

Remarks by Mr. Takatoshi MORI
Minister, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations
Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS
(May 30 2025, Friday, 10:00am – 11:30am, CR-1)

Dear Co-Chairs, we welcome today's meeting of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS. I thank the Co-Chairs, Maldives and Latvia, for your leadership. I would also like to extend my appreciation to DESA and OHRLS for preparing today's recommendations to strengthen the SIDS Partnership Framework and the SIDS Global Business Network.

Japan has developed strong partnerships with SIDS, especially the Pacific island countries, by participating in meetings of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) as a dialogue partner and hosting the Pacific Island Leaders Meeting (PALM), in order to address common challenges in the region together with Pacific island countries, such as the adverse impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss, and disaster risks.

Japan also has multiple private sector partnerships to address the challenges of SIDS. For example, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation plays a critical role to compliment government efforts to assist the development of SIDS, such as by promoting community based tourism in Palau as a key driver of local economic development, or by conducting training exercises to enhance maritime security in the region of Micronesia.

Japan welcomes the recommendation made today to strengthen the SIDS Partnership Framework and the SIDS Global Business Network. In particular, we would like to underline the importance of increasing multi stakeholder access to the Partnership, and express our support to the proposed initiative to conduct a mapping of stakeholders to identify existing actors, resources, and priority areas in order to keep stakeholders' commitments up to date.

Moreover, we believe that many of the challenges currently facing SIDS could be potential new business opportunities for startups. One recent example is WOTA, a Japanese start-up, working to solve the world's water problems. This company is now planning to introduce its innovative small-scale decentralized water recycling system in Antigua and Barbuda, and we hope that the recommended B2B matchmaking and regular networking events will enhance this kind of collaboration.

In closing, let me reiterate that Japan remains fully committed to addressing the challenges of SIDS by partnering with SIDS and other multi stakeholders. I thank you.