



STATEMENT OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COMMUNITY MAJOR GROUP

First Preparatory Committee Meeting for the SIDS4 Conference

Monday 22 January 2024

I am Morgan Seag, Liaison to the UN System for the International Science Council (ISC), formerly known as ICSU. I address you on behalf of the Scientific & Technological Community Major Group, co-coordinated by the ISC and the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO).

Our constituency encompasses over 250 national science academies and international unions in natural, social, and human sciences, along with over 100 national engineering organizations representing more than 30 million engineers globally, including many in SIDS.

We emphasize the following points for the Committee's consideration:

- 1. The success of SIDS4 will be supported by systematic dialogue between policy-makers, scientists and engineers** on evidence-based policy options to support concrete action and anticipate future risks. The scientific and technological community can advise on policy options that move beyond sectoral silos, accommodate uncertainties, and address trade-offs and synergies among evidence-based solutions.
- 2. Scientific knowledge and engineering solutions generated in SIDS, specifically, are critical** to understanding challenges and generating actionable, contextually-appropriate solutions. Scientific and engineering knowledge from SIDS should be spotlighted throughout SIDS4.
- 3. Interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary inputs are essential to identifying effective solutions** to challenges faced by SIDS, which means combining insights from natural science, social sciences, humanities, and engineering with Indigenous knowledges, local knowledge, and practitioner knowledge.
- 4. Obstacles to practicing and applying science and engineering in SIDS must be addressed.** Targeted dialogue on relevant issues would support SIDS4 objectives, aiming to generate locally and regionally appropriate knowledge and solutions.

The Scientific & Technological Community Major Group and its co-coordinators, the ISC and the WFEO, look forward to contributing to the success of SIDS4. Thank you.

The International Science Council (ISC) is a non-governmental organization with a unique global membership that brings together more than 245 international scientific Unions and Associations, national and regional scientific organizations including Academies and Research Councils, international Federations and Societies, and Young Academies and Associations.

The vision of the ISC is science as a global public good.