



## **AOSIS Submission on the 2013-2015 Review of the Long-term temperature goal:**

### **How the Review will be taken into account in the work of the ADP**

The Republic of Nauru, on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, welcomes the opportunity to present its views on how the 2013-2015 Review will be taken into account in the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform. These views respond to the calls for submissions contained in FCCC/SBSTA/2013/5, paragraph 136 and FCCC/SBI/2013/20 paragraph 170.

#### **I. Introduction**

The Review of the long-term temperature goal is an issue of high political importance to the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) countries, which support a global goal to limit temperature increases to below 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

AOSIS sees the goal of limiting global average temperature increases to below 1.5 degrees as essential for minimizing damage to small island developing and low lying States in a number of areas, including:

- Sea level rise
- The protection of coral reefs
- Ocean acidification
- Extremes of heat
- Food security
- Precipitation extremes
- Water availability
- Severe weather, tropical cyclones, droughts and floods.

In considering strengthening the long-term global goal to a limitation of temperature increase to well below 1.5°Celsius, it will be essential for the Review to consider the different impacts on SIDS and low-lying coastal States at long-term temperature increases of 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels compared to 2° Celsius above pre-industrial levels and the long-term implications of these different goals, which are enormous. A 2° degree temperature limitation also greatly increases the risk of crossing irreversible tipping points compared to a 1.5 degree long-term limitation. The differences between the 1.5° and 2°Celsius goals and their resulting impacts will have to be fully explored, so that a decision that is consistent with the ultimate objective of the Convention can be taken.

## **II. How the Review will be taken into account in the work of the ADP**

AOSIS expects the results of the Review to become an integral component in setting the baseline for the level of mitigation ambition that will be applicable to all in the new 2015 agreement that is to be implemented from 2020. In this regard, the group notes that the ADP is mandated to consider outcomes of the Review in developing the new legal agreement. A safe emissions pathway is an essential test for the adequacy of the 2015 agreement. The Review must therefore provide a basis for informing any emissions pathways for both the pre and post-2020 periods and the adequacy of actions and the nationally-determined contributions that are brought forward.

Accordingly, we expect the ADP to take into account the work of the Review in the following ways:

1. Parties must keep the Review visible on the political landscape within the ADP discussions on an ongoing basis.
2. The Co-facilitators of the Joint Contact Group (JCG) must report back to the ADP formally on the progress of the group's work at each session, given the importance of the review to the ADP process. This should take the form of an update and progress report at the opening of each ADP session and a listing of the key work addressed and accomplished between sessions.
3. The ADP Co-chairs should provide information in their Scenario Notes on how reports from the Joint Contact Group (JCG) and Structured Expert Dialogue (SED) will be presented to each session of the ADP. Reflection documents may wish to report back on how this reporting process was carried out at each session and the materials shared with the ADP.
4. The Review process is particularly important for the consultation on nationally determined contributions. For this reason, information from the Joint Contact Group and the Structured Expert Dialogue should be brought into the ADP on an ongoing basis.
5. Taking into account the information contained in the IPCC AR5 on the implications of different RCPs/pathways for the global goal, the ADP should consider aggregate global emission pathways for 2020, 2025 and 2030 consistent with both 1.5 and 2.5 degree goals prior to concluding the ADP agreement to ensure that the agreed outcome in 2015 is consistent with these goals taking into account actions announced for the pre 2020 period.
6. Sessions of the JCG and SED will be needed in early 2015 to finalise the Review Report well ahead of the May 2015 deadline for the submission of the draft negotiating text from the ADP.
7. The draft Review Report should be made available to all Parties ahead of the session of the ADP that will finalise the draft negotiating text.
8. Decisions on the global goal to be taken in the ADP must be timed to coincide with the outcome of the Review being available.

In ratifying the UNFCCC, each individual Party agreed to work toward the ultimate objective of the Convention – to prevent dangerous climate change. At the end of the

Review, the Parties will have a choice to make in considering enhancement of the global goal and the decision taken must be consistent with this ultimate objective.