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Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

State of Palestine:* draft resolution

Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway¹ is a stand-alone, overarching framework setting out the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States that builds on the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States² and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,³ and further recognizing that the Samoa Pathway is consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁴ including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,⁵ and is in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster

* On behalf of the States that are members of the Group of 77 and China, taking into account also the provisions of General Assembly resolution [73/5](#) of 16 October 2018.

¹ Resolution [69/15](#), annex.

² *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

³ *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

⁴ Resolution [70/1](#).

⁵ Resolution [69/313](#), annex.



Risk Reduction 2015–2030,⁶ the New Urban Agenda⁷ and the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,⁸

Emphasizing the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Samoa Pathway, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the New Urban Agenda and the Paris Agreement,

Reaffirming that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development, renewing thus our solidarity with them, as they continue to face the combined challenges arising, in particular, from their geographical remoteness, the small scale of their economies, high costs and the adverse effects of climate change and natural disasters, and remaining particularly concerned that many small island developing States have not achieved sustained high levels of economic growth, owing in part to their vulnerabilities to the ongoing negative impacts of environmental challenges and external economic and financial shocks,

Acknowledging that climate change and sea level rise continue to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for some, represent the gravest threat to their survival and viability, and taking note with concern of the recent reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in particular the findings contained in the special reports entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C*, *Climate Change and Land* and *The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*,

Reaffirming the importance of oceans, seas and marine resources to small island developing States, and acknowledging their efforts to develop and implement strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and its resources,

Underscoring the importance of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and noting that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, as well as an overarching objective of the 2030 Agenda for small island developing States and other developing countries,

Recognizing the important role of sustainable transportation in promoting policy synergies, trade facilitation, infrastructure connectivity, financial cooperation and people-to-people exchange, which are key areas in achieving sustainable development,

Recognizing also the long-standing cooperation and support provided by the international community, which has played an important role in helping small island developing States to make progress in addressing their vulnerabilities and in supporting their sustainable development efforts, and recalling paragraph 19 of the Samoa Pathway, which calls for strengthening this cooperation, and paragraph 22, which underscores the urgency of finding additional solutions to address the major challenges facing small island developing States,

Reaffirming the need to mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects, and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to enable small island developing States to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁹
2. *Welcomes* the convening of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Samoa Pathway on 27 September 2019 and the adoption on

⁶ Resolution 69/283, annex II.

⁷ Resolution 71/256, annex.

⁸ See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

⁹ A/74/66.

10 October 2019 of its political declaration,¹⁰ in which Heads of State and Government reaffirmed the commitment to strengthening cooperation with and support to small island developing States in the context of sustainable development, in line with their national development strategies and priorities;

3. *Looks forward* to the annual review at the high-level political forum on sustainable development of the Samoa Pathway, with a view to monitoring and advancing its implementation;

4. *Calls for* the continued implementation of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled “Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States: final findings”, prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/288 of 8 June 2015;¹¹

5. *Welcomes* the continuing commitment of the international community to take urgent and concrete actions to address the vulnerabilities of small island developing States and to continue to seek new solutions to the major challenges facing them in a concerted manner in order to support the full implementation of the Samoa Pathway;

6. *Underlines* the need to give due consideration to the issues and concerns of small island developing States in all relevant major United Nations conferences and processes and the work of the United Nations development system, and calls for the elaboration of information specific to small island developing States in a disaggregated manner in all major United Nations reports;

7. *Reiterates* that many small island developing States continue to face the brunt of climate change impacts, including more frequent and intense natural disasters, and in this regard emphasizes the precarious interplay between vicious debt cycles and environmental devastation in the affected countries and on the dangers arising from long-term debt traps;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to conduct an examination of the disaster-related funding and support environment, with a view to the possible development of a targeted voluntary disaster fund, mechanism or financial instrument, coordinated with and complementary to existing mechanisms, to assist small island developing States in managing disaster risk and building back better after disasters, and to report on this examination well in advance of the high-level political forum on sustainable development of 2020 so that due consideration can be given to this issue during the high-level political forum session;

9. *Reaffirms* that official development assistance, both technical and financial, is needed to foster resilient societies and economies, and calls for additional and upfront international support, in the form of increased official development assistance;

10. *Emphasizes* that, unless there is a coordinated multilateral effort to provide low-cost long-term development financing to developing countries across different income categories, these countries face even more serious challenges to their debt sustainability than is already the case for a growing number of them;

11. *Reiterates* the need to develop a wider analysis of new measures, building on existing experiences with eligibility exceptions, for concessional finance and multidimensional assessments, to address the limitations of an income-only assessment of development, and in this regard invites the World Bank to revive the high-level working group among the developing banks and its partners to review the rules governing access to concessional finance;

¹⁰ Resolution 74/3.

¹¹ See A/72/119 and A/72/119/Add.1.

12. *Underlines* the need to take targeted measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and to promote the implementation of nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for the poor and those in vulnerable situations;

13. *Calls upon* the Committee for Development Policy to give due consideration to the unique and particular vulnerabilities of small island development States as it considers, together with their Governments, the progress of small island developing States that have been, will be, or might be faced with the challenge of graduation from least developed country status;

14. *Calls for* the development and implementation of a viable multiannual transition strategy to facilitate each small island developing State's graduation, with the support of the international community where appropriate, to mitigate against, inter alia, the possible loss of concessionary financing, to reduce the risks of falling heavily into debt and to ensure macrofinancial stability;

15. *Notes* the initial findings of the Joint Inspection Unit that resources have not increased over a period during which the mandates of the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States of the Secretariat have significantly expanded, and also notes with concern the findings and conclusions of the needs assessment resulting from the expanding mandates of the small island developing States units of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative;

16. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure the allocation of adequate resources to respond to the expanding mandates of the small island developing States units in support of the sustainable development agenda of small island developing States;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fifth session, a report on the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway, including progress made and continuing challenges faced, and the implementation of the present resolution, building on the discussions and outcomes of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, convened in September 2019;

18. *Recognizes* that improved data collection and statistical analysis are required to enable small island developing States to effectively plan, follow up on, evaluate the implementation of and track success in attaining the internationally agreed development goals, and in this regard calls upon the Secretary-General to initiate, along with the Statistical Commission and in consultation with Member States, the identification of the Samoa Pathway priority areas not covered by the Sustainable Development Goals or the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030⁶ and, if any are identified, to develop forthwith targets and indicators for those priority areas while ensuring complementarities and synergies and avoiding duplication, in order to strengthen monitoring and evaluation, and to provide recommendations as part of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fifth session;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".