

## **Contribution to the UNFCCC Workshop on Article 6 of the Convention**

Tuvalu National Youth Council  
November 2010.

My name is Elise, I am 19 and in 2050, I will be 59. My name is Nainai, I am 18 and in 2050, I will be 58. Both of us come from Tuvalu, a low-lying state in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

We could not attend this workshop, but first of all, we would like to thank the parties and the Secretariat of the UNFCCC for organizing this meeting on education for the SIDS and we also would like to share with you our expectations concerning the Article 6 of the Convention and the New Delhi Work Programme.

### **Our situation concerning climate change and education**

Tuvalu is one of the lowest-lying State of the World. For the last 20 years, our country has experienced the consequences of climate change. One of the most visible consequences is the sea-level rise. This rise drives a massive coastal erosion and the lines of our coasts have been progressively modified. Our beaches, place where we use to play, have fun and live cease to be visible and the trees alongside the sea also fall down. When we walk on our shores, we can see the sand and our land disappearing in the ocean.

Our country is effectively and dramatically affected by climate change.

Even if we will be the victims of this change, our voices are rarely heard by the national governments and the International Organisations. **Decisions are everyday made or not made without our participation, even without our consultation.**

Furthermore, and even if **a lot of young people in Tuvalu are aware of this vulnerability, just a few of use are informed enough.** It's for us really difficult to access to this knowledge for technical and financial reasons.

Considering this situation, we would like to express you our needs concerning education, training and public awareness for the young people of Tuvalu.

### **Our needs concerning education, training and public awareness**

First of all, we want **our voice to be heard and taken into consideration in the national and international discussions concerning the future of our country.** As young people, as future mothers and fathers, we want to be sure that the future of our world will be safe and enjoyable.

To insure this constructive participation of the young people in the national and international decision-making process, we want to be **more trained and educated concerning climate change and its consequences for my generation and the next ones.** Our capacities need to be built up and strengthened.

In order to implement these needs, we would like to share with you our expectations concerning the implementation of the New Delhi Work Programme and the article 6.

### **Our expectations concerning the implementation of the NDWP and the Article 6**

First of all, we want **the integration of climate change issues in the curricula of the pupils of the primary and secondary schools**, here in Tuvalu and in all the different countries of the World.

Second, **we want to develop action-oriented workshop for the students and young people after the secondary school**. We need to be trained and we want to be encouraged to involve ourselves in acting for climate change after the secondary school. Climate change is a major threat for our country but it is also a possibility to lead useful actions and reduce unemployment through mitigation and adaptation actions.

Third, we finally want **national governments and international organisations to insure young people participation** in the decision-making process concerning climate change and our common future.

We are also aware that this programme of actions for education will have a cost and that our small island developing nations won't have enough financial resources to insure the implementation of this necessary programme. **For this reason, we urge the developed countries and the international organisations to help our countries to implement this programme.**

All together, we the youth of the world want to be the change that we need to see in the World. Please, work with us.