

PIANGO Statement to the First Preparatory Committee Meeting 22 – 26 January 2024

Greetings from the Pacific. I am Emeline Siale ILOLAHIA, representing the Pacific Islands Association of Non Governmental Organisations as the Regional Partner for the Pacific Region in the NGO Major Group

Pacific Island Association of NGOs (PIANGO) is the regional network representing civil society bodies across 24 Pacific Island countries and territories in giving voice to public policy formulation centred on Pacific values and development effectiveness principles.

‘Charting the Course Toward Resilient Prosperity’ be strengthened by deepening the focus areas of the Pacific regional priorities in the 2050 Strategy:

- **Political Leadership** must be inclusive, accountable with specific focus on participatory governance recognising safe civic space to development.
- **Resources and economic development** where SIDS prosperity is more than economic development and financial mechanisms to be locally led.
- **Climate crisis** is a humanitarian crisis with climate justice as core to our survival and development. Anticipatory action is the most practical way that address loss and damages and should ensure communities’ access to resources for climate adaptation, mitigation, relocation, resettlement and human security amidst the climate emergency.
- **Ocean and Environment** are the pillar of our Pacific resilience and the need to safeguard our Ocean and natural resources and to better articulate the economic paradigm that promote exploitation and extractive practices rather than long-term conservation of biodiversity.
- **People Centred Development** that embraced traditional culture and knowledge that is transformational and inclusive should guide SIDS development and must be for all SIDS people with a strong emphasis on human rights, addressing systems and structural drivers of poverty, inequality and injustice that reinforce family centred approach to wellbeing as our resilience and development is grounded on people.

Thank you for the opportunity.