COP 24 Stocktake on Pre-2020 implementation and ambition Maldives as AOSIS Chair intervention

Mr. President, Colleagues,

At the outset, on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, allow me to thank Poland for your continued leadership here and for arranging this important stocktake on Pre-2020 implementation and ambition.

Our concern over the efforts being made to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the critical pre-2020 time-period, led us to call for this stocktake last year. We knew that we were falling short of what was needed to and that SIDS are uniquely vulnerable to this danger.

Mr. President and Colleagues,

We were startled by the findings of the IPCC's 1.5 Special Report. It warns that without a dramatic transformation of the global energy system, we could surpass 1.5 degrees of warming as soon as 2030.

These findings highlights the importance of collective action in the pre-2020 period in a new light and, obviously, the window for action is rapidly closing.

The report calls for rapid and scaled up action well before 2030, including the need to halve the amount of global CO2 emissions from 2010 levels by 2030, ensure that CO2 emissions reach net zero by 2050, and steeply reduce the use of coal toward a global phase out by 2050.

Already, human activities are estimated to have caused about 1°C of global warming and climate impacts that are far worse than previously forecast.

Unfortunately, even as the consequences of years of inaction become all-too-clear, we recently learned that 2018 posted the highest emissions on record and that they are expected to continue to rise. At the same time, some Parties are backing away from the commitments they made in Paris.

Mr. President and Colleagues,

We are going in the wrong direction.

If we hope to avoid unmanageable climate impacts, developed countries must redouble their efforts pre2020 and provide financial, technological and capacity-building support to developing Parties so they too can ramp up pre-2020 action.

We are also falling short of the commitment to mobilise \$100 billion annually by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries.

The positive news is that IPCC Special Report found that limiting warming to 1.5 degrees is still feasible and clean energy technologies have become more cost effective than ever.

But the time to act is short and it must begin here in Katowice.