/>COMMISSION</b>                        |
| <b>Jeffrey</b>                 | <b>SHELSTAD</b>   | <b>Staff - United States</b>   | <b>EMBASSY OF<br/>THE UNITED<br/>STATES</b>               |
| <b>Naohisa</b>                 | <b>OKUDA</b>      | <b>Staff - Japan Embassy</b>   | <b>EMBASSY OF<br/>JAPAN</b>                               |
| <b>IN-COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS</b> |                   |                                |   |
| <b>Cherol</b>                  | <b>ALA</b>        | <b>Director General - PMO</b>  | <b>VANUATU</b>  |

|                             |                       |  |                           |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <b>John</b>                 | <b>EZRA</b>           | <b>Director - DSPPAC PMO</b>                       | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Charlie</b>              | <b>NAMAKA</b>         | <b>Staff - DSPPAC PMO</b>                          | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Anna</b>                 | <b>BULE</b>           | <b>Staff - DSPPAC PMO</b>                          | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Hon. Matai Seremaiah</b> | <b>NAWALU</b>         | <b>DPM &amp; Foreign Minister - MOFA</b>           | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Noah Patrick</b>         | <b>KOUBACK</b>        | <b>Director General - MOFA</b>                     | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Yvon</b>                 | <b>BASIL</b>          | <b>Director DFA - MOFA</b>                         | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Joe Pakoa</b>            | <b>LUI</b>            | <b>Director DOET - MOFA</b>                        | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Shirly</b>               | <b>ABRAHAM</b>        | <b>NGO Rep</b>                                     | <b>VANGO</b>              |
| <b>Katriana</b>             | <b>KANAS</b>          | <b>Staff - MEFM</b>                                | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Sarah</b>                | <b>MECARTNEY</b>      | <b>Staff - SPC</b>                                 | <b>SPC</b>                |
| <b>Christopher</b>          | <b>WAIWORI</b>        | <b>Staff - MSG</b>                                 | <b>MSG</b>                |
| <b>Vilame</b>               | <b>CATIVAKALAKEBA</b> | <b>Staff - PIF</b>                                 | <b>PIF</b>                |
| <b>Millie</b>               | <b>OGDEN</b>          | <b>Trade Commissioner of Vanuatu to California</b> | <b>TRADE COMMISSIONER</b> |
|                             | <b>PREPARATION</b>    | <b>COMMITTEE</b>                                   |                           |
| <b>Sylvain</b>              | <b>KALSAKAU</b>       | <b>Staff - MOFA</b>                                | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Alfonia</b>              | <b>FELIX</b>          | <b>Staff - MOFA</b>                                | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Eddison</b>              | <b>TASO</b>           | <b>Staff - MOFA</b>                                | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Joseph</b>               | <b>GEORGE</b>         | <b>Staff - MOFA</b>                                | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Richardo</b>             | <b>VALELE</b>         | <b>Staff - MOFA</b>                                | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>Orsiany</b>              | <b>LOUGHMAN</b>       | <b>Staff - MOFA</b>                                | <b>VANUATU</b>            |
| <b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>       |                       |  |                           |
| <b>Kelvin Brian</b>         | <b>MILLER</b>         | <b>Staff - BREJ</b>                                | <b>BREJ Pacific</b>       |
| <b>Kamie</b>                | <b>WORKMAGENA</b>     | <b>Staff - BREJ</b>                                | <b>BREJ Pacific</b>       |
| <b>Jean Pierre</b>          | <b>NIPTIK</b>         | <b>Photographer</b>                                | <b>PHOTOGRAPHR</b>        |
| <b>Albert</b>               | <b>STEWART</b>        | <b>Driver - MOFA</b>                               | <b>Driver</b>             |
| <b>Nicksle</b>              | <b>ABRAHAM</b>        | <b>Driver - MOFA</b>                               | <b>Driver</b>             |
| <b>Bernard</b>              | <b>TOKON</b>          | <b>Driver - PMO</b>                                | <b>Driver</b>             |

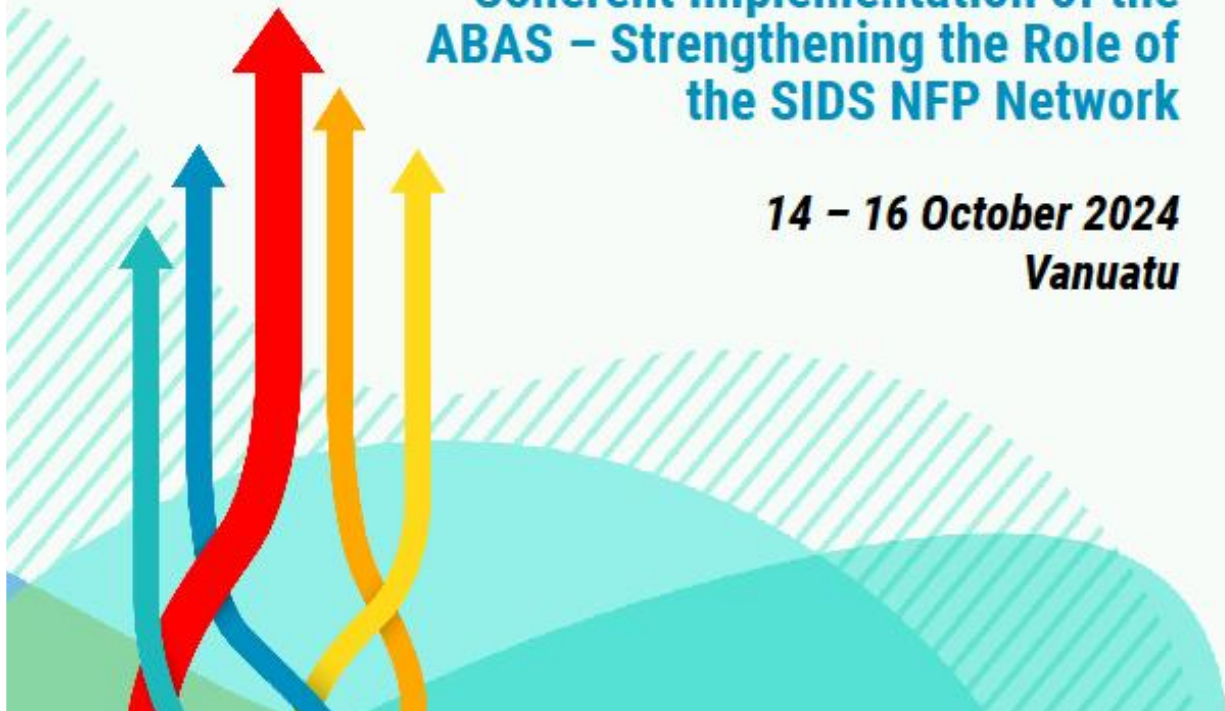


UN-OHRLLS

# **Fifth Annual in Person Meeting of the SIDS National Focal Points Network**

**Coherent Implementation of the  
ABAS – Strengthening the Role of  
the SIDS NFP Network**

**14 – 16 October 2024  
Vanuatu**





## Programme

### Day 1 – 14 October

9am – 9.30am

#### REGISTRATION

9.30am – 10am

#### OPENING

- Master of Ceremony: Mr. Sylvain Kalsakau, Head, UN Division, DFAIC
- Opening Remarks by Ms. Fatima Rabab, Under Secretary General and High Representative for the LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS (Video Message)
- Keynote Address: Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Matai Seremaiah

10am – 10.30am

#### FAMILY PHOTO TEA/COFFEE BREAK

10.30am – 11.45am

#### SESSION 1: SETTING THE SCENE - UNPACKING ABAS

During this session, participants will unpack the ABAS and discuss the overall outcome including its different objectives, goals and timebound commitments such as the monitoring and evaluation framework for ABAS. There will also be discussions on the alignment of the 2030 Agenda to the ABAS and other relevant global agreements.

**Moderator:** H.E. Odo Tevi, Permanent Representative of Vanuatu to the United Nations

#### **Presentations:**

- H.E. Fatumanava Dr. Pa'olelei Luteru – Permanent Representative of Samoa and AOSIS Chair
- Ms. Kereeta Whyte – Deputy Permanent Representative of Barbados to the United Nations and AOSIS Bureau
- Ms. Tishka Francis, Head of SIDS Sub-Programme, UN-OHRLS

11.45am – 11:50pm

#### SHORT BREAK

11.50am – 1pm

#### SESSION 1 CONTINUED: UNPACK ABAS

The participants will then move on to hold preliminary discussions on integrated planning and localization of ABAS through sharing lessons learned and best practices from the SAMOA Pathway. Participants will engage in interactive dialogues to explore potential partnerships and collaborations to implement ABAS.



**Moderator:** H.E. Odo Tevi, Permanent Representative of Vanuatu to the United Nations

**Presentations:**

- Mr. Parasram Gopaul – Minister Counsellor, Head IGO Politics, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regional Integration and International Trade of Mauritius
- Ms. Matsuko Pelomo – Chief Planning Officer, Ministry of Planning and Development of Solomon Islands
- Ms. Ana Silvia Rodriguez Abascal – Deputy Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cuba
- Ms. Andie Fong Toy, UNESCAP (Lead Discussant)
- Mr. Viliame Cativakalakeba, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Lead Discussant)

1pm – 2.15pm

**LUNCH**

2.30pm – 3.30pm

**SESSION 2: REPORTING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF ABAS**

During this session, the participants will look at the reporting, monitoring and evaluation aspect of ABAS. The session will highlight the work of the Interagency-Taskforce [IATF] for ABAS and outline the status of the M&E Framework so far

**Moderator:** Ms. Juliette Hakwa, Head, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, Office of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu

**Presentations:**

- Ms. Tishka Francis – Head of SIDS Subprogramme, UN-OHRLS
- Ms. Anya Thomas – Economic Affairs Officer, UN-DESA
- Ms. Kennethia Douglas, Senior Programme Manager for Sustainable Development Technical Co-operation Unit, Ministry of Planning and Development of Trinidad and Tobago
- Mr. Christopher Ryan, UN ESCAP (Lead discussant)

3.30pm – 4pm

**TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

4pm – 5pm

**SESSION 2 CONTINUED: COLLABORATION WITH THE UN SYSTEM**

The Session will give the opportunity to the NFPs to discuss and share collaborations with the UN on the ground in support of national sustainable development efforts and national reporting mechanism that will align with the ABAS M&E Framework. This session will examine the status of collaboration between SIDS and the UN system, highlighting successes, challenges, and opportunities for improvement.



**Moderator:** Ms. Juliette Hakwa, Head, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, Office of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu

**Presentations:**

- Ms. Aishath Saadh, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Housing Land and Urban Development, Maldives
- Ms. Kereeta Whyte – Deputy Permanent Representative of Barbados to the United Nations
- Ms. Emily Wilkinson, ODI RESI (Lead Discussant)
- Ms. Sasha Jattansingh, Loss and Damage Expert, Climate Analytics (Lead Discussant)

*5.30pm – 7:30pm*

**THE GOVERNMENT OF VANUATU WELCOME COCKTAIL RECEPTION  
VENUE – RAMADA RESORT**





## Day 2 – 15 October

9am – 10.30am

### **SESSION 3: IN DEPTH DISCUSSION - ABAS FOCUS AREAS**

In this session, participants will engage in in-depth discussions on key areas of the ABAS that the NFP Network will focus on over the next two years. Topics will include, inter alia, the Debt Sustainability Support Service, Oceans and the BBNJ Agreement, the SIDS Center of Excellence, and digitalization. Additionally, the discussions will be linked to the upcoming High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2025, the reviewed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).

**Moderator:** Ms. Andie Fong Toy, Head of the UN ESCAP Subregional Office for the Pacific

#### **Presentations:**

- Mr. Garth Simon, Monitoring and Evaluation Associate and Project Technical Officer, Department of Environment of Antigua and Barbuda
- Mr. Bridge Thomas, Policy Coordinator, Office of the President of Palau
- Mr. Dominic Sofe, Programme Management Officer, UN-OHRLS

10.30am – 11am

### **TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

11am – 12.30pm

### **SESSION 3 CONTINUED: IN DEPTH DISCUSSION - ABAS FOCUS AREAS**

Following on from the previous session, participants will have in depth discussions [in groups / together] on the focus areas that will determine the workstream for NFPs for the next two years. This session, NFPs will bring ideas on how the NFPs will work in support/implement in localizing these areas through the processes outlined in the Engagement Strategy. These include, sharing best practices, building capacity, possible engagements at international meetings and other processes.

**Moderator:** Ms. Andie Fong Toy, Head of the UN ESCAP Subregional Office for the Pacific

#### **Presentations:**

- Ms. Kennethia Douglas, Senior Programme Manager for Sustainable Development Technical Co-operation Unit, Ministry of Planning and Development of Trinidad and Tobago
- Ms. Juliette Hakwa, Head, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, Office of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu
- Mr. Kenroy Roach, UN RCO Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean (Lead Discussant)
- Dr. Suella Hansen, Consultant (Lead Discussant)





12.30pm – 2pm

**LUNCH**

2pm – 3.30pm

**SESSION 4: STRENGTHENING NFP PARTNERSHIPS**

An interactive session focusing on building partnerships and building capacity of SIDS NFPs and how to engage the Partners, Civil Society through its Action Plan and Roadmap as well as how SIDS can work closely with the business community through the SIDS Global Business Network and the Centre of Excellence. These opportunities are important for the NFP Network to share widely to their national stakeholders.

**Moderator:** Mr. Kenroy Roach, UN RCO Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

**Presentations:**

- Ms. Rebecca Fabrizi, Special Envoy for SIDS, United Kingdom
- Ms. Gabriella Cassola, Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade, Malta
- Ms. Millie Ogden, Founder and CEO, 3 Link, Vanuatu Trade Commissioner to California
- Ms. Sasha Jattansingh, Loss and Damage Expert, Climate Analytics
- Ms. Juliette Hakwa, Head, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, Office of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu
- Mr. Damien Sass, Sustainable Development Officer, UN-OHRLLS
- Ms. Lisa Macalister, Managing Director, Savvy Vanuatu (Lead Discussant)
- Mr. Viliame Cativakalakeba, Research Officer, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Lead Discussant)
- Ms. Kelena Tapa, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Tuvalu (Lead Discussant)

3.30pm – 4pm

**TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

4pm – 5pm

**SESSION 4: WRAP UP AND CONCLUDE**

The final session will conclude the discussions and selected representatives will provide an oral summary of each session. A formal closing will take place with closing speaker from the host Government.

**Moderator:** Mr. Damien Sass, Sustainable Development Officer, UN-OHRLLS



### Day 3 – 16 October

*8.15am* **Pick-up at Ramada Hotel for the Site Visit**

*9am – 11am* **SESSION 5: SITE VISIT**  
The last day of the SIDS NFP Meeting will be the Site Visit to allow participants to see first-hand the national efforts of Vanuatu in implementing its sustainable development efforts that are linked to the goals and objectives of ABAS.

*12pm – 1.30pm* **LUNCH**

*1.30pm – 3.30pm* End of programme