

**Statement by Nauru on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States
At the Closing of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for
Enhanced Action
14 March, Bonn, Germany**

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 as well as Sudan on behalf of the LDCs.

Co-Chairs,

At the outset, let me thank you for conducting such an effective session this week and assure you of the full trust and confidence we have in your leadership. We welcome the agreement to establish a contact group at the next meeting and look forward to making further progress under both Workstreams at the June session under our existing ADP agenda, as agreed here at this session.

Co-Chairs,

The opening of the technical expert groups under Workstream 2 this week provided a new opportunity to focus our discussions on the many opportunities available to enhance mitigation ambition in the short-term. We heard about some of the exciting steps countries are already taking in the areas of renewable energy and energy efficiency. These success stories demonstrate that the solutions to climate change are well within reach. This progress and emerging policy options should be captured in an update of our technical paper, and inform the ministerial discussions in June, in turn paving the way to the ramping up of ambition and the announcement of bold new initiatives and actions at the UN Secretary-General's Summit in September.

Co-Chairs,

We were also able to deepen our discussions about the 2015 agreement under Workstream 1. As we emphasized repeatedly this week the level of ambition for the 2015 agreement, in light of the most recent science, is absolutely critical to our group. Our members are already suffering severe climate impacts, including devastating king tides that struck the Marshall Islands just last week and recent droughts in the Caribbean, which severely impacted Saint Lucia, Dominica, and St. Vincent & the Grenadines. These impacts have resulted in millions of dollars of damage to our small economies. Our response must be driven by a real sense of urgency.

With this in mind, we would like to see the June session focus on the following areas:

1. A further elaboration of the elements to be included in the final 2015 agreement;
2. Rapid progress on identifying the information parties need to present with their nationally determined contributions in a manner that facilitates better clarity, transparency, and a clearer understanding of the proposed commitments; And
3. Agreement on a robust and transparent process to assess and review the adequacy and fairness of proposed commitments against the long-term global goal of holding warming below 1.5C, before the commitments are inscribed in the new legally-binding agreement.

In addition, the 2015 agreement MUST contain adequate provision for long term, scaled up, predictable, new and additional finance to support adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change. This should complement the necessary transfer of technology and provisions for capacity building.

Co-Chairs,

Loss and Damage must be a separate element to be reflected under the new agreement. It should form a separate area of negotiation and warrants specific discussion in a separate session.

The establishment of an International Mechanism to address Loss and Damage in Warsaw represents an important step and while our work continues there, addressing loss and damage is a reality for AOSIS and must be part of the 2015 agreement. The Warsaw International Mechanism must also be anchored in the new agreement.

There is much work to accomplish in a very short period of time, so as we have said previously, holding an additional meeting in October will be critical to ensure continued progress on these priority areas in both Workstreams, and to fulfill the mandates we have from the COP.

Thank you.