

**Abstract for Seminar of Government Experts:
Presentation by the Government of Tuvalu**

The presentation and discussion paper will focus on Part (a) of the terms of reference for the Seminar of Government Experts. It will discuss future actions in relation to mitigation and adaptation.

It is the view of the Tuvalu Government that many small island states that we are already suffering the serious effects of climate change. Such effects include more severe weather events, coral bleaching, to name a few. Due to these effects, we believe that a dangerous level of greenhouse gas concentrations has already been reached and may have been reached some time back. We believe all countries need to address their greenhouse gas emissions and this can be achieved by prescribing specific courses of action for: Annex B Parties, Non Kyoto countries and Non Annex I Parties.

The period 2012-2020 will be vitally important. Annex B Parties will need to reduce their emissions substantially. This can be achieved through establishing a renewable energy and energy efficiency technology (REEET) pathway. Furthermore, changes in the Kyoto Protocol will be required including limiting the use of the CDM and eliminating the use of sinks as a tradeable commodity.

For Non-Kyoto countries new actions will need to be considered including the possible development of a new legal instrument, taking significant domestic reduction targets and establishing carbonless market incentives.

With respect to Non-Annex I Parties, we believe that it is possible to develop a voluntary emissions reduction process that will allow developing countries to take meaningful reduction targets without hindering their sustainable development aspirations. This can be done, for example by developing a renewable energy and energy efficiency fund (REEET Fund) and expanding the scope of the emissions trading system under the Kyoto Protocol. An overview of the mechanics of the REEET Fund is presented in the discussion paper. Finally, we need to decarbonise international financial institutions and establish rules that do not promote environmentally problematic technologies such as nuclear power.

With respect to adaptation we believe that there are two principle components; building resistance and resilience to the impacts of climate change and restoring damage after impacts have occurred. Establishing an effective process to allow countries to adapt to the impact of climate change will be vitally important for many countries in the near future. We do not believe it is necessary to develop an “adaptation protocol”, however changes will need to be made to the funding arrangements. We believe that countries should be able to develop their own vulnerability assessment processes without necessitating the development of internationally agreed criteria. National vulnerability assessments could be assisted by developing a vulnerability assessment clearinghouse.

Current funding arrangements for adaptation are inadequate and inappropriately administered. Funding conditionalities associated with incremental costs, mainstreaming, and co-financing hinder urgently needed adaptation action on the ground. The discussion paper suggests major reforms, including the development of a new adaptation finance facility outside the GEF. Sources of funding for this new

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facility are suggested. To meet the costs of restorative action a climate change insurance facility is proposed. The discussion paper also proposes action with respect to the impact of response measures, suggesting that fossil fuel exporting countries may be able to make a meaningful contribution to the sustainable development of other developing countries while at the same time ensuring their own financial security.

Finally the discussion paper suggests that the Seminar of Government Experts should be the first in a series of government dialogues.