



**Statement by
Maldives on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)
Conclusion of the Second Committee**

14 December 2015

Mr. Chairman,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS). We align ourselves with the statement made by the distinguished representative of South Africa on behalf of G77 and China.
2. We would like to begin by extending our heartfelt appreciation to you Mr Chair, and the Bureau of the Second Committee for the successful conclusion of the regular session, and the bale way you steered our work. The many challenges we faced were met with fierce leadership and resolve and we congratulate you. Our thanks go out to the Secretariat for their support and unwavering commitment as well.
3. Today, as we conclude the regular session of the second committee's work, there is much to look back at, and be proud of. 2015 has been a landmark year indeed. With the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in March, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in July, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September, and the "Paris Agreement" of the 21st Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC just two days ago, this has been a triumphant year for multilateralism.
4. For Small Island Developing States, all these outcomes further reinforced and reiterated our development priorities set out in the SAMOA Pathway adopted one year ago. And they serve as crucial milestones in our journey to achieve sustainable development.

Mr Chair,

5. The next step is perhaps the hardest: the implementation. Next year, we will receive the Report of the Secretary general on the modalities for the review of the HLPF. We will host the first ECOSOC Forum for Financing for Development. We will receive the indicators for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda, and we will hold the first HLPF Meeting following the adoption of the Agenda. How we act from now on,

will determine how successful we are in achieving the lofty ambitions we have set for ourselves.

Mr Chairman,

6. Under your leadership, next year, we will review and rationalise the agenda of the Second Committee against the international development framework we have adopted this year. We reiterate again: the ultimate goal of an evaluation of this discussion, should be to effectively implement the development priorities we have set for ourselves in the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, and the various programmes of actions for countries in special situations including the SAMOA Pathway. In our decisions, we must ensure that the quality and substance of the Second Committee's work is not lost in favour of ensuring efficiency. Any approach we take must ensure a fine balance between realising our core objectives and timeliness.
7. In previous discussions, we have also highlighted the need for a holistic approach which will require an evaluation of a re-think of the work of the Second Committee, but also a discussion on how the 2030 Agenda relates to the work of other Committees including the Fifth Committee, and in fact the entire UN system, including the High Level Political Forum.

Mr Chairman

8. We believe that the work we are doing have far reaching implications on how we approach development issues at the United Nations, and how we approach the realisation of the 2030 Agenda, in a truly transformative manner. Which is why, we have to work together, in partnership. Development is a shared effort. And our committee must reflect this reality.
9. We believe it is time to let go of the frustrations that seem to have gripped our work, and move ahead, in the achievement of our shared vision; of eradicating poverty and truly transforming our world. AOSIS remains ready to engage, and move forward. I thank you.