

Statement delivered by The Maldives on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States  
(AOSIS) SBI Closing Plenary  
Paris 2015

Thank you very much Mr. Chairman,

The Maldives speaks on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, a group of 44 countries most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

However, we are extremely disappointed and disheartened that the final steps in the 2013-2015 Review Process necessary for the completion of its mandate have not yet been taken. This despite several intense weeks of Parties actively engaging in this work.

We reiterate that the recent findings of the Structured Expert Dialogue (SED) underscore what communities on the frontlines of the climate change crisis have known for some time: that the so called “guardrail” of 2 °C, is wholly inadequate.

We are appalled that after many years of investing effort and political capital in a process that was fair, transparent, and most importantly, scientifically rigorous, there are just a handful of countries that are seeking to make a whitewash of the issue, and prevent any outcome from going to the COP. This is completely unacceptable. The issue needs to be addressed urgently and at the highest levels. We call on you Chair to convey these messages to the French Presidency.

The Parties in this room, and the world at large, deserve much better from this process. The outside world deserves to know and understand the dangers and risks that are coming our way if we fail to limit warming to below 1.5 degrees. No outcome from the Review is NOT AN OPTION.

We wish to make clear here and now that this issue is not closed.

Given the 2013-2015 Review was an issue at the heart of what was agreed in Cancun, and was then listed specifically in Durban as a necessary input that must be taken into account in the work of the ADP, we quite simply have no option but to forward the work on the Review to the COP for consideration by Ministers. We are asking you to make very clear in your report to the COP Presidency that the issue of 1.5 must be taken up by the Presidency with some urgency to ensure a substantive agreement is reached.

In regards to capacity building in developing countries, we are troubled that the issue has not received the urgent attention it deserves and that there are still divergent views from a few Parties on how the delivery of capacity building activities could be improved to the benefit of all Parties.

Thank you.

