



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

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS). AOSIS wishes to associate itself with the statement made by Algeria on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

When we addressed the opening plenary of this session, we urged all Parties to approach our work in the AWG-LCA with a sense of urgency, focusing on the key implementation tasks assigned to this group in Durban with a view to narrowing our differences and transmitting to COP 18 a text that allows for the smooth termination of the work of the AWG-LCA. Unfortunately this objective was not achieved. While there was movement in some areas, our progress has been extremely slow in some critical areas.

Given the state of the science, the sheer scale of the impacts we are already experiencing, and the well-documented catastrophic consequences of delayed or insufficient action, no effort should be spared to ensure we avert dangerous climate change. We must keep our eyes focused on the objective for our work. We are not negotiating for negotiation's sake, but seeking to tackle the defining challenge of our time. It is irresponsible and ethically unjustifiable to fail to respond to this challenge in the manner demanded by the science.

In this regard, AOSIS wishes to highlight the need to inject a new sense of urgency into the negotiations under the Shared Vision and Review building blocks. Decision 2/CP. 17 provides a clear and unequivocal mandate to complete these tasks in Doha and we call on all Parties to get to work on them in a constructive and focused manner. Progress this session has been, at best, incremental. We look forward to the further discussion of concrete proposals, as opposed to the continuation of circular discussions, to assist in moving us forward in the next session.

Mr. Chairman,

On mitigation, AOSIS has expressed loud and clear its desire for a strong push on mitigation under the LCA in 2012 to secure increased mitigation ambition consistent with the science. AOSIS estimates that current pledges from Annex I parties deliver only 1-7% below 1990 levels (when applying current accounting rules, including surplus carryover). Developed countries must move immediately to the top of their target ranges **and beyond** if we're to stay on track to avoiding dangerous climate change.

Our ongoing "clarification of targets" exercise, using a "pick-and-choose" approach to counting emissions, is completely inadequate, and cannot be a replacement for common accounting rules. The first step must be to facilitate the presentation of transparent, unconditional, emission reduction targets expressed as a carbon budget over a defined period to ensure comparability with commitments put forward under the KP. In other words, we need to convert targets to tonnes. This is the only way to underpin carbon markets with environmental integrity.

To facilitate this, we have proposed a set of focused and interactive workshops on common accounting rules at our next session in Bangkok. We have also proposed ongoing workshops to better understand the diversity of NAMAs, and believe that a compilation paper, collated by the Secretariat and made available before Bangkok, would be a helpful basis for that work.

And on finance, AOSIS has proposed that the AWG-LCA commence the political discussions on providing certainty and clarity on financing post-2012, including agreeing on a possible 2013-2015 early implementation period. We remain convinced that this would also build confidence in the negotiations under the ADP, while providing developing countries with the means to implement many of the new actions on adaptation and mitigation agreed to in the AWG-LCA. We were disappointed that developed countries resisted launching these negotiations. AOSIS hopes that this unfortunate situation will change at our next negotiating session.

Mr. Chairman,

AOSIS continues to believe that COP-18 in Doha must deliver a comprehensive and ambitious outcome and must build on the progress achieved in Cancun and Durban. However this requires decisive leadership from our Chair and strict adherence from all Parties to the decisions taken at Durban. I urge all Parties to remain focused on the context for our work, protecting and safeguarding our peoples from the ravages of climate change.

I thank you.