

Final Preparatory Committee for the Third Conference on Small Island Developing States
23 – 27 June 2014

Statement
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Thank you, Co-facilitator, for giving me a floor.

We are very pleased to observe the progress being made in negotiating the SIDS Conference Outcome Document. I hope that constructive spirit will be further reinforced to ensure a success of the Samoa Conference.

We are gratified to note the Document underlines the importance of taking science based approaches to managing risks and undertaking mitigation measures to take SIDS challenges. We observed in today's deliberation that there is still a perceptual gap over key issues such as climate change, oceanographic variability, natural disasters and their causal relations. It is vital to enhance mutual understanding over critical issues in order to develop and implement policies and partnership activities effective in tackling challenges faced by SIDS. We consider it essential to establish and operationalize a platform that will facilitate science-policy interface and multi-stakeholder partnership conducive to achieving sustainable development in small island developing states and promoting sustainable management of their surrounding oceans.

Thank you.