



**Statement by the Republic of Maldives on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States  
Seventh Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on the Post 2015 Development Agenda**

**29 July 2015**

**Follow Up and Review**

Co-facilitators,

1. I am delivering a brief set of comments today on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS). We align ourselves with the statement delivered by South Africa, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.
2. The Follow up and Review mechanism is an essential requirement for the realisation of this very ambitious and far-reaching Post 2015 Development Agenda.
3. AOSIS found the edited Follow Up and Review chapter 4 of the Outcome Document to be adequately comprehensive, yet not overly prescriptive, as we had requested.
4. In particular, AOSIS appreciates the inclusion of the IAEG’s deadline to develop the indicators and urges that this March 2016 date remain in the text. Furthermore, the reference to “reliable and timely” disaggregated data is welcomed, as is the recognition that this process will need to be “people-centered.”
5. AOSIS offers two substantive additions to this Chapter
  - a. To add “voluntary” before peer review to be consistent with principle 70a, and highlight the voluntary nature of the review and follow up process.

“Follow-up and review at the regional and sub-regional levels can should, as appropriate, provide useful opportunities for **voluntary** peer review and learning, sharing of best practices, cooperation on trans-boundary issues and discussion on shared targets. We welcome in this respect the cooperation of regional and sub-regional commissions and organizations. Regional processes can draw on national-level reviews and contribute to follow-up and review at the global level, including at the High Level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF).”

- b. We would like to see the inclusion of text emphasizing the value of generating baseline data. National governments, as well as the different fora for review, can use baseline information to better measure progress. Referencing the importance

of filling the gaps around baselines should also serve as a useful incentive to encourage the realization of promised capacity building in developing countries, as well as improved data collection and statistical analysis. We recommend adding the following sentence to the end of paragraph 79 to clearly capture this concern:

"Global indicators, recognizing national policy space, **in addition to the outcomes of the additional work to be undertaken for the development of baseline for those targets where national and global baseline data does not yet exist**, will provide guidance to national statistical authorities in their development of national indicators."

6. We also have a few very minor language tweaks that we will submit for your consideration along with the above language.

We thank you co-facilitators and colleagues for your time