



**Statement delivered by Nauru on behalf of
The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)
Opening Plenary Subsidiary Body for Implementation
Bonn, Germany - 14 May 2012**

1. Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.
2. Nauru has the honour to speak on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States.
3. At the outset, I would like to associate this statement with the statements of the Group of 77 and China, the Least Developed Countries and the African Group of countries.
4. Mr. Chairman, at each of these sessions, AOSIS has been reminding the SBI of the context in which we are working, namely that we are no closer to achieving our ultimate objective of *“stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations at levels that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system in order to allow economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner”*. We have been doing this for the last 19 years – since the Convention was adopted and opened for signature at the Rio Earth Summit in June of 1992 ... but what do we have today?
5. Mr. Chairman, what we have are greenhouse gas emissions that are 33% higher than they were when we started. The International Energy Agency stated recently that fossil fuel emissions were at their highest in history. We are very close to crossing the threshold that would make it impossible to limit warming to well below 1.5°C, or even below 2°C.

There is increasing scientific evidence that the climate crisis is getting worse. The rate of sea level rise over the last twenty years is double the rate observed over the last century, significantly above the upper end of the range projected in the IPCC's 4th assessment report. For SIDS, this represents a grave threat to our survival and viability.

6. We seem to have lost our focus on the reduction of greenhouse gases and the avoidance of the adverse impacts of climate change on

vulnerable countries. Despite the highly technical nature of the negotiations, it should not detract from the real business at hand of actually reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

7. *First and foremost*, we want to see an urgent focus on enhancing the mitigation ambition of all countries **and developed countries must take the lead**.
8. *Second*, it is time for the production of a compilation and synthesis report of the Non-Annex I National Communications to enable us to take stock of where developing countries are with respect to their mitigation efforts and adaptation needs. We respectfully request the Chair of the SBI to assist us in securing such a compilation and synthesis report through the inclusions of recommendations and outcomes under Article 4 at this session. We have invested an enormous amount of effort in producing our national communications and need a place to reflect and discuss the substance of these reports in this process.
9. *Third*, we also wish to see the process of NAMAs further elaborated so that it supports developing countries in their NAMA planning, development, registration and implementation. A simplified procedure for LDCs and SIDS will also be proposed from our side. We welcome the presentation of the prototype registry and look forward to making suggestions for improving its functionality and design.
10. *Fourth*, we must find ways to undertake the work of the Convention and Protocol in a manner that will not marginalize smaller delegations like members of AOSIS, LDCs and Africa.
11. *Fifth*, AOSIS is calling for the establishment of an international mechanism to address loss and damage at COP18 in Doha and for progress towards this goal to be made here in Bonn as well as at the remaining workshops this year. A SIDS workshop needs to be convened soonest, and AOSIS would wish to support the Secretariat in the development of the agenda and the invitation of experts to that meeting. A regional organization associated with AOSIS has also offered a moderate financial contribution to the convening of that workshop.
12. *Finally*, we have the responsibility to define the new programme on Education, Training and Public Awareness under Article 6 of the Convention, which is an essential ingredient for achieving the goals of the

Convention and for an effective implementation of adaptation and mitigation actions. We consider that the New Program should have annual follow up, with capacity development activities, such as training programs for Non-Annex I Parties, and technical support for developing national strategies on Article 6, among others. Finally we would like to highlight the urgent need for concrete and sufficient funding for an effective implementation of Article 6 Programme activities.

13. We also want to note, Mr. Chairman, that there are risks that smaller delegations will not be able to participate effectively in these workshops and expert meetings. We are concerned that if such processes are not properly managed, they can result in the effective disenfranchisement of the most vulnerable countries, who are already suffering the worst impacts from climate change.
14. In this regard, we also wish to emphasise that decision-making by the COP is central to the success and credibility of this process. We call on the COP to fulfill its responsibilities.