



SOLOMON ISLANDS

STATEMENT BY

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BEFORE THE

**HIGH-LEVEL REVIEW MEETING OF THE
65th UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAURITIUS STRATEGY FOR
THE FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME
OF ACTION FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF
SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES**

*Round table 1—Reducing vulnerabilities and
strengthening resilience of small island developing States*

24th SEPTEMBER 2010, NEW YORK

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Co-Chairs,

Reducing vulnerability and strengthening resilience of SIDS must be discussed and seen from the context of sustainable development. Strengthening resilience rests on having a productive economy, a resourceful social system and a healthy and protective environment.

All these three pillars of sustainable development are interrelated and interlinked. The economic vulnerability of SIDS is such that with small narrow export based economies, they are exposed to exogenous shocks. From an environmental perspective, many SIDS are located in geographical disaster prone locations, the impact of climate change has further resulted in the loss of biodiversity, relocated populations and created food and water security. 80% of Solomon Islands populations rely on the environment for their livelihood. Our social system, structures, institutions and values are all centered on our natural resources.

Co-Chairs,

We need to confront all global crises head on, from an economic front, namely food, energy and financial crisis. Approaches we should adopt include investments in small holder agriculture, microcredit schemes, renewable energy and MDG debt swap concept. Their success must be matched with a global effort to correct the current multilateral trade imbalance with a fair and equitable completion of the Doha Round.

The protection of the environment also requires a global solution for a comprehensive legally binding Agreement under the UNFCCC. An ambitious second commitment period must be embraced by Annex 1 without condition. The impact of climate change demands new and

additional resources on top of current ODA to assist us in taking adaptation and mitigation measures. Finance must be from public sources to make it predictable and transparent. All these proposals are designed to strengthen social inclusion of vulnerable populations within the international system.

Co-Chairs,

Let me close by stating that a new collaborative arrangement requires genuine cooperation with all partners that will deliver to those that need the UN most.

Thank you