

## **Submission by the Republic of Nauru on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)**

***Views on the content of the workshop to consider information on the technical and scientific aspects of ecosystems with high-carbon reservoirs not covered by other agenda items under the Convention, such as coastal marine ecosystems, in the context of wider mitigation and adaptation efforts.***

***June 2013***

Nauru welcomes the opportunity to present views on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), a group of 44 countries among the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

This submission addresses the issues raised in UNFCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.25 and in particular focuses on the content of a workshop to organize pursuant to paragraph 16.

AOSIS believes that the workshop provides an opportunity for the scientific community to communicate research findings to policymakers, and the policymakers in turn provide feedback to the research committee on areas that may require further research.

AOSIS considers that the discussions in this workshop not only focus on the potential carbon benefits to be derived from coastal marine ecosystems, but also the threats they face resulting from global warming, sea level rise and ocean acidification. The small island States and low-lying States rely heavily and in some cases exclusively from the management and use of these systems for their livelihoods. Therefore AOSIS believes that the workshop proposed under agenda item 7 take into consideration the experiences from small islands States and low-lying States which could be presented at the expert workshop scheduled for later this year utilizing the expertise resident in our countries.

Workshop should consider the following:

- 1) Advances in knowledge since the fourth assessment report in relation to the effects and consequences of increasing global temperatures and ocean acidification on the marine environment and ecosystems, including the role of the oceans as a global sink and reservoir of carbon;
- 2) Advances in knowledge in relation to the risks of the projected magnitude and rates of global and regional sea level rise from global warming over the next century, and beyond, and the impacts of these changes on coastal and marine ecosystems, including mangrove systems.
- 3) Advances in relation to mitigation option and actions that can limit or prevent the risks referred to above.