

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS OF THE BARBADOS PROGRAMME OF ACTION+10 REVIEWS

Background:

In 1994, the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of SIDS was convened in Barbados. The Conference adopted the Barbados Programme of Action (BPOA) that set forth specific actions and measures to be taken at the national, regional and international levels in support of the sustainable development of SIDS.¹

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 reaffirmed the special case of SIDS and highlighted a series of SIDS-specific issues and concerns in the Johannesburg Plan of Action,² adopted by the Summit. In a follow-up to WSSD, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted Resolution (A/57/262), which, among other things, called for a comprehensive review of the BPOA at an international meeting, to be held in Mauritius in 2004³, some ten years after its adoption.

In order to achieve one of the key objectives of the UNGA resolution, namely, that the international meeting “seek[s] [to renew] political commitment by all countries to, [by focusing on] practical and pragmatic actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, through the mobilization of resources and assistance for small island developing States,” SIDS are being requested to provide information on their respective national circumstances for the review in a timely, effective, holistic and integrated manner, using the template format below. There should be a particular emphasis on the four main cross-sectoral issues (trade, investment, capacity building and cooperation) that have been endorsed by the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) at its plenary in January 2003.

The template which follows is thus intended to provide a common format for obtaining the necessary information, while focusing attention on developing linkages, promoting goals and fostering partnerships related to SIDS-specific needs/issues highlighted in the various preparatory processes leading-up to the international meeting in Mauritius. There will be opportunities for additional national review of the information provided, at the regional consultations in July/August 2003, and subsequently.

¹ The BPOA is a blue print for action on sustainable development that should be undertaken by SIDS with the cooperation and assistance of the international community in the following 15 priority areas:

1. Climate Change and Sea Level Rise; 2. Natural and Environmental Disasters; 3. Management of Wastes; 4. Coastal and Marine Resources; 5. Freshwater Resources; 6. Land Resources; 7. Energy Resources; 8. Tourism Resources; 9. Biodiversity Resources; 10. National Institutions and Administrative Capacity; 11. Regional Institutions and Technical Cooperation; 12. Transport and Communication; 13. Science and Technology; 14. Human Resource Development and, 15. Implementation, Monitoring and Review. See United Nations General Assembly, “Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States”, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994, (A/Conf.167/9), October 1994, p. 5-6. Available on the Internet at <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/conf167/aconf167-9.html>.

² UN Economic and Social Council, “ Report of World Summit on Sustainable Development. (A/CONF.199/20) p. 41-43.

³ UNGA, “Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States”, A/57/262. December 22, 2002.

TEMPLATE FOR NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS OF BPOA+10

Name of Country:

1. SOCIO ECONOMIC CONTEXT: Key characteristics, challenges and responses.

- **Key Characteristics:** Briefly outline the general socio-economic characteristics of your country including land area, geographic characteristics, population growth & density etc. It is recommended that suitable subsets of variables such as population densities and existing indices be utilized, with some latitude to include other indicators, to allow for appropriate comparisons.

- **Key Challenges:** What are the key socio-economic challenges facing your country and what are some of the constraints your country faces with respect to these challenges? (The list below identifies some areas for your consideration. You may add additional areas if necessary):
 - Impacts of globalization, in particular on finance and investments for sustainable development:
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 - Impacts of globalization on trade and exports, in particular as a result of trade liberalization:
 -
 - Urbanization:
 -
 - Natural disasters:
 -
 - Natural resource depletion:
 -
 - National security and crime, including issues pertaining to large EEZs (drugs, pollution, poaching etc.):
 -
 - Unemployment:
 -
 - HIV/AIDS, malaria, other vector borne diseases:
 -
 - Water and sanitation in rural and urban areas:
 -
 - Any additional challenges.

- **Key Responses:** Identify areas/programmes where action has been taken to address any or all of the challenges that you have listed above

2. NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (SD)

Give a brief description of any **comprehensive national SD policies and national SD mechanisms/frameworks** that have been put into place to address sustainable development issue since the inception of BPOA in 1994.

- For example, provide information on specific national legislation or sustainable development policies that have contributed to overall implementation of SD.
- This could include references to the creation of National Commissions on Sustainable Development and/or National Coordination Mechanisms/Committees for coordinating action on sustainable development conventions and treaties etc.

Focus on **specific lessons learned** in implementation or establishment of the national SD mechanism and/or SD policies, such as the effectiveness of the operation of the mechanism, or the influence of the policy in creating change.

Please list any additional concerns relating to national frameworks.

3. NATIONAL PROGRESS MADE & PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BPOA: Sectoral and Cross-Sectoral Areas

3.1 SECTORAL AREAS: Progress Made and Problems Encountered

3.1.1 Climate Change and Sea-Level Rise

- Date of Ratification/Signature of Framework Convention on Climate Change and/or Kyoto Protocol
- List relevant national or sub-regional projects related to the Convention on Climate Change & Kyoto Protocol. (Please indicate if there are linkages or cross-cutting projects/reports, for example climate change and biodiversity)
- Please use the first national communications your country has submitted to the Climate Change Convention and/or any other relevant national reports, to provide a summary of key constraints related to the implementation of the Convention's objectives.
- Provide a brief summary of national progress made and problems encountered in the area of adaptation needs, such as capacity building, adaptation technology, education etc., relating to the adverse effects of climate change, sea level rise and climate variability.

3.1.2 Natural and Environmental Disasters

- Describe the national framework for risk management and disaster preparedness, including a list of the relevant national and/or sub-regional projects, which your country has participated or is participating in.
- Provide information on any national work your country has undertaken on vulnerability assessments or indices and/or sustainable development indicators. If no work has been done at the national level, indicate key problems (technical capacity, investment etc) related to the development of vulnerability assessments, indices and SD indicators.
- Provide a summary of national progress and/or constraints associated with the implementation of early warning systems.
- Describe any sub regional-regional mechanisms for Disaster Management that are currently in place or anticipated.
- Based on existing national or sub-regional reports and projects, provide a summary of key constraints (lack of capacity, investment, infrastructure etc.) related to effective planning and implementation of disaster management strategies and risk assessments.

3.1.3 Coastal and Marine Resources, including coastal and marine biodiversity resources

- *Date of Ratification/Signature of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (and other related agreements), the Convention on Biological Diversity and/or Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*
- *Date of deposit of your country's EEZ charts⁴, or list relevant projects relating to the delineation of your country's EEZ*
- *List relevant national, sub-regional and regional projects related to the sustainable use, management and conservation of coastal and marine resources. (Please indicate linkages or cross-cutting projects/reports, for example coastal and marine resources and the impacts of climate change)*
- *Based on the first national communications your country has submitted to the Convention on Biological Diversity and/or any other relevant national or regional reports prepared, such as to the GPA on land based sources of pollution and/or regional seas programmes, please provide a summary of key national constraints related to the implementation of the Convention's objectives in the areas of coastal and marine resources.*
- *Please discuss the extent to which the use of diverse approaches and tools, including the ecosystem approach, the elimination of destructive fishing practices, the establishment of marine protected areas have occurred in your country.*

3.1.4 Land Resources, including terrestrial biodiversity

- *Date of Ratification/Signature of the Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants*
- *List relevant national, sub-regional and regional projects related to the sustainable use, management and conservation of land resources including terrestrial biodiversity (Please indicate linkages or cross-cutting projects/reports, for example land degradation and sea level rise/saltwater intrusion)*
- *Based on the first national report your country has submitted to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and any other relevant national or regional reports prepared, please provide a summary of key national constraints related sustainable management of land resources, forests and terrestrial biodiversity.*

3.1.5 Energy

- *List relevant national, sub-regional and regional projects related to development and provision of sustainable energy resources and systems, including energy efficiency and conservation and new and renewable energy sources. (Please indicate linkages or cross-cutting projects/reports, for example energy and natural resource management)*
- *Based on all relevant national or regional reports prepared, please provide a summary of key national constraints (technical and institutional capacity, lack of financing, market distortions etc) related to the planning, production and distribution of sustainable energy resources and systems, including energy supply and access for rural areas and outer islands.*

⁴ Coastal States, under article 16, paragraph 2, article 47, paragraph 9, article 75, paragraph 2, and article 84, paragraph 2, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, are required to deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations charts showing straight baselines and archipelagic baselines as well as the outer limits of the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf; alternatively the lists of geographical coordinates of points, specifying the geodetic datum, may be substituted.

3.1.6 Management of Wastes & Provision of Water and Sanitation Services

- *List relevant national, sub-regional and/or regional projects related to the management of wastes and the provision of sanitation services. (Please indicate linkages or cross-cutting projects/reports, for example waste and energy)*
- *Based on all relevant national and regional reports prepared, please provide a summary of national constraints (technical and institutional capacity, lack of financing and infrastructure etc) related to the planning, development and implementation of waste management systems/services and sanitation services.*
- *Please describe the progress made and constraints encountered in developing integrated water resources management and/or water efficiency plans in your country.*

3.1.7 Tourism

- *List relevant national, sub-regional and/or regional projects related to development and implementation of sustainable tourism practices and services. (Please indicate linkages or cross-cutting projects/reports, for example tourism and ecosystem management)*
- *Please provide a brief summary of any community-based initiatives on sustainable tourism aimed at building capacity necessary to diversify tourism products, while protecting culture and traditions and effectively conserving and managing natural resources.*

3.2 CROSS-SECTORAL AREAS

3.2.1 Financing and Investment for SD

List national, sub regional and regional initiatives in the areas of financing and investment for sustainable development that are related to your country.

Identify the key problems and constraints encountered in securing financing/investment for SD at the national level.

3.2.2 Capacity building and Coordination

List national, sub regional and regional initiatives in the areas of institutional capacity and coordination for SD that are related to your country, such as membership in relevant regional organizations and mechanisms.

List national, sub regional and regional initiatives in the area of human resource (capacity) development for SD that are related to your country, such as cooperation between national mechanisms and regional and inter-regional mechanisms.

Identify key problems and constraints encountered in the areas of institutional capacity and coordination, and in the area of human resource development for SD, at the national level, and describe any experiences in the exchange of information with other countries or regions.

**4. TRADE, INVESTMENT, CAPACITY BUILDING AND COOPERATION AND THE STATUS OF SIDS
VULNERABILITY**

- *Please identify key trade related concerns and needs faced by your country, focus in particular on trade concerns/ vulnerabilities related to sustainable development:*
- *Please provide a brief summary of any national level or community-based initiatives related to trade practices and services, including those that aim to diversify exports, or for improving national competitiveness.*
- *Please identify key investment related concerns and needs, focus in particular on investment concerns/vulnerabilities related to sustainable development:*
- *Please identify key concerns/needs related to capacity building for sustainable development in your country. Please specify how capacity development issues affect national socio-economic and environmental vulnerability concerns:*
- *Please identify/list specific sub-regional or regional cooperative mechanisms or programmes related to sustainable development and vulnerability concerns, in particular any national, sub-regional and regional initiatives which are currently underway to consider trade-related constraints of SIDS (university studies, PACER/PICTA, FTAA, etc), or that ensure that due account is taken of SIDS in the World Trade Organization work programme on trade in small economies and within the context of the Doha development agenda, including in the areas of capacity building and training.*
- *Please identify principal vulnerability concerns that affect your country (e.g., exchange rates, cost of hazard insurance, high cost of energy inputs to the economy, devaluation of national currency, level of external debt, etc), and also identify any actions/mechanisms that have been established, or are being established that will address any of these vulnerability concerns:*
- *Please identify any specific cooperation initiatives aimed at addressing its principal vulnerabilities that your country has either undertaken, plans to undertake, or wishes to have in place with other small island developing States:*

5. MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDG's) AND SD IN SIDS.

5.1 Poverty Eradication

Describe current national efforts and initiatives related to the eradication of poverty that could contribute to the internationally accepted target of reducing by half the number of people living in poverty by 2015.

Please include any information on existing national constraints (capacity, financial and institutional) related to achieving the goal of poverty eradication.

Example of national initiatives could include:

- a. Development of national poverty reduction strategies, including local and community development programmes that promote the needs of poor.*
- b. Support for local authorities in urban development and improve lives of slum dwellers.*
- c. Improved access to credit, housing and employment opportunities for the urban and rural poor.*
- d. Support for natural resource management with a view to creating sustainable livelihoods for the poor.*

5.2 Education and reduction of child mortality

Describe current national efforts and initiatives related to provision of universal primary education and the reduction of child mortality in the country, bearing in mind the internationally agreed target date of 2015.

Please include information on existing national constraints (capacity, financial and institutional)

Example of national initiatives could include:

- a. Development of national strategies on education, such as Head Start*
- b. Support for campaigns by local authorities such as "No Child Left Behind"*

5.3 Gender equality and empowerment of women

Describe current national efforts and initiatives related to gender equality and the empowerment of women, bearing in mind the internationally agreed target date of 2015.

Please include information on existing national constraints capacity, financial and institutional)

Example of national initiatives could include:

- a. Development of national gender empowerment strategies*
- b. Support for financial assistance and loans to women farmers and fishers*

5.4 HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Describe current national, sub regional and regional efforts and initiatives related to combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other vector borne diseases, bearing in mind the internationally agreed target date of 2015.

Please include information on existing national constraints capacity, financial and institutional)

Example of national initiatives could include:

- a. *Development of national health education strategies, including youth-to-youth mentoring programs*
- b. *Support for local initiatives to stamp out mosquito breeding grounds*

5.5 Environmental Sustainability

Describe current national, sub regional and regional efforts and initiatives related to ensuring environmental sustainability, bearing in mind the internationally agreed target date of 2015.

Please include information on existing national constraints capacity, financial and institutional)

Example of national initiatives could include:

- a. *Development of national strategies to complement regional programs (such as the Pacific Oceans Policy, the Caribbean Sea Initiative, etc.)*
- b. *Support for programmes for the “greening” of national and local authorities*

5.6 Global Partnership for Development

Describe current national, sub regional and regional efforts aimed at fostering global partnerships for SD in your country.

Please provide a list of key existing national constraints related to the planning, development and implementation of partnerships for SD.

Example of national initiatives could include:

- a. *Development of successful partnership initiatives, for example in the context of the WSSD*
- b. *Development of national experts database for implementation of partnership projects.*

6 EMERGING CONCERNS AND SPECIAL NEEDS

Please provide information on any emerging concerns or special needs that have not been discussed above. This could include for example the impacts of the global drug trade, the role of exogenous fiscal shocks, etc. This section could also be used to summarize project partnership proposals/concepts that have not been able to secure financing. Special initiatives that could be discussed at the upcoming regional and inter-regional level could also be enumerated.