



**Statement delivered by Nauru on behalf of
The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)
Opening Plenary SBSTA 39, Warsaw**

1. Good morning Mr Chairman and distinguished delegates. I have the honour of delivering this statement on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States. AOSIS associates itself with the statement made by Fiji on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.
2. Mr Chairman, the Convention is guided by the science of climate change and this is the body that addresses that science.
3. The conclusion of the IPCC WG1 for the 5th Assessment Report and the recent UNEP GAP report both emphasize that if parties don't increase their mitigation actions and pledges, we are on track to exceed global warming beyond 4°C by 2100.
4. Already, with warming of only .85 degrees Celsius, the communities in our islands are experiencing more frequent and intense storms, droughts, sea level rise and other life-altering climate impacts. One can only turn to the media and find the devastations in the Palau, Micronesia, and, most severely, in the Philippines. Vietnam and China are now in the grips of the storm. AOSIS members both commiserate and empathize with the people of these nations .
5. Therefore, the 2013-2015 review should be a priority on our agenda. The Joint SBI SBSTA contact group on the Review must, with the assistance of the Structured Expert Dialogue, deliver conclusions that lead to immediate implementation of the actions required to meet the 1.5 degrees target. The Joint Contact Group could not commence any formal work at its June session due to the suspended work of the SBI. The co-chairs consulted informally and bilaterally with representatives from Parties and met with the co-facilitator's of the Structured Expert Dialogue to share initial ideas on the conduct of the Review. We should now be in a position to build on these discussions and initiate decisive activities in a manner of urgency and efficiency/ adequacy.

6. The Review must be based on the best, the latest and the most relevant science and must ultimately consider the specific impacts and risks at different levels of warming to key sectors and systems with a focus on particularly vulnerable countries such as SIDS and LDCs.
7. Here in Warsaw we expect to quickly complete the initial work on clearly defining the roles of the Joint Contact Group and Structured Expert Dialogue in the Review and agreeing to an initial Programme of Work for the Review that will place us on schedule to complete our work in a timely manner.
8. Regarding Agenda item 6 on the development of transfer of technologies and implementation of the technology mechanism, we welcome the reports of the TEC and CTCN and we urge the operationization of these bodies.
9. AOSIS welcomes the progress made in the work programme on clarifying the quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets of developed country Parties. Parties made initial progress towards the development of a common accounting framework for developed country targets, even though the work programme on developing country NAMAs was on hold in the SBI. We look forward to building on this constructive start when we continue discussions under this work programme here at SBSTA 39.
10. We look forward to the results of SBSTA workshop to consider information on the technical and scientific aspects of coastal marine ecosystems. We must emphasize that coastal ecosystems are not only a carbon sink but also face serious threats resulting from global warming, sea level rise and ocean acidification. If they are imperiled they will become another important source of emissions.
11. With respect to agenda item 11a, on the implications of the decisions taken in Durban and Doha on previous decisions related to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol, AOSIS would like to thank our very able co-facilitators and the secretariat for their very hard work at this session.
12. AOSIS views it as essential that the new tools agreed in Doha to ensure the environmental integrity of Annex I Party commitments be applied as intended. These tools include the application of new Article 3.7ter to each Party's emissions budgets for the second commitment period, restrictions on carryover to Parties with Annex B QELROs through the establishment of previous period surplus reserves, and new provisions on eligibility. Importantly, we have also agreed on a mechanism to ratchet up mitigation ambition during the course of the second commitment period. AOSIS looks forward to engaging in further discussions on the operational implications of

these newly-agreed tools over the coming months so that any ambiguities related to the application of these rules to each Party can be clarified in a transparent way.

13. Mr. Chair, with respect to Agenda item 12a, AOSIS is of the view that clarifying at the outset the purpose and scope of the framework for various approaches will be essential in gaining the confidence of all Parties before progressing to the details of how such a framework might be implemented. We believe that any such framework should be elaborated under the Convention, be applied under the guidance and authority of the COP, and be designed to ensure the environmental integrity of mitigation efforts through application of a robust, internationally-agreed, transparent, set of common accounting rules. It should ensure that we do not double count emission reduction efforts or finance used toward Convention commitments.
14. Mr. Chairman, with respect to agenda items 12 b and c, market and non-market based approaches, we look forward to engaging on the questions identified at this session. It will be important to explore how the new market mechanism can broaden participation while providing net emission reductions and how certain non-market based mechanisms can be used.
15. Mr. Chairman, we urge parties to work constructively this week to make progress in these areas and thus ensure that this session of the SBSTA is successful. You can rely on our support.
16. Thank you.