

**Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS  
Ambassador Level Meeting**

**Closing remarks by H.E. Mr. Fergal Mythen, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the  
United Nations**

**11 April 2024, 10am, Trusteeship Council Chamber**

- Thank you colleagues for your input today, and my sincere gratitude to USG Li Junhua and High Representative Rabab Fatima for their contributions, along with those of their Secretariat colleagues.
- The presentations we have heard today indicate the breadth of opportunity and potential for SIDS, but also the breadth of the challenges ahead in delivering their sustainable future. These challenges are only destined to grow in the coming years in the face of climate change and sea level rise.
- How the UN system and member states engage with and address the sustainable development of SIDS has evolved considerably since the SAMOA Pathway was agreed ten years ago. Agency and voice is valued, collectively we have an understanding of what SIDS want.
- In this context, partnerships and interlinkages too have become more valued. As co-chairs, we hope that this Steering Committee can be a meeting point to share experiences and best practice, weaving together lessons and approaches across all three dimensions of sustainable development – social, economic and environmental.
- I thank you again for your contributions today, and look forward to anticipation to our gathering in Antigua. It is post SIDS4 when the real work starts. We have charted the course to the resilient prosperity of SIDS, but we now have to make the journey together.

Thank you