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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 of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Letter dated 4 September 2018 from the Permanent Mission of Tonga to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to convey herewith the report of the Pacific preparatory meeting for the midterm review of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, which was held in Nuku'alofa, the Kingdom of Tonga, from 19 to 21 June 2018 (see annex).**

I should be grateful if you were to have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 20 (b) of the provisional agenda.

(*Signed*) V. Va'inga **Tōnē**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative

* A/73/150.
** The annex is being circulated in the language of submission only.

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Annex to the letter dated 4 September 2018 from the Permanent Mission of Tonga to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Report of the Pacific Preparatory Meeting for the Midterm Review of the SAMOA Pathway
Tonga, 19-21 June 2018

Report of the Pacific preparatory meeting for the Midterm Review of the SAMOA Pathway

I. Introduction

1. The Pacific preparatory meeting for the Midterm Review of the SAMOA Pathway was held in Tonga from 19-21 June 2018.

2. The meeting held five sessions. Session 1, which was on the overview of the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway in the Pacific, was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mahe 'Uli'uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga; Session 2 on assessing progress – Achievement, Gaps and Challenges in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mahe 'Uli'uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga; Session 3 on addressing development challenges through Partnerships was co-chaired by H.E. Ms. Lois M. Young. Permanent Representative of Belize to the United Nations, co-chair of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS and Mr. Mícheál Tierney, representing H.E. Mrs. Geraldine Patricia Byrne Nason, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations, co-chair of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS; Session 4 on priority actions and strategies for implementation was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mahe 'Uli'uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga; and Session 5 on the presentation and adoption of the draft Regional Outcome Document was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mahe 'Uli'uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga.

3. The Outcome Document adopted by the Meeting is contained in annex I. The list of participants of the Meeting is contained in annex II.

II. Opening of the Meeting

4. Statements were made by H.E. Mr. Mahe 'Uli'uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga, Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and H.E. Mr. 'Akilisi Pohiva, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga.

5. H.E. Mr. Mahe 'Uli'uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga, in his welcoming remarks, recognised the important milestone of the Midterm Review of the SAMOA Pathway for the small island developing States (SIDS) in the Pacific, and in this regard, noted the importance of the outcome of the meeting for the region.

6. Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa ‘Utoikamanu, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States expressed appreciation to the Government of Tonga for hosting the meeting. She underscored the important role of the SIDS Conferences in renewing the impetus and commitment of the international community toward supporting the sustainable development aspirations of SIDS. She explained that the Midterm Review of the SAMOA pathway provides the opportunity to assess progress in achieving the ambitions set and to recommend what must be done through workable proposals for action. She also highlighted the need for the UN system to deliver, and reaffirmed the role of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (OHRLLS) in mobilising collective support for SIDS.

7. H.E. Mr. ‘Akilisi Pohiva, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga, recalled the important mandate of the Midterm Review to assess the progress in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and to seek renewed political commitment on the way forward. He noted that the agenda of the regional preparatory meeting would provide space for delegations to elaborate on where the region is, the progress, the challenges, the gaps and where it wishes to go for the remaining five years of the SAMOA Pathway. He underlined the critical importance of genuine and durable partnerships in the context of means of implementation of the three dimensions of sustainable development. He highlighted the need for inclusive and transparent deliberations, and welcomed the coordinated support of the UN agencies and regional organisations at the meeting. He conveyed the appreciation of the Government of Tonga to the development partners participating in the meeting.

11. Following the opening of the meeting, Member States adopted the agenda and organization of work of the Meeting.

III. Sessions

12. The Meeting held 5 sessions, which were comprised of presentations by facilitators and resource persons. These presentations were followed by interactive discussions.

Session 1: Overview of the Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway

13. The session was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mahe ‘Uli’uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga, and facilitated by Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa ‘Utoikamanu, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. In this session, presentations were made by Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Director of OHRLLS and Mr. Sai Navoti, Chief of the SIDS Unit, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA); Mr. Iosefa Maiava, Head, ESCAP Pacific Office; Ms. Peseta Noumea Simi, Pacific Islands Forum Chair Representative and CEO of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Samoa; and Ms. Ma’u Leha, Office of the Prime Minister, Tonga. This was followed by an interactive discussion, during which participants elaborated on the main issues in relation to the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway in the Pacific Region.

14. Ms. ‘Utoikamanu introduced the session, which would provide the substantive background for the Meeting. She noted that the presenters would set the stage for

discussions during Meeting, providing an overview of the progress in implementing the SAMOA Pathway at the global, regional and national levels, and elements for consideration toward the elaboration of priority actions and strategies for accelerated implementation in the region.

15. Ms. Schroderus-Fox provided an overview of Midterm Review process, informing of the mandate for the Review, and its preparatory meetings, as contained in United Nations General Assembly resolutions 71/225 and 72/217. She informed that the General Assembly mandated OHRLLS and DESA to provide substantive and organizational support to the four preparatory meetings: AIMS, Pacific, Caribbean and Interregional, and that OHRLLS and DESA had worked together with ESCAP in the preparations for the Pacific Meeting. She further informed that SIDS Ambassadors, during a retreat in New York in April 2018, agreed to a reporting template for the preparatory meetings, to be used by OHRLLS, DESA and regional commissions in the conduct of the Mid-Term Review. She emphasised the consistency needed in the regional reporting process, to assist with the synthesis and advancement of the SIDS position in preparation for the 2019 meeting. On the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway at the global level, Ms. Schroderus-Fox reaffirmed that SIDS remain a special case for sustainable development, and though some progress has been made by SIDS, much work still needs to be done. She highlighted the need to promote synergies in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the series of global mandates adopted since the Conference in Samoa. She emphasized that the Midterm Review process provided an opportunity to put forward an action-oriented document for the accelerated implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. She also noted that OHRLLS has intensified its efforts in support of SIDS, including through a number of initiatives, such as the SIDS national focal point mechanism, and the Global Business Network.

16. Mr Navoti provided an overview of the mandate of DESA as it relates to SIDS, including the monitoring and review of the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. He added that DESA provides support to SIDS delegations in intergovernmental processes, including the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) and that of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); as well as technical and advisory support. Mr Navoti underscored the importance of the SAMOA Pathway, as the only agreed international agenda focusing on SIDS. He challenged the meeting to work toward a concise and action-oriented political declaration that reflects the progress made, identifies the challenges and gaps, and highlights the priority areas for the further implementation of the SAMOA Pathway.

17. Mr Maiava presented the Pacific regional paper outline that would serve as the basis of the Pacific Regional Report. He outlined a few key messages of the paper, noting its focus on the priorities of the region, including Timor Leste. He highlighted the challenges of the region in implementing the SAMOA Pathway, including the challenge of coordination and the weak links between national, regional and global processes. He added that there was a lack of ownership and no proper monitoring framework for the SAMOA Pathway, as well as limited engagement with relevant stakeholders. Mr Maiva noted that some progress was made in respect of regional policies and frameworks, with the assistance of regional organizations and CROP agencies, including in the areas of social inclusion, oceans, equitable economic growth, sustainable energy, sustainable tourism, and financing. He also noted, however, that moving forward, the region needed specific and clear mandates for implementation, particularly in the context of the repositioning of the UN

development system. He stressed that in order to accelerate the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, SIDS specific targets and indicators are needed, in order to guide regional and national planning processes. He also stressed the need for suitable multi-stakeholder mechanisms, as well as enhanced development effectiveness, donor coordination and partnerships.

18. Ms. Simi made a presentation on behalf of the Pacific Island Forum (PIF), which provided an overview of the First Quadrennial Pacific Sustainable Development Report (PSDR). She noted that the goal in sharing the report was to bring together perspectives on priorities for the region in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. By way of background, Ms. Simi noted that in 2015, Pacific Leaders committed to implement the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ensure that no one is left behind. She further noted that the report focused on how the 2030 Agenda and other key instruments are being implemented, recognizing the special vulnerabilities and challenges of the region, including with respect to statistics, partnerships, as well as integration, follow-up and review. Ms. Simi added that it is expectation that the process for the development and adoption of the report would be complementary to that of the review of the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway.

19. Ms. Leha gave an overview of the experience of the Kingdom of Tonga in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. Her presentation highlighted key milestones since 2015, including the development of the Tonga Strategic Development Framework (TSDF) 2015-2025, and the alignment of the TSDF with the SAMOA Pathway. Ms Leha also noted that the mainstreaming and localization of the SAMOA Pathway had been undertaken, including the integration into corporate plans of line Ministries. Ms Leha highlighted that going forward, further work will be done to break down silos and enhance coordination.

Summary of interactive dialogue

20. Participants underscored the importance of identifying priorities for the region in the context of the Midterm Review of the SAMOA Pathway, acknowledging existing regional mechanisms and the role of different stakeholders in the process. Participants also recognized the linkages to the repositioning of the UN development system, particularly as it relates to the review of the Multi-Country Offices and the enhancement of support to SIDS. In particular, participants highlighted the need for improvement across the UN system to implement the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit, regarding mainstreaming SIDS priorities across all UN programs and plans. Participants highlighted gaps not fully elaborated on in the regional report, including those related to climate change, climate and migration and budgetary support, and the need to also identify regional priorities in these areas. The need for measurable targets and indicators in the context of the SAMOA Pathway was also discussed, particularly in those areas not covered by the SDGs. Participants noted the importance of partnerships, and stressed the need for greater accountability and coordination. Participants also stressed the need for greater advocacy of the SAMOA Pathway and the need to forestall the risk of crowding out the SAMOA Pathway, in the context of the broader sustainable development agenda.

Session 2: Assessing Progress – Achievements, Gaps and Challenges in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway

2(a) Social Inclusion

21. The sub-session was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mahe 'Uli'uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga, and facilitated by Ms. Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago-Elisara, Director for Social Development Programme, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). In this session, a presentation was made by the Facilitator, and interventions were made by the following resource representatives: Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, UNESCO, UNFPA, PIFS.

22. The Facilitator provided an overview of the realities of the region as it relates to social inclusion, using elements from the PSDR, where there were gaps in the SAMOA Pathway. The Facilitator noted that in the area of social development and inclusion, significant development challenges remain in the region. On gender equality and empowering women and girls, a growing level of awareness was observed in the region, with increased commitments to gender equality as well as steps to ensure gender responsiveness through policies, programmes and resource allocation. However, challenges remain in a number of areas, including as it relates to the participation of women in parliament; and the high prevalence of violence against women. On poverty, the Facilitator noted that across the region one in four lives below the poverty line, with children being disproportionately vulnerable. She noted that formal social protection only covers a certain part of the population, and that urbanization and migration have come with weakened community ties, leaving an increasing part of the population without adequate protection. On health, the Facilitator noted that the region is experiencing crisis levels as it relates to the incidence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including childhood obesity and stunting. She highlighted the region's efforts to combat NCDs, including the NCD Roadmap, and the Pacific legislative framework for NCDs. On Persons with Disabilities, the Facilitator noted that they are most marginalized group in the Pacific. She noted, however, that there is increasing awareness of and partnerships around disability issues, including with the advent of the Pacific Framework of Rights of Persons with Disabilities. On water and sanitation, the Facilitator noted that the strengthening of WASH facilities was critical to progress. On culture, the Facilitator noted that its importance has been recognized at the highest levels in the region. She noted that a development strategy was needed to realise the potential of the cultural and creative industries in promoting sustainable and inclusive growth.

23. The interventions of the resource representatives and ensuing discussion highlighted the following: The Voluntary National Review (VNR) process provides insights on the review on progress in implementing the SAMOA Pathway. There has been progress in developing social protection policies that address the SAMOA Pathway, but budgetary and coordination challenges persist. There is a need to clearly define what social inclusion means to the region, including the identification of data requirements in this regard. Community participation, including youth, women and elders, is necessary to promote social inclusion. The region needs to address persistent health challenges, including high costs of accessing health care, high levels of teenage pregnancy, and NCDs. The region also needs to prioritise disability issues, and continue to examine the drivers of social exclusion. WASH related projects and partnerships are important to address WASH related diseases and other challenges.

2(b) Environmental Integrity

24. The sub-session was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mahe 'Uli'uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga, and facilitated by Mr. Espen Ronneberg, Climate Change Adviser, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). In this session, a presentation was made by the Facilitator, and interventions

were made by the following resource representatives: Palau, Marshall Islands, FAO, UNDP, SPC, PIFS.

25. The Facilitator provided an overview of progress of the region in implementing the SAMOA Pathway in the area of environmental integrity. He noted that the Pacific is a driving force in climate change and ocean related issues, bolstered by a forward-looking SAMOA Pathway, particularly as it relates to the 1.5°C global warming limit and Loss and Damage. He highlighted the need for an integrated and holistic approach to building resilience in the region, with clear linkages to implementation – an approach that would consider long-term issues such as climate change, disaster management, renewable, as well as emerging challenges like marine debris. The Facilitator also stressed the need to address challenges related to accessing climate resources. He noted that while there was some progress in simplifying access procedures, including by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), there was more work to be done in general to enhance access to concessional funding.

26. The interventions of the resource representatives and ensuing discussion highlighted the following: progress has been made in marine protection and management of oceans; however, partnerships in technology transfer for surveillance and monitoring EEZs are needed to ensure proper implementation, including as it relates to illegal fishing and piracy. Evidence of the adverse effects of climate change is increasing in the region, particularly in atolls, where sea-level rise and wave-driven flooding are having grave impacts on ground water resources. Loss and damage issues linked with slow onset events, such as long-term loss of biodiversity and implications for access to livelihoods, also need to be addressed alongside the increased intensity of extreme weather events. A long-term adaptation plan is needed in the region, looking at building resilience in infrastructure, developing research, technological and human capacities, addressing ocean acidification and loss of biodiversity, and even considering job creation and migration strategies. The Pacific needs to continue its leadership in the BBNJ process and the upcoming second UN Ocean Conference, to ensure that its interests are covered. Emphasis needs to be placed on the acceleration of the implementation of the FAO Global Action Programme for SIDS in the Pacific, including as it relates to other areas of the SAMOA Pathway such as NCDs. The region is developing a Pacific resilience facility, which will provide ease of access to funding and tackle fragmented financing flows. UN agencies need to continue to cooperate with CROP and regional agencies to ensure implementation.

2(c) Equitable Economic Growth

27. The sub-session was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mahe ‘Uli’uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga, and facilitated by Mr. Iosefa Maiava, Head of ESCAP Pacific Office. In this session, a presentation was made by the Facilitator, and interventions were made by the following resource representatives: Nauru, UNDP, PIFS, SPC, IOM, PIDF, ILO, SPTO.

28. The Facilitator outlined the section of the draft Pacific regional paper outline, pertaining to equitable economic growth. He noted that the achievements, gaps and challenges in the paper would require further enhancement, based on the discussion at the meeting. The Facilitator noted that the SAMOA Pathway recognizes “that the ability of SIDS to sustain high levels of economic growth and job creation have been adversely affected by the ongoing impact of global economic crisis, declining foreign direct investment, trade imbalances, increased indebtedness, adequate of transport, energy, and ICT infrastructure networks, limited human and institutional capacity, and inability to integrate effectively into the global economy” (para 23). In this regard, the Facilitator noted that the discussion at the MTR needs to speak to these

issues. On sustainable transport, the Facilitator noted that the Pacific was the least connected (a third of average of developing counties) of the world's regions with high cost (10% of value of international imports). There was concern with growing gap between ambition (below 2°C) and carbon emissions of the transport sector. He highlighted regional frameworks and policies established to address key gaps in regional infrastructure, and pointed to the need for better reporting of implementation and on commitments to lower emission rates. On ICT connectivity, the Facilitator noted despite the recent up-swings in submarine cable investment and policy reforms, the broadband divide was widening outside and within the Pacific while affordability (5% or less of GNI) was restricted to a minority of countries. On sustainable energy, the Facilitator noted that the draft paper again focuses assessment on the uptake of renewable energy and affordability. He emphasized that the Pacific is largely carbon intensive and is one of the most fuel-imported dependent regions. It faces the challenges of affordability which is due to having small and remote markets. On sustainable tourism, the Facilitator noted that many Pacific SIDS have strategies in place, and that the MTR discussion should focus on gaps between strategies, policies and implementation. On migration and remittances, the Facilitator stressed that this remains a significant issue for several SIDS in the Pacific, constituting over 50% of external financial inflows for some economies. He added that the SAMOA Pathway and the SDGs both note that remittance transfer fees (higher than 5% of remitted amount and averaging at 9-10%) are a significant issue that remains to be fully addressed.

29. The interventions of the resource representatives and ensuing discussion highlighted the following: Integration of the SAMOA Pathway into national plans is a significant challenge, due to lack of funding and investment, staff capacity, coordination and understanding of the work involved. Efforts are underway to increase the relevance of the SAMOA Pathway, through different activities including support to sectors responsible for planning, implementation and monitoring. The issue of equitable economic growth should be the focus of the SAMOA implementation over the next few years, with inclusive growth and decent jobs at the centre. Enhancement of knowledge-sharing and peer-to-peer learning mechanisms among SIDS should assist to this. The region may wish to focus on the development of an inter-governmental structure for ICT, toward digital transformation and inclusive growth. The region must also invest in itself, though initiatives like the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Assessment and Financing Initiative (PCRAFI), which is owned and shared by five Pacific Island Countries, with a multi-trust fund that is held by the World Bank. Further work needs to be done regarding the recognition of SIDS in terms of eligibility for concessional financing, including through the OECD and implementation of the relevant JIU recommendation. Improving energy efficiency, including through renewable energy, continues to be a challenge for some Pacific countries, as well as the environmental issues linked to energy use in the transportation sector in particular. Sustainable tourism cuts across all the priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway and integrated implementation could be addressed through a sustainable tourism lens.

2(d) Means of Implementation

30. The sub-session was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mahe 'Uli'uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga, and facilitated by Ms. Simona Marinescu, UN Resident Coordinator, Pacific Multi-Country Office, Samoa. In this session, a presentation was made by the Facilitator, and interventions were made by the following resource representatives: Samoa, Vanuatu, ESCAP, PIFS, SPC, UNDP.

31. The Facilitator noted that means of implementation is defined throughout various parts of the SAMOA Pathway and includes partnership, financing, trade, capacity-building, technology, data and statistics, institutional support, monitoring and accountability. The Facilitator noted that with respect to partnerships, there are four main pillars to support implementation: the Steering Committee on SIDS Partnerships, the Global Multi-Stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue, a standardized partnership reporting process managed by UNDESA, and regional and national SIDS multi-stakeholder partnerships. The Facilitator informed that there are about 315 registered partnerships, about 1/3 in SIDS in the Pacific, concentrating on areas such as knowledge transfer and disaster resilience. Partnerships in the region involve governments and CSOs, and entities leading the partnerships include Australia, New Zealand, European Union, USA, and multilateral development banks. She noted that the partnerships system is lacking when it comes to assessment of partnership effectiveness, and that more analysis is required; however, data also shows that there is good potential to build partnerships for SIDS in the Pacific. On financing the Facilitator noted that instruments should focus on expansion of domestic resources, with countries deciding on the priorities. She noted that UNDP is monitoring instruments, such as countercyclical loans, with a view to attracting investment funds to support blue growth. The Facilitator noted that trade in the region remains limited, with SIDS in the Pacific accounting for 1.6% participation on global exports, and 1.7% on imports. She added that trade agreements are being negotiated in the region, and a series of instruments in place, but that there are constraints that are difficult to overcome, unless there is more technological innovation. On capacity building, the Facilitator noted that the emphasis of the region on strengthening capacities and diversifying skills development. She added that technology remains an area of priority, and that UN agencies want to mobilize resources with countries to make sure that technology is driving progress in the region. Countries recognize the high importance of cyber-security and Samoa has made the offer to build a cyber-security center, with other countries. The Facilitator noted that countries in the region have national statistical plans, and that the UN looks forward to engaging in order to further develop these plans and mobilize resources. Kiribati is conducting its VNR this year and more SIDS in the Pacific will do so in 2019. Indicators have been selected from SDGs that connect all the global commitments and the SAMOA Pathway together. The Facilitator noted that UN agencies will support the integration of indicators into national frameworks.

32. The interventions of the resource representatives and ensuing discussion highlighted the following: The region recognizes the importance of trade, particularly aid for trade, and the need for trade strategies that build productive capacity and link trade efforts more closely to poverty reduction and inclusiveness. The region also recognizes the importance of data and statistics, and localizing SDG indicators. There is a need to develop national indicator databases, to help with meeting reporting obligations for international agreements. There is a need for greater UN presence in the north Pacific, as the multi-country office in Fiji is not sufficient. South-South cooperation also offers opportunities for SIDS in the Pacific to advance knowledge and implementation of the SAMOA Pathway.

Session 3: Addressing Development Challenges through Partnerships

33. This session was co-chaired by Ms. Lois M. Young, Permanent Representative of Belize to the United Nations, co-chair of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS; and Mr. Mícheál Tierney, representing Mrs. Geraldine Patricia Byrne Nason, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations, co-chair of the

Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS. The session also represented the SIDS Regional Partnership Dialogue for the Pacific, and was held to support SIDS in their deliberations around partnerships in the context of the preparatory process of the SAMOA Pathway Midterm review. The dialogue was structured around three distinct but inter-related segments: Developing genuine and durable partnerships – good practices and lessons learned; Identifying and addressing the gaps through partnerships for SIDS; and Strengthening the review and monitoring process of partnerships for SIDS.

34. Developing genuine and durable partnerships – good practices and lessons learned: The segment heard presentations from the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat on their analysis and mapping of partnerships, and from UN-DESA on the SIDS Partnerships Framework. In addition, the following partnerships presented their experiences: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Pacific Youth Development Framework Partnership (PYDF Partnership); and Mare Nullius? Sea-level Rise and Maritime Sovereignties in the Pacific - An Expanded Anthropology of Climate Change. The speakers highlighted that while SIDS have primary responsibility for their own development, they also require enhanced global partnerships and support. Many Pacific SIDS partnerships demonstrate how important ideas from the global level can be taken up regionally, but also how many partnerships grow from the grassroots providing a bottom-up perspective to regional partnerships. This results in local community experiences and ideas guiding many partnerships, and partnerships having strong ownership at the local level. The interplay between local, regional and global ensures that the Pacific voice is heard in global conversations.

35. Other ideas relating to partnerships that were highlighted during the presentations and discussion included the following: Partnerships can combine research from different disciplines and knowledge systems; Large partnerships can be combined into a number of smaller ones to make them easier to manage; It is better to focus on the quality of partnerships rather than quantity, and it is important to also learn from those partnerships that don't work; Civil society can make an important contribution to partnerships, bringing to the partnership a homegrown perspective and experience of a lifetime. As civil society often represents those that are marginalized, they also ensure that no one is left behind; and Partnerships need to be accountable to their beneficiaries and maintaining dialogue with communities throughout the lifetime of the partnership is important.

36. The segment also discussed the qualities of successful partnerships as well as challenges, which included the following points: Success of partnerships depends on national ownership, mutual trust, transparency and accountability – in other words open and honest relationships. Without ownership by all partners, a partnership is not sustainable. Successful partnerships have a clear mandate and focused objectives. Funding also needs to be clarified and tailored to meet the objectives and will need to be long-term and sustained. Inclusion and innovation need to be part of a successful partnership, and partnerships need to ensure that no one is left behind. Critical ingredients to ensure impactful partnerships need to be itemized, including identification of responsibilities of partners, of beneficiaries, of funding and in-kind support. Challenges to partnerships include resources and funding; ensuring that the right people with the right expertise are involved in each partnership; and following through so that commitments filter to communities. Challenges also include practical working arrangements and scheduling issues, particularly where there are multiple partners from different entities and islands.

37. Identifying and addressing gaps through partnerships for SIDS – summary and key messages: This segment focused on gaps in partnerships and looked at the priority areas where further partnerships could be forged for the sustainable development of SIDS in the Pacific Region. The session also addressed the types of partners from sectors and groups that are underrepresented in partnerships in the region. The segment heard presentations from UN DESA and from the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) relating to the status of SIDS partnerships both globally and in the Pacific. The segment also heard perspectives from the following partnerships: Pacific Islands Private Sector Organization (PIPSO); and Pacific Adaptation for Climate Change (PACC) Project. The speakers highlighted that the Pacific has a larger number of partnerships than other SIDS regions, but that the numbers reported vary depending on the source. In addition, governments may be unaware of some of the existing partnerships, and the level of awareness, available data and reporting need to be improved. PIFS has identified 304 partnerships to implement the SAMOA Pathway, with the bigger island states generally having more partnerships. Many partnerships have finished their work, or are closing, and some that have reported being "on track" have passed their year of delivery. Thus, there is a need to undertake a full review of the Pacific partnerships and their status, and remove those that are no longer active. There have been good efforts in aligning regional frameworks down to the indicators level. The existing partnerships are broadly aligned with regional priorities on oceans, with climate change and economic development also well represented. SAMOA Pathway priorities such as poverty, equality, peace and human rights are not as prominently addressed and may need more attention. In addition, the content, quality and effectiveness of partnerships is important, and the ongoing in-depth analysis of partnerships undertaken by UN DESA should also seek to go beyond numbers to look at what is needed to build effective partnerships.

38. With regard to underrepresented partners, there is a need for meaningful private sector engagement and for building business networks and coalitions. In the Pacific, the private sector tends to consist mostly of small and medium-sized enterprises rather than large private sector bodies, and the private sector has promoted social inclusion through women in leadership positions, and by being a provider of jobs for people with disabilities. Going forward, there is a need to strengthen national private sector bodies, data and statistics; undertake collaborations with universities to articulate private sector research needs; and engage with non-traditional investment, such as impact investment.

39. In reference to the Pacific Adaptation for Climate Change (PACC) Project, which has now closed, it was noted that there was a still need to maintain access to the extensive number of studies, documentation and publications that were collected. This is likely the case with many closed projects, which can offer important information and lessons learned. In addition, while this project was successful, its implementation was limited to a few sites. Thus, there is a general need to expand successful pilot projects and develop full projects for implementation.

40. In addressing gaps in partnerships, the participants in the segment emphasized the following points: There is a need to further examine lessons learned from genuine and durable partnerships and main challenges in implementation, in order to improve the ongoing in-depth analysis of SIDS partnerships. There is also the need to examine the potential to mobilize future partnerships to target under-addressed priorities in the Pacific. The current processes related to the SIDS partnership framework need to be assessed and strengthened as part of the mid-term review, to allow it to better fulfil its mandate of monitoring and reviewing existing partnerships, act as a platform for

stimulating the launch of new partnerships for SIDS, and ensuring an annual, action-oriented, results focused Global Multi-Stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue. The SIDS partnership framework should also include SIDS partnerships from other processes, such as relevant voluntary commitments announced during the UN Ocean Conference among others. The SIDS Action Platform should also clearly indicate the status of partnerships and archive those that are complete. There are many different types of partnerships registered, and they would need to be categorized and assessed differently, e.g. separating projects from partnerships, distinguishing between regional and international partners, and funding amounts. Enhanced engagement with private sector is important, as the private sector is the future for investing resources into the SDGs. In order to strengthen partnerships in the region, it is important to move incrementally from stand-alone project-based support from partners, toward more program-based support, and also toward more sector budget support and general support as well as greater accountability through common assessment measures.

41. Strengthening the review and monitoring process of partnerships for SIDS – summary and key messages: This segment's objective was to review the current processes for monitoring the progress of partnerships for SIDS, and to consider how monitoring and review and the participation of stakeholders in these processes could be improved. The segment heard presentations from the following partnerships: Global Action Program (GAP) on Food for SIDS; Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI); Pacific Islands Universities Research Network (PIURN). The issues highlighted in these discussions included the following: The Pacific region faces oversized burden on food security, nutrition, and health issues including long-established and emerging NCDs. Trade is critical to addressing these issues, and it also has potential for generating income and empowering women. A good system of governance is important for partnership success, as is a strong sense of ownership of the project by partners and member countries. Support from the highest political levels, mainstreaming partnership work to that of government departments, and basing work on science and quantitative goals are also important. Universities are important development partners and play a critical role in promoting local wisdom and producing new knowledge to address regional challenges.

42. This segment agreed that partners, including civil society organizations, private sector, and universities have made significant contribution to sustainable development in the region. Ongoing monitoring and review of partnerships continues to be a challenge for effective implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. Better reporting is needed not only from UN agencies, but also from Member States. Information flows and coordination between the global level and SIDS on the national level require improvement in the context of the Midterm review. Lack of monitoring leads to weak intervention, reporting, and contribution by SIDs in the Pacific at high-level events. Effective monitoring and review are dependent on active participation of all partners, and partners with a sense of ownership are more likely to actively contribute.

43. To facilitate effective review and monitoring of SIDS partnerships, it is important that the reporting process does not place an undue burden on partners. The reporting burden could be reduced by: *Linking monitoring and review of partnerships with monitoring that is already being undertaken by existing regional processes and frameworks*. This also ensures that national and regional actions will be captured at a higher level. *Developing a strong governance structure for the partnership, including mainstreaming the partnership into governmental processes and departments, and*

thus facilitating participation and monitoring. To facilitate effective support from the UN system to SIDS, the following suggestions were heard: Development of a report card to monitor support from the UN system, as a whole and from UN agencies and programs to SIDS. The UN reform presents an opportunity to review the regional architecture to ensure appropriate and sustainable responses from the UN system to regional challenges. The segment confirmed that effective coordination of partnerships is critical to the successful implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, and that each challenge and priority area needs a tailored partnership to generate the right responses.

Summary of key points from the partnership dialogue

44. At the end of the partnerships dialogue, the co-chairs highlighted the following key points and expectations as take-away messages from the dialogue: Categorize partnerships on record, by distinguishing discrete partnerships arranged according to type, from development assistance type partnerships, multilateral-mandated events and meetings – and that these be on the International Aid Transparency Initiative standard. Need to prioritize our needs within the existing priorities, and identify the partnerships that match those priorities. Itemize critical ingredients that will make a partnership have an impact e.g. identify the partners and their responsibilities, the beneficiaries to partners so that the most vulnerable are assisted and no one is left behind, identify the funding or in-kind support needed, and develop plans for engaging at the grass-root level to ensure buy-in. Include the takeaways from this partnership dialogue in the results of the Pacific preparatory meeting (19-21 June 2018), so that the deliberations over the three days will inform the upcoming inter-regional meeting in Samoa in October 2018.

Session 4: Priority Actions and Strategies for Implementation

45. The session was closed to Member States for the consideration of the outcome of the Meeting

Session 5: Presentation and Adoption of the Draft Regional Outcome Document

46. This last session was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mahe 'Uli'uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga, who introduced the draft outcome of the meeting for adoption. The representatives of SIDS in the Pacific agreed and adopted the Nuku'alofa Outcome Document: Monitoring Accountability and Transformation. The outcome document is provided in Annex I.

IV. Conclusions of the Meeting

47. The Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting came to a successful conclusion, following the consideration and adoption of the Nuku'alofa Outcome Document: Monitoring Accountability and Transformation. (see annex I).

V. Closing of the Meeting

48. At the closing of the Conference, the meeting heard statements by H.E. Ms. Marianne Hagen, State Secretary of Norway; Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu,

Under-Secretary-General and High Representative, UN-OHRLLS; and by H.E. Mr. Mahe ‘Uli’uli Tupouniua, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Tonga.

49. H.E. Ms. Marianne Hagen noted that the SAMOA Pathway’s focus on issues such as health, gender, social inclusion, climate change and healthy oceans corresponds to Norway’s priorities, which is why the country has engaged as a partner and lead-donor in the Midterm Review process. She noted that the SIDS and Norway have much in common, and are best served by strong multilateral organizations, where all voices can be heard. She highlighted Norway’s support for SIDS in areas, particularly climate change and oceans.

50. Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu congratulated the SIDS inthe Pacific on the successful conclusion of the meeting, noting the emphasis on the importance of prioritizing the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway in the region, given that it serves as the international framework to address the specific vulnerabilities, needs and priorities of SIDS. She also noted that the meeting identified common priority areas for actions which will guide the group throughout the preparatory process and towards the high-level Mid-Term Review next year. Ms. 'Utoikamanu highlighted some of the key messages of the meeting and assured of the support of the United Nations system in the process of accelerating progress toward the sustainable development of SIDS.

51. H.E. Mr. Mahe ‘Uli’uli Tupouniua noted that the meeting assessed the region’s progress from the inception of the SAMOA Pathway in 2014, identifying achievements to date, the challenges that remain, the gaps that exist, and where the regions would wish to go in the remaining five years in the life of the SAMOA Pathway. He emphasized that, with the adoption of the Nuku’alofa Outcome Document and the regional report to be completed by end-July, the Pacific would be in good stead to engage with the AIMS and Caribbean at the inter-regional meeting, to create and outcome document for SIDS reflecting the combined interests of the regions at the half way point of the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. He thanked Heads of Delegation and delegates for their representation; the United Nations agencies for organizing the meeting, regional organizations and civil society organizations for their contributions to the meeting, and all support staff for their technical and logistical assistance.

52. The Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m. on 21 June 2018.

Annex I

Outcome

THE NUKU'ALOFA OUTCOME DOCUMENT: MONITORING ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSFORMATION
Pacific SIDS Regional Preparatory Meeting, Nukualofa, Tonga, 19-21 June 2018

1. Representatives of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the Pacific met in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, from 19 to 21 June 2018 in preparation for the inter-regional preparatory meeting, and the one-day High-Level Conference on the Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the SAMOA Pathway to be held in New York in September 2019, as mandated by the UNGA Resolutions 70/292, 71/225 and 72/217. The Pacific regional preparatory meeting ('the Meeting'), for the SAMOA Pathway Mid-Term Review was attended by participants from Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Independent State of Samoa, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Regional organisations, civil society, academia and the private sector also participated as observers.

Session 1: Overview of the Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway in the Pacific

2. In recognising the need for enhanced implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, the Meeting recalled that SIDS are a 'special case' for sustainable development which was first recognized by the international community in 1992. It underscored that the SAMOA Pathway reaffirmed the commitments made in the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, providing a blueprint for action by the international community to achieve the sustainable development aspirations of SIDS, which is reaffirmed *inter alia* by the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

3. The Meeting assessed progress in implementing the SAMOA Pathway for SIDS in the Pacific, noting achievements, gaps and challenges.

4. The Meeting provided an invaluable opportunity for SIDS in the Pacific to share their national experiences and best practices as well as identify opportunities to address major challenges at this important juncture in the implementation process. The Member States also emphasised the importance of full ownership and leadership of their sustainable development priorities with the support of global and regional partners. This was discussed under the three broad pillars of: sustainable development as well as the means of implementation including through partnerships.

5. The Member States stressed the need to further strengthen the monitoring and accountability of the SAMOA Pathway. In this regard they underscored the important role of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and their subsidiary bodies including the monitoring frameworks of the regional commissions to monitor the full implementation of the SAMOA Pathway in full collaboration with regional and sub-regional organizations and partners in the region.

6. The Meeting acknowledged the *Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development* as the integrated framework to guide the response of the Pacific region to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the SAMOA

Pathway and the Framework for Pacific Regionalism. In this regard, they recalled the importance of prioritising implementation of the SAMOA Pathway in the region given that it serves as the international framework to address the specific vulnerabilities, needs and priorities of SIDS. Mindful of the theme of the Third International Conference on SIDS, the Meeting also recalled the importance of genuine and durable partnerships and called for an increase in all forms of meaningful partnerships with and for SIDS to accelerate the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway.

7. There was clear support for greater ambition and for stronger linkages between national, regional and global sustainable development processes and platforms. In this regard the efforts through the *Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development* to facilitate a regional approach to the implementation of the various global agreements on sustainable development was noted with appreciation. At the same time, the Meeting reaffirmed the need to maintain focus on the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway.

8. It was agreed that the 'Nuku'alofa Outcome Document,' together with the regional report and the report of the meeting, would also be reported to the intergovernmental preparatory meeting in Samoa.

Session 2: Assessing Progress – Achievement, Gaps and Challenges of the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway in the Pacific

9. The Member States recognized that progress has been made in the areas of social inclusion, environmental integrity and equitable economic growth at global, regional and national levels. However some challenges remain and further calls for the SIDS in the Pacific to acknowledge and embrace the challenges and gaps at the national level to address the SAMOA Pathway through innovative means.

***Social Inclusion* (Poverty and Inequality; Health and NCDs; Water and Sanitation; Gender and Disability; Quality of Education and Culture)**

10. In the context of implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, the Meeting recognized national and regional efforts to advance social inclusion however exclusion and inequality, particularly in relation to access to services and livelihood opportunities, continue to be a challenge for the Pacific.

11. The Member States reiterated that the Pacific is facing an epidemic of non-communicable diseases, which constrains development gains, and called for enhanced investment in health priorities under the SAMOA Pathway.

12. The Meeting noted the importance of adopting programmatic approaches to all sectors including water and sanitation in the region, especially in atoll nations, to address the range of issues around sea level rise, salt water intrusion and changes in rainfall patterns, and in this regard acknowledges the United Nations General Assembly launch of the Decade of Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2028.

13. Gender inequality remains a key challenge in the region, with the need to step up efforts to further promote gender parity and women's economic and political empowerment, as well as to address gender-based violence and gender justice, as underscored in the Pacific Leaders gender equality declaration and also addressing cultural constraints.

14. The Meeting noted that despite some gaps in relation to disability inclusive development, national efforts have progressed in these critical areas to promote inclusive societies.

15. The Meeting reaffirmed the importance of the right to high quality and accessible education for all in underpinning the region's achievement of sustainable development.

Environmental Integrity **(Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction; Oceans and Integrated Oceans Management; Food Security; Sustainable Production and Consumption)**

16. In the context of implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, the Meeting highlighted the priorities for the region relating to climate change, disaster risk reduction and oceans, as enumerated in a number of global and regional declarations and strategies.

17. The Meeting noted the importance of reproductive, adolescence and maternal health platform for the implementation of strategies to enhance resilience.

18. The Meeting stressed with grave concern recent negative trends in carbon emissions and elevated adverse impacts of climate change and in this regard reaffirms that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and poses an existential threat to some SIDS.

19. The Meeting further stressed that climate change exacerbates existing development challenges, and highlighted the emerging challenges, including climate induced migration and displacement. The Meeting underscored the importance of implementing the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

20. The Meeting called for more effective action to build resilience to climate change and disasters, including slow onset disasters, in the region to complement broader efforts to build a stable and secure Pacific, including through full implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

21. The Meeting stressed the importance of simplified processes to enhance direct access to climate finance, and exploring innovative sources of financing, for example blue and green bonds.

22. The Meeting reaffirmed the importance of ensuring a healthy productive and resilient Ocean, for both the region and the world, and highlighted efforts to harness the blue economy/fisheries, in support of sustainable economic development and in light of the outcomes of The Ocean Conference held in June 2017.

23. The Meeting also took note of the need for the full implementation of the Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition in SIDS launched in July 2017.

24. The Meeting acknowledged ongoing Intergovernmental Conference to develop a legally binding instrument elaborating BBNJ, and sought further support from Regional Organizations and relevant stakeholders including the United Nations System.

Equitable Economic Growth **(Sustainable Transport; Communication and Technology; Sustainable Tourism; Sustainable Energy; Migration and Remittances)**

25. In the context of implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, the Meeting reaffirmed the special case for SIDS with regard to equitable and inclusive economic growth. The Meeting highlighted the need for widening economic opportunities for all including by addressing lack of access to financial services. The Meeting also acknowledged efforts to mainstream and strengthen linkages between national plans and budgets in support of sustainable development priorities.

26. Member States acknowledged national and regional efforts to address the challenges of connectivity, including through sustainable transport initiatives, and in this regard further attention should be given to integrating solutions on sustainable energy and climate resilience.

27. The Meeting recognized that growth in ICT connectivity is uneven across the Pacific Region and highlighted the opportunities provided by the recently established Technology Bank for LDCs and took note that the Bank will continue to provide its services to support LDC SIDS for a period of five years after graduation.

28. The Meeting underscored the cross-cutting and multi-sectoral nature of sustainable tourism and its potential as a main economic driver in SIDS. In this context Member States highlighted the importance of an integrated approach to achieving sustainable growth in the tourism sector.

29. The Meeting also noted the continued value of remittances to SIDS economies, and stressed the need to further reduce the transaction cost of remittances. Member States emphasized the need to enhance the productive use of remittances, as well as the need for continued support to address capital mobility, both domestic and international. The role of ICT in addressing this issue should be further strengthened.

30. The Meeting called for further progress on the implementation of the 2016 JIU recommendation for the United Nations inter-agency taskforce on financing for development to actively contribute to addressing the specificity of SIDS as a special case with tailor made solutions and should also ensure that new parameters of eligibility are designed for better access to financing for development for SIDS.

31. The Meeting recognised the ongoing discussions on the Global Compact on Migration and stressed the importance of the international community to take all necessary measures to address the drivers of climate change induced migration, through the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions as well as the full financing of adaptation strategies in-country.

Means of Implementation **(Finance; Trade; Data and Statistics; Multi-stakeholder Coherence and Coordination Mechanisms)**

32. The Meeting acknowledged that science, technology and innovation are essential enablers and drivers for sustainable development.

33. The Meeting discussed the importance of enhancing access, modalities and partnerships for concessional finance for SIDS, and further underscored the need for strengthened international advocacy for the 'special case' of SIDS and the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway.

34 The Meeting called for a more strategic approach to enhancing trade and productive capacity in the region, and for trade to be linked more closely to poverty eradication and inclusiveness.

35. The Meeting recognized the importance of disaggregated data and statistics for evidenced-based policy-making, planning and reporting. The Meeting recognized the challenges of the region as it relates to statistical infrastructure, and that significant investments are needed to meet the data requirements for Pacific SIDS toward sustainable development priorities. The Meeting called for the United Nations system, to collect data from SIDS irrespective of size and in the least burdensome way in cooperation with regional organisations, to provide strengthened support for data collection and statistical analysis in accordance with national priorities. The Meeting also highlighted the importance of partnerships in this regard.

36. The Meeting underscored the need for greater presence of the UN Development System, and took note of the upcoming review of the Multi-Country Office (MCO) towards strengthening its impact in delivering on sustainable development and the need to ensure SIDS in the Pacific priorities are adequately reflected, and to that end, encourages the participation of those countries under the purview of these MCOs.

Session 3: Addressing Development Challenges through Partnerships

37. The Meeting discussed the key role of partnerships and multi-stakeholder engagement in the achievement of inclusive sustainable development in SIDS and welcomed the progress in the implementation of partnerships targeting the SIDS in the Pacific region.

38. The Meeting recognized that partnerships can bring ideas from the global level to the regions, and the meeting heard examples of partnerships that have been inspired by various UN initiatives. The Meeting also recognized that national and regional initiatives of the Pacific have inspired UN partnerships for SIDS.

39. The Meeting reconfirmed that partnerships require strong buy-in, ownership by local communities, based on accountability, mutual trust and national ownership. In addition, partnerships need to have clear objectives, strong coordination and governance mechanisms, long-term and sustained funding, encompass the notion of leaving no one behind, and engage all relevant stakeholders, including youth, women and civil society and education institutions/academic.

40. The meeting also discussed the importance of meaningful partnerships with the private sector and the potential to mobilize future partnerships to target under-addressed priorities in the Pacific.

41. The Meeting stressed the importance of further examining lessons learned from genuine and durable partnerships and main challenges in implementation, in order to improve the ongoing in-depth analysis of SIDS partnerships. The SIDS Action Platform should also clearly indicate the status of partnerships and archive those that are complete.

42. The meeting also discussed current partnership methodology at the global and regional levels and highlighted the need to distinguish partnerships from programmes and projects.

43. There is also a need to assess and strengthen the current processes related to the SIDS Partnership Framework in fulfilling its mandate of monitoring and reviewing existing partnerships, acting as a platform for stimulating the launch of new partnerships for SIDS, and ensuring an annual, action-oriented, results focused Global Multi-Stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue.

44. The SIDS Partnership Framework should include SIDS partnerships from other processes, such as relevant voluntary commitments announced during the UN Ocean Conference, among others.

45. The meeting discussed the proliferation of stand-alone projects in the region and the challenges of coordination that stem therefrom. Furthermore, the Meeting stressed the importance of moving incrementally from stand-alone project-based support from partners, toward more program-based support, and also toward more sector budget support and general support as well as greater accountability through common assessment measures.

46. The Meeting also called for scaling up international cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation and especially cooperation among SIDS in the Pacific region through enhanced

knowledge sharing platforms, dissemination of best practices and strengthening peer-to-peer learning processes.

Session 4: Key regional priority areas for actions for accelerating the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway

47. The Meeting discussed the progress on the implementation of the priorities in the SAMOA Pathway and agreed to include in the Midterm Review the following key elements:

(i) Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Building
(ii) Conservation, protection, management and sustainable use of oceans, seas and their resources
(iii) Promote Sustainable transport and improve connectivity
(iv) Renewable energy and access to affordable energy
(v) Water and Sanitation, and sustainable management of waste including chemical and hazardous waste
(vi) Strengthen capacity for data collection and statistical analysis, the production of quality data and statistics including for research and development
(vii) Improved access to financing for development
(viii) Poverty eradication, equality and social inclusion, gender and disability
(ix) Non-communicable diseases and, reproductive adolescence and maternal health, food security and nutrition, sustainable consumption and production
(x) Sustainable tourism
(xi) SIDS Partnership Framework
(xii) Strengthening national and regional enabling mechanisms for SIDS sustainable development including an effective monitoring and accountability framework for the SAMOA Pathway

Session 5: Conclusions

48. The Meeting agreed that the 'Nuku'alofa Outcome Document' serves as the input of the Pacific region into the Interregional Preparatory Meeting to be held in Samoa from 30 October to 1 November, 2018. The Meeting also agreed that Member States would provide inputs to the draft Pacific Regional Report which was circulated by Tonga by 10 July 2018. The draft report will be revised based on these inputs and circulated to Member States by 31 July, 2018. The Secretariat will provide the summary of the meeting proceedings.

49. The Meeting expressed its appreciation to the UNOHRLLS, UNDESA and UNESCAP for their continued support to Pacific SIDS in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. The Meeting also thanked the regional organisations, partner agencies and stakeholders participating in the meeting for their contributions and for their continued support.

50. The Meeting expressed its gratitude and appreciation to the Government of the Kingdom of Tonga for its hospitality and for ably convening the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Midterm Review of the SAMOA Pathway.

ENDS.

Nuku'alofa, Kingdom of Tonga, 21 June, 2018

Annex II

Participants List from the Pacific Preparatory Meeting for the Midterm Review of the SAMOA Pathway

FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	JOB TITLE	ORGANIZATION
SIDS in the Pacific Representatives			
Mr. Gene	Bai	First Secretary	Fiji Mission to the United Nations
Mr. Devid Ateti	Teaabo	High Commissioner	Kiribati
Mr. Tukabu	Tauati	Deputy Permanent Representative	Kiribati Mission to the United Nations
Ms. Amatlain	Kabua	Permanent Representative	Marshall Islands Mission to the United Nations
Mr. Benjamin	Graham	Chief Secretary	Marshall Islands
Mr. Jeem	Lippwe	Deputy Permanent Representative	Federated State of Micronesia Mission to the United Nations
Ms. Margo	Deiye	Counsellor	Nauru Mission to the United Nations
Ms. Enola	Edward	Second Secretary	Nauru Mission to the United Nations
Ms. Liluv	Itsimaera	Infrastructure Sector Planning & AID Division, Ministry of Finance	Nauru
Mr. Daniel	Zeleznik	Adviser	Nauru Mission to the United Nations
Mr. Raakook	Singeo	First Secretary	Palau Mission to the United Nations
Mr. Peseta Noumea	Simi	Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Samoa
Mr. Bismarck	Crawley	Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Samoa
Ms. Anne	Rasmussen	Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Samoa
Ms. Frances	Brown	Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Samoa

Ms. Ruth	Ueselani	Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Samoa
Ms. Vanda	Chan-Ting	Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Samoa
Mr. Dominic	Sofe	First Secretary	Samoa Mission to the United Nations
Mr. Samel	Wara	Director, Development Cooperation and NAO Division, Ministry of Development Planning and AID Cooperation	Solomon Islands
Ms. Fun Há (Vicky)	Tchong	Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	Timor Leste
Mr Samuel	Soares	Policy Officer of LDC and SIDS, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Timor Leste
Ms. Sualua	Uluao	Administrative Officer, Monitoring, Evaluation and Coordination Department	Tuvalu
Mr. Sylvain	Kalsakau	Deputy Permanent Representative	Vanuatu Mission to the United Nations
Mr. Johnety	Jerette	Desk Officer, UN Division	Vanuatu

Kingdom of Tonga

Mr. Mahe	Tupouniua	Secretary for Foreign Affairs	Tonga
Mr. T. Suka	Mangisi	Deputy Permanent Representative	Tonga Mission to the United Nations
Mr. Samuelu	Laloniu		Tonga
Ms. ‘Iliaisipa	‘Alipate	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Tonga
Ms. Ma’u	Leha	Office of the Prime Minister	Tonga
Ms. Ma’ata	Mafi	Office of the Prime Minister	Tonga
Mr. Othniel	Yila	National Climate Adviser, Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment and Climate Change (MEIDECC)	Tonga

Mr. Lupe	Matoto	MEIDECC	Tonga
Mr. Tahiri	Hokafonu	MEIDECC	Tonga

Other Representatives

Ms. Lois	Young	Permanent Representative	Belize Mission to the United Nations
Mr. Micheal	Tierney	Counsellor	Ireland Mission to the United Nations
Ms. Rhona	McPhee	Deputy Head of Mission	Australian High Commission
Ms. Tiffany	Babington	High Commissioner	New Zealand High Commission
Ms. Elena	Procuta		New Zealand High Commission
Ms. Rachael	Pringle	Policy Officer	New Zealand High Commission
Ms. Marianne	Hagen	State Secretary	Norway
Ms. Gry	Henricksen	Deputy Director, Section for East Asia and Oceania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Norway
Mr. Odd-Inge	Kvalheim	Special Envoy, Section for East Asia and Oceania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Norway
Ms. Beate	Gabrielsen	First Secretary	Norwegian Embassy, Canberra
Dr. Edvard	Hviding	University of Bergen	Norway

United Nations

Ms. Fekitamoeloa	'Utoikamanu	USG and High Representative	UN-OHRLLS
Ms. Heidi	Schroderus Fox	Director	UN-OHRLLS
Ms. Tishka	Francis	Sustainable Development Officer	UN-OHRLLS
Ms. Shifaana	Thowfeequ	Programme Management Officer	UN-OHRLLS
Mr. Hans Damien	Sass	Public Information Officer	UN-OHRLLS
Mr. Sai	Navoti	Chief, SIDS Unit	UN-DESA
Ms. Anya	Thomas	SIDS Unit	UN-DESA
Mr. Ola	Goransson	Partnerships Coordinator	UN-DESA
Ms. Marjo	Vierros	Consultant	UN-DESA
Mr. Iosefa	Maiava	Head of the Office	ESCAP Pacific Office
Ms. Anna	Naupa	Economic Affairs Officer	ESCAP Pacific Office
Ms. Ly	Ngo	Associate Programme Officer	ESCAP Pacific Office
Ms. Leba	Peterson	Administrative Assistant	ESCAP Pacific Office

Ms Fiasili	Vaeau-Lam	Policy Officer	FAO Samoa
Mr. Pau	Likiliki	Assistant FAO Representative	FAO Tonga
Ms. Eriko	Hibi	Subregional Coordinator for the Pacific Islands	FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Mr. Donglin	Li	Director	ILO Office for the Pacific Island Countries
Ms. Mahym	Orazmuhamedova	Chief of the Mission	IOM-Fiji
Ms. Frederica	LapahaFilipe	National Officer	IOM
Mr. Patrick	Tuimaleilifano	Deputy Team Leader – Inclusive Growth	UNDP
Mr. Garry	Wiseman	SDG Policy and Planning Adviser	UNDP
Ms. Osnat	Lubrani	UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, Fiji	UNDP Fiji
Ms. Simona	Marinescu	UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, Samoa	UNDP Samoa
Ms. Yvette	Kerslake	Assistant Resident Representative/Programme Manager – Environment, Energy and Climate Change Unit	UNDP MCO
Mr. Stein	Hansen	Regional Director and UNIDO Representative	UNIDO Regional Office in Thailand
Ms. Nisha		Director of Office and Representative to the Pacific States	UNESCO Office for the Pacific States
Ms. Lorna	Rolls	Assistant Representative	UNFPA Pacific Sub-Regional Office
Ms. Elisi	Tupou	Programme Analyst	UNFPA Pacific Sub-Regional Office
Ms. La-Toya	Lee	Programme Analyst for Samoa and Tokelau	UNFPA Pacific Sub-Regional Office
Ms. Milika	Tuita	UN Coordination Officer	UN Joint Presence Office
Ms. Telusa	Tui'I'onetoa	UNDP consultant for TC GITA Recovery and Donor Coordination	UN Joint Presence Office
Dr. Rasul	Baghirov	WHO Representative in Samoa, American Samoa, Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau	WHO – Western Pacific Region
Mr. Yutaro	Setoya	Technical Officer	WHO – Tonga Country Liaison Office

International, Regional, and other Organizations			
Ms. ‘Ofa	Ketu’u	Director – Statistics for Development Division, Secretariat of the Pacific Community	Pacific Community (SPC)
Ms. Kuiniselani	Elisara	Director – Social Division	SPC
Ms. Alison	Culpin	Statistics Specialist	SPC
Mr. Solomone	Fifita	Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREE) Geoscience, Energy and Maritime Division	SPC
Mr. Sione	Tekiteki	Director, Governance & Engagement	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat – Fiji (PIFS)
Ms. Charmina	Saili	Regional Planning Adviser	PIFS
Mr. Raymond	Prasad	Economic Adviser	PIFS
Ms. Katarina	Atalifo	Adviser	PIFS
Mr. Penijamini	Lomaloma	Deputy Secretary General	Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF)
Mr. Gregory	Barbara	Environmental Assessment and Planning Officer	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
Mr. Espen	Ronneberg	Climate Change Adviser	SPREP
Mr. Muhamad	Pahle	Administrative Affairs Assistant Manager	CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
Representatives from Major Groups			
Ms. ‘Alisi	Tuqa		Pacific Island Private Sector Organization
Ms. Vani	Catanasiga	Executive Director	Fiji Council of Social Services
Ms. ‘Emiline	‘Ilolahia	Deputy Director	Pacific Island Association of Non-Governmental Organizations
Mr. Jito	Vanualailai		Pacific Island Association of Non-Governmental Organizations

Mr. Terurual	Abee		Kirbati Climate Action Network
Mr. Setareki	Makanawai	CEO	Pacific Disability Forum
Ms. Lilian	Sauni		Pacific Mangrove Initiative
Mr. Siotame	Havea	Chair	Civil Society Forum of Tonga
Ms. Emele	Dutuiranga	Programme Officer	Civil Society Forum of Tonga
Mr. Govind	Singh		COPE
Mr. Alvin	Pahlevi		Coral Triangle Initiative
Ms. ‘Alisi	Holani		Labour & Commerce
Ms. Kolotia	Fotu		Labour & Commerce