

AOSIS SBSTA Statement
UNFCCC Climate Change Conference
May 2016
Bonn, Germany

1. Thank you very much Chair. The Maldives speaks on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, a group of 44 countries small island and coastal countries that are highly vulnerable to climate change. We look forward to working with you and I assure you of our support moving forward. In the interest of expediency, I will quickly list our priorities for this session on our way to Marrakesh.

2. With respect to agenda item 10. on the Framework for Various Approaches, Non-market based approaches and the New Market mechanism, we support the proposal to close this agenda item. We are pleased that through new Article 6 we have agreed in the context of cooperative approaches that Parties shall: ensure environmental integrity and transparency, including in governance; ensure the avoidance of double counting; ensure robust accounting; promote sustainable development and, importantly, ensure consistency with guidance to be adopted by the CMA on these and other issues. We are also pleased with references in Article 6 to the goal of delivering an overall mitigation in global emissions and a share of proceeds through the operation of the new mechanism established under Article 6.4. We look forward to constructive discussions on these issues now under SBSTA agenda item 11, building on all the valuable technical work we have done already in relation to market-related items under the Convention and Kyoto Protocol, in our work here in Bonn and as we move forward to Marrakech.
and transparency

3. We thank the IPCC for their early preparation to contribute to the Global Stocktake and we look forward to providing constructive feedback at this session. For its subsequent Assessment Report (AR) cycles, IPCC may wish to consider synchronising the AR cycles with the Global Stocktake so that our future contributions are always informed by the latest science. For the same reason, we hope to see the Special Report on 1.5 degrees as early in 2018 as possible so that it can be properly considered in time for the facilitative dialogue in 2018.

4. Related to agenda item 6 (b) on the assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the global stocktake, we are very concerned to hear that the World Climate Research Programme has given lowest priority to a below-1.5°C scenario in the next generation climate model intercomparison project CMIP6, which will present the basis for the sixth IPCC assessment report. Thereby, only a 2°C scenario as in the IPCC fifth assessment report would be assessed by all modelling groups. We need the best possible science on 1.5°C to inform our work going forward under the Paris Agreement including for key processes such as the global stocktake. We are therefore of the view that 1.5°C scenarios should be given the highest priority in the forthcoming scenario framework and urge you to reach

out to the World Climate Research Programme, the IPCC and others in the scientific community to convey this as a matter of urgency.

5. Additionally, the online training programme for review experts is an excellent resource and we hope that many developing country representatives will take advantage of this opportunity. Special thanks are owed to the Secretariat for this initiative.

6. Next, adequate and predictable finance is a prerequisite for climate action, especially adaptation in SIDS. We, therefore, welcome the initiation of work to develop modalities for accounting of financial resources, as stipulated in Article 9.7 of the Paris Agreement. AOSIS believes that having a clear definition of climate finance is essential to enhance transparency in this regard. To that end, we request the Secretariat to provide an update on the work of the Standing Committee on Finance to develop a definition.

7. AOSIS welcomes the decisions in the Paris Agreement on Capacity-building and looks forward to working with the Subsidiary Body for Implementation for its full operationalization.

8. Finally, Article 8 on loss and damage is one of the Paris Agreement's great achievements and reflects the international community's growing understanding of the issue. We look forward to working with all Parties, to ensure that current work on loss and damage under the Convention is as effective as possible. We have the opportunity, now, to review our work on loss and damage and lay the groundwork for enhancing and strengthening the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) to ensure that it is fit for purpose. The 2016 review of the WIM provides a unique opportunity for Parties to better equip the WIM to implement its agreed functions. To give us ample time to take advantage of this important moment, AOSIS is proposing that we commence work on the review of the WIM at this session that will lay the foundation prior to COP 22. We trust that all Parties will continue to demonstrate commitment to addressing loss and damage by agreeing to begin our work on loss and damage here, at this SB session.