



**Statement by Nauru on behalf of
the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)
AWG-KP Closing Plenary
Bonn, 24 May 2012**

Madam Chair,

Nauru has the honor to speak on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, a grouping of 43 members most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

On behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, let me thank the co-chairs and the co-facilitators of the spin-off groups for their very helpful guidance and support. The work was constructive, but did not progress as far as we had hoped.

Over the past two weeks while we have been in these rooms debating texts, climate change impacts have continued to accelerate. As small islands and other vulnerable countries have continued to emphasize over the course of this session, we must respond to these accelerating impacts with a level of mitigation ambition that rises to the enormity of the challenge we face.

We must act now to **strengthen** the Kyoto Protocol, to secure the continuation of our legally binding rules based system, to enable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions at a **scale and within a timeframe** to avoid the catastrophic impacts of climate change.

Madam Chair,

We must conclude the work of the AWG-KP in Doha with the adoption of Doha amendments that establish a five-year second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol to run from 2013 to 2017. In our view, the ambition that Parties have brought forward is insufficient and cannot be locked in for an 8-year commitment period.

Madam Chair, the amendments we adopt must express ambitious and unconditional emission reductions, and they must be legally binding on Parties from 1 January 2013 forward, through the **provisional application of these amendments pending their entry into force**. This is necessary to ensure that there is no legal gap in the implementation of the Protocol, and no question about the implications of a gap for the operation of the Protocol's framework of accounting rules, institutions and flexibility mechanisms.

We must also preserve our important **eligibility rules** for these mechanisms and ensure that they are not weakened in the second commitment period, so that the environmental

integrity of the mechanisms is not undermined. These include the establishment of an assigned amount for the second commitment period and compliance with all existing reporting requirements. We appreciate the work being undertaken in SBSTA to address technical issues and AOSIS looks forward to engaging actively in this work, which AOSIS has identified as a priority.

Madam Chair,

We have much unfinished business at the end of this session – most of which goes directly to the key issue of mitigation ambition. The **proposed amendments** attached to decision 1/CMP.7 require further work, because they do not yet deliver the ambition we need. It is also clear that other Parties have similar concerns, as additional proposed amendments have come forward. It is of course important that the proposed amendments of all Parties are treated equally as we take our work forward.

Madam Chair, at this session AOSIS has brought forward a **rule set** for the translation of pledges to QELROs, to ensure that QELROs are transparent with respect to starting point and trajectory, and that they will deliver real emissions reductions. We look forward to further discussions on this rule set.

Madame Chair, there are a number of tasks we must complete on an expedited basis in the months to come, each of which will impact the environmental effectiveness of our second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol. These include the following:

1. We must address the issue of surplus Kyoto units directly and decisively, and AOSIS and others have provided proposals to help move this issue forward
2. We must reflect our common understanding that the starting point for the translation of pledges to QELROs is the mid-point of the first commitment period
3. We must simplify the structure of Annex B to allow for inscription of clear, unconditional, single number QELROs for a five-year commitment period.
4. We must clarify that units from any new market mechanism under the Convention may only be used within the Kyoto accounting framework if they have been scrutinized for environmental integrity
5. We must acknowledge that the compliance system of the Kyoto Protocol will apply to the second commitment period.

Madame Chair,

Most fundamentally, we must complete our work on individual and aggregate ambition under Article 3.1.

To this end Madame Chair,

Through you, we ask Parties that have **not yet brought forward their QELROs** to do so at the earliest possible time – immediately after this session and well before the next session and to do so based on the rule set AOSIS has proposed.

For those Parties that **have** presented ranges, we ask them to bring forward single number QELROs consistent **with the upper end of their ranges or beyond**.

We also ask all Parties that have **already** brought forward QELROs to consider the rule set and simple principles AOSIS has proposed, and to consider the presentation of more ambitious QELROs that are below 1990 and below emission levels.

Madame Chair, AOSIS has shown what QELROs at the upper end of Party ranges could look like in a 5-year commitment period in our submissions using our rule set. It is clear that we will need further inputs from Parties to achieve, clear, unconditional legally binding commitments from Annex I parties for the second commitment period and an amended annex B that we can all support.

The task at hand is ambitious, but under your leadership Madam Chair, we know that it is achievable. AOSIS will engage constructively over the course of this year to support our important work, and I look forward to seeing you in Bangkok.