

**The Sixth Global Conference on
Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement
and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Unleashing synergies towards an equitable, climate-resilient and sustainable future

CONCEPT NOTE

(Draft as of 23 May 2025)

**Thematic Breakout Session 2.2 – Climate and Security in
Small Island Developing States (SIDS): Challenges and Perspectives**

Date: Wednesday, 28 May 2025

Time: 13:00 – 14:30

Location: UN City, Auditorium 1

Context

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are on the frontlines of the climate crisis. Rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and resource scarcity are already impacting these countries, threatening their economies, societies, and sovereignty. As a result, the intersection between climate change and security is especially significant for SIDS. These nations face a unique set of challenges: they are highly vulnerable to the physical impacts of climate change yet often lack the resources and resilient mechanisms to effectively address these threats. Climate change poses multiple security risks to SIDS, including threats to food and water security, forced displacement due to rising seas, and the potential for increased conflict over scarce resources.

These impacts not only affect SIDS directly but also have broader implications for regional and global stability. Therefore, integrating climate change into the security framework is crucial, especially for SIDS that are experiencing these challenges in real-time. This thematic breakout session aims to provide a platform for SIDS to share their perspectives on the security risks posed by climate change and discuss how the international community can better support them in their efforts to build resilience. It will also highlight how global security policies and climate action can be better aligned to address the specific challenges SIDS face.

Guiding Objectives

- To explore the security risks posed by climate change to SIDS, including impacts on food, water security, and population displacement.
- To understand the unique perspectives of SIDS in terms of climate-induced security threats and their strategies for resilience.
- To discuss the role of international institutions and frameworks in addressing climate security in SIDS.
- To identify synergies between climate action, security, and sustainable development in SIDS, with a focus on ensuring no one is left behind.
- To foster partnerships and collaboration to enhance the security and climate resilience of SIDS, addressing the intersection of climate action and security.

Agenda

13:05- 13:10	Welcome Remarks	Mr. Sainivalati S. Navoti , Chief, SIDS Unit, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
13:10 – 13:15	Opening Remarks	H.E. Mr. Maina Vakafua Talia , Minister of Home Affairs, Climate Change and Environment, Tuvalu
13:15 – 14:00	Climate & Security-The SIDS Perspective	<p>H.E. Mr. Ali Naseer Mohamed, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Maldives to the United Nations</p> <p>H.E. Ms. Janine Felson, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Belize to the United Nations; Lead Negotiator, Climate Finance, Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)</p> <p>Ms. Barbara Rijks, Denmark Chief of Mission and Coordinator for the Nordic Countries, International Organization for Migration (IOM)</p> <p>Mr. Edvard Hviding, Professor, University of Bergen, Norway.</p>
14:00 – 14:25	Q&A and Roundtable Discussion	Open to all participants.
14:25 – 14:30	Closing by Facilitator	Mr. Sainivalati S. Navoti



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<https://www.un.org/en/climate-sdgs-conference-2025>

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