

AOSIS SBI 46  
Opening Statement  
Bonn, Germany

Thank you very much Chair. The Maldives speaks on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, a group of 44 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 continued support. In the interest of expediency, I will quickly list our priorities for this session:

**With respect to SBI agenda item 3 – inventory reports from Annex I Parties,** We know well our objective: All Parties have agreed to pursue a 1.5 degree limitation in global surface average temperature increase under the Convention and under the Paris Agreement, and this requires global emissions to urgently peak and then decline to net zero by mid-century in the second half of this century.

**With respect to SBI Agenda item 5 – public registry under Article 4.12,** at the last session we noted that the Secretariat’s interim NDC registry, is searchable. We also expressed our hope that further technical improvements could be made to enhance this search function, so that the interim registry can become even more user-friendly and informative for the Parties and for the public. At the current session, we look forward to technical discussions around the elaboration of modalities and procedures for the operation and use of the public registry under Article 4.12, recognising that what the public is most interested in will most likely be easily accessible information on Parties’ NDCs.

**With respect to SBI Agenda item 6 – public registry under Article 7.12,** We look forward to further discussions on matters related to an adaptation registry. This further work will require an elaboration on modalities and procedures for the operation and use of a public registry, recognising the need to bring adaptation on the same level as mitigation. This registry must be implemented in a manner that is informative, provides easy access and potentially linkable with the mitigation registry. We look forward to discussions on the features of such a registry as currently being deliberated under the APA agenda item on adaptation communications.

**With respect to SBI Agenda item 7 – on the review of the modalities and procedures of the CDM,** we note that this issue has been ongoing for some time, without resolution of fundamental concerns we share with many other Parties relating to environmental integrity. These concerns include, among others, the need to address the avoidance of double counting and crediting period length to ensure real and measurable emissions reductions. We suggest that perhaps less negotiating time be allocated to this particular agenda item at this session than was allocated at the last session, if we are not going to be able to move forward constructively to address the needed improvements.

**With respect to SBI agenda item 9 – on National Adaptation Plans,** AOSIS is pleased to note the support being provided by the Green Climate Fund for the formulation of

national adaptation plans and look forward to support being provided for the implementation of national adaptation plans. Already this year Cyclone Donna intensified to a category 3 and hammered parts of Vanuatu. This highlights the special situation of SIDS and the need to effectively address adaptation and make efforts to avert and minimize loss and damage.

**With respect to agenda item 11**, AOSIS looks forward to participating in the discussions on the review of functions of the Standing Committee on Finance and the Third Review of the Adaptation Fund. We believe that the outcomes of these reviews would serve an important basis in guiding us on how these bodies could serve the Paris Agreement.

**With respect to agenda item 16**, AOSIS shares the concerns of many other delegations on the proposed UNFCCC programme budget. We wish to undertake a pragmatic approach to discussing the budget and in this regard are undertaking analytical work. We need to determine how, despite constraints, we are able to manage our resources to ensure sufficient resources to undertake important mandated work and activities.

Finally, AOSIS welcomes the adoption of the decision on the Excom's report to the COP at COP 22, which approved the indicative framework for the five-year rolling workplan of the Excom and provides guidance for further developing it. This ensures that work on loss and damage will continue. We also congratulate Parties for their hard work on the review of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage, noting that Parties share a common understanding on the need for periodic review of the WIM in light of emerging and evolving circumstances. This bodes well for the role of the CMA in enhancing and strengthening the WIM as outlined in article 8 of the Paris Agreement.

Thank you.