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**Statement by Nauru on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States² at the Opening of
the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action
Lima, Peru
2 December 2014²**

Distinguished Co-Chairs, Excellencies, Colleagues,

Nauru has the honour to speak on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, a coalition of 44 island and low-lying coastal nations particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. We align ourselves with the statements made by Bolivia on behalf of the G77 and China.

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Co-Chairs,

At the outset, let me thank you for your hard work and assure you of our full trust and confidence in your leadership here in Lima. We begin this meeting on the heels of important announcements about emissions reductions from the world's largest emitters, as well as long-awaited pledges to the Green Climate Fund.

The news provides important momentum at a critical juncture in these negotiations. But, as the nations on the frontlines of the climate crisis, and ones who are already suffering severe impacts, we start these negotiations with the somber knowledge that the progress is not nearly enough and that the decisions we make here and on the road to Paris will determine whether or not the international community takes the bold action required to ensure the survival of all our members.

Still, there is no time to despair. Study after study has shown that it not too late to avert the worst impacts of climate change, but we must take action immediately and that begins with all of us here today.

In order to keep global temperatures from exceeding 2 degrees C (to say nothing of the 1.5 degree threshold called for by our group) emissions must come down as soon as possible and well before 2020. We think that the discussion on near-term mitigation, under Workstream 2 of the ADP, is our best opportunity to meet this imperative and it is an absolute priority for our group. Already, we have seen very constructive and solutions-oriented discussions in key areas. The UNFCCC and Convention provide an important platform for exchanges between policy experts and practitioners, as well as for strengthening initiatives in areas with high mitigation potential, but providing technical information to parties is only the first step. Translating this progress into real action on the ground will requiring linking it to the ongoing political process and we see important opportunities where the COP can capture information from WS2 and give it higher visibility.

For example, there should be high-level events at COPs, where countries are able to provide updates and discuss national and multilateral activities they are taking to

enhance mitigation effort. The ADP Ministerial here Lima should be the first of these events and it will allow countries to inform the UNFCCC of action partnerships established, such as the ones announced at the very successful SIDS Conference in Samoa in September..

There is also a need for political discussions on paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Warsaw decision. It is incumbent on developed countries to take the lead in addressing climate change by raising the ambition of their 2020 commitments, and ratifying the Doha Amendment to Kyoto Protocol. In addition, we must fully implement the agreed outcome of the Bali Action Plan, particularly through immediate action by developed countries to enhance the delivery of finance, technology transfer and development, and capacity building.

Co-Chairs,

Tackling climate change is an urgent but long-term effort and the international community must work diligently to ensure that we reach a ~~satisfactory~~ meaningful agreement next year in Paris, under Workstream 1 of the ADP.

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We are already at the brink of one degree of warming above pre-industrial levels with accompanying impacts far more severe than what scientists predicted just a few years ago. Therefore, the discussions on adaptation are absolutely critical in moving forward. For us, adaptation is about survival. Lamentably, we are also already experiencing impacts that can no longer be mitigated and to which we can no longer adapt to. Thus, Loss and Damage must be included as a central element of the 2015 agreement—one that is distinct and separate from adaptation. The Loss and Damage mechanism should have technical and financial functions to support vulnerable SIDS and LDCs in addressing the direct impacts of climate change with a governance body that includes representation of SIDS. We look forward to discussing this more fully. It is essential that we also make significant progress on the nature of INDCS. More broadly we see the need for more clarity and details is commensurate with the scale of the challenge that we are facing with the increasing impacts of climate change. in the following areas:

1. The 2015 agreement must be legally binding protocol under the Convention, applicable to all.
2. Ambition should be in line with delivering a long-term global goal of limiting temperature increases to below 1.5 degrees and consideration of all aspects of Art. 2 of the Convention must be considered at this session.
3. Mitigation efforts captured in the 2015 agreement must be clearly quantifiable so that we are able to aggregate the efforts of all Parties.
4. A further elaboration of the elements to be included in the 2015 agreement;

5. The identification of the information parties will provide when putting forward their intended nationally determined contributions in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the intended contributions towards achieving the long-term global goal and consideration all aspects of Article 2 of the Convention.
6. Finance is a fundamental building block of the 2015 agreement, and therefore it MUST contain commitments by developed country Parties and provisions to ensure scaled-up, adequate long term, predictable, new and additional finance to support mitigation and adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change in developing countries. This should complement other necessary means of implementation including transfer of technology and capacity building.
7. The new agreement should also address the gaps of the current climate finance architecture and flows, including the shortage of funding for concrete adaptation in most vulnerable countries and the barriers to access resources for those capacity-constrained countries. Both public and private flows towards low-emission and climate-resilient sustainable development have to be scaled-up urgently and different types of financing should be used and prioritized for different activities.

I assure you of our continued support as we work together, united by a sense of urgency and common purpose to do what is required.

Thank you.