



4TH INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON
**Small Island
Developing States**
27-30 MAY, 2024
ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

SIDS4 Conference Side Event

SIDS Leadership on Global Just Transition from Fossil Fuels

**Tuesday 28 May 2024, 08:00-09:30,
Room 9, American University of Antigua**

**Organized by: Governments of Samoa and Denmark and
supported by the Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance (BOGA)**

Background on the event (one paragraph)

SIDS have been at the forefront of climate action and the global call for a just transition away from fossil fuels. This event explored how efforts to deliver the outcomes of COP28 – including the first-ever global agreement to transition away from fossil fuels in line with 1.5C – will transform the global context for SIDS and for accelerated, sustainable growth over the next ten years. This event was co-hosted by Samoa, Denmark and the Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance (BOGA) and featured the announcement of Belize as BOGA's first Caribbean member. Speakers included; Fatumanava-o-Upolu III Dr Pa'olelei Luteru (Permanent Representative of Samoa to the United Nations); Tomas Anker Christensen (Climate Ambassador, Denmark); Orlando Habet (Minister of Sustainable Development, Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management for Belize); Selwin Hart (Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Climate Action and Just Transition); Pepukaye Bardouille (Director of Bridgetown Initiative & Special Adviser on Climate Resilience, Barbados Prime Minister's Office); Filimon Manoni (Pacific Ocean Commissioner, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat); and Sivendra Michael (Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Fiji).

Key Issues discussed

- *The case for a global transition away from fossil fuels has never been clearer. SIDS have an opportunity to lead not just on adaptation and resilience to physical climate impacts, but on managing transition risks to their economies, given their exposure to high and volatile fossil fuel prices and emissions-intensive (shipping, aviation).*
- *SIDS have played a vital role in raising climate ambition in the UNFCCC and securing the first global commitment to transitioning away from fossil fuels at COP28 through AOSIS, with support from BOGA and the High Ambition Coalition (HAC).*
- *SIDS leadership on phase out on the global stage must be grounded in equitable, just transitions at home. International partnerships like BOGA are key to that and can support progress towards a just transition at the regional and national level.*
- *Leadership on the phase out of oil and gas is growing. With a growing number of Pacific SIDS members, BOGA was delighted to welcomed Belize as its first Caribbean member and first SIDS member with production.*

Key recommendations for action

- *Strengthen SIDS calls for leadership on the global transition away from fossil fuels, including SIDS calls on G7 and G20 producers to halt new licensing rounds and start planning for an orderly, just transition away from fossil fuels.*
- *Enhance coordination and technical support for just transitions that deliver resilience and prosperity for SIDS. This includes support for a Pacific Just Energy Transition Commissioner, and for the mobilization of finance for sustainable, resilient development and alternatives to fossil fuel development.*
- *Enhance access to policy and technical assistance. For governments that are still considering whether to exploit oil and gas reserves and are looking for alternatives, or to phase out existing production, support may be available through the BOGA Fund.*
- *Leverage the Antigua & Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS) to accelerate a just transition away from fossil fuels. Governments and partners should set out how they plan to support implementation of Section 3 of the ABAS in line with 1.5c.*