



PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

23 December 2021

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to paragraph 8(a) of resolution 76/203 dated 17 December 2021 entitled “Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States”, where the General Assembly, welcoming the Secretary General’s recommendations on the potential development and coordination of work within the United Nations system on a **Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) for Small Island Developing States**, including on its potential finalization and use, decided to establish a representative high-level panel of experts co-chaired by two eminent persons, one of whom shall be from a small island developing State. The General Assembly subsequently, called upon the President of the General Assembly to appoint the members of the panel and to task them with carrying forward work to finalize the multidimensional vulnerability index by December 2022.

Accordingly, it is my intention to establish a **12-member high-level panel of experts (inclusive of two co-chairs)** and task it with its work as early as possible but no later than February 2022. In appointing this high-level panel, due consideration will be given to ensure regional, and gender balance. The panel will be drawn from the public sector, academia, civil society and the private sector. In selecting the panel, relevant experience, expertise, skills, and qualifications, will be considered. A terms of reference for the high-level panel is attached in this regard.

In order to ensure a large and diverse pool of candidates, I wish to invite interested Member States to submit through the respective Chairs of the regional groups, names of potential candidates whom you wish for me to consider for appointment to the panel. Submissions must include a concise and detailed curriculum vitae of the potential candidate, demonstrating their track record, and expertise as relevant to the work of the panel. **Submissions may be sent no later than 14 January 2022**, to [opga@un.org](mailto:opga@un.org), copied to Ms. Suzana Hrvatin ([hrvatin@un.org](mailto:hrvatin@un.org)) and Mr. Magnus Andresen ([magnus.andresen@un.org](mailto:magnus.andresen@un.org)).

For further information, you may contact Mr Fakasoa Tealei, Team Leader (Climate Change, Ocean, and the Environment) ([fakasoa.tealei@un.org](mailto:fakasoa.tealei@un.org)) and Ms Janil Greenaway, Senior Advisor on Sustainable Development ([janil.greenaway@un.org](mailto:janil.greenaway@un.org)) in my office.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Abdulla Shahid', written over a horizontal line.

Abdulla SHAHID

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