



## Permanent Mission of Samoa to the United Nations

685 Third Avenue, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite 1102 New York, N.Y 10017

Global Multi-Stakeholder Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Partnership Dialogue  
Wednesday 10 July 2024, Trusteeship Council

Remarks by Ms. Matilda Bartley, Deputy Permanent Representative

Thank you Co-Chairs,  
Excellencies and Colleagues,

I have the honour to offer these reflections on behalf of H.E. Fatumanava III Dr. Paolelei Luteru, Permanent Representative and Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States, in our national capacity. Before I do, let me echo the sentiments expressed by earlier speakers on our solidarity with the victims of Hurricane Beryl.

When Samoa hosted the Third SIDS Conference in 2014, some ten years ago, we really leaned on the theme of the conference, which was “the Sustainable Development of SIDS through Genuine and Durable Partnerships”. For us, this meant that we as SIDS have an equal stake in the steering of our development aspirations and this is the hope in how we address ABAS and its implementation into the future.

Partnerships forged in our development journey needed to have a genuine interest in listening to our priorities and working together with us to facilitate or implement our plans. When partnerships are genuine in this regard, there is a durability to our relationships which stand the test of time and the challenges which are relentless in our development journey and the setbacks we face when disasters strike.

There were a flurry of partnerships which were announced at SIDS3 and over 250 partnerships were recorded by the end of the Conference. However there are challenges on how these partnerships are monitored and we recognize that more work needs to be done on measuring the effectiveness of said partnerships over the years. We therefore that an M & E Framework for ABAS can be set up and operational in the very near future as we see this as a tool to help with the necessary monitoring and evaluation of course.

Having said all this, the question on how we can boost collaboration across all partners, donors and stakeholders including civil society and international financial institutions is rooted in awareness building. Knowledge sharing is essential, building on the networks that have been created especially for capacity building which is always needed for SIDS. The advocacy of our priority issues is also a continuous effort not just from SIDS but from our partners in the room.

This is also linked in the need to avoid working in silos. Governments of course are guilty of this and so are our UN and regional agencies.

SIDS as a collective, are a constituency which have a lot of negotiating strength if they work together especially when supported by the partners.

On the second question on how we mobilise adequate financial and human resources to support SIDS in the implementation of ABAS- this also comes down to the strength of our advocacy in the discussions with international financial institutions as well as other international financial funds.

One of the side events I had attended at the recent SIDS4 was on climate finance and the discussions around the just transition really illustrated that there is a lot of interest from private as well as international organisations in getting projects underway in SIDS in renewable energy for example- as we are an ideal testing ground due to our small size and ambitious national commitments. However, we don't want to just be a testing ground- these types of initiatives can open the doorway and successes can translate to bigger and more complex investments and this is how we look forward to those sort of partnerships developing.

I'll just stop right here but would welcome an opportunity to further these discussions as we move towards the implementation of ABAS.

Thank you.