

## **GUIDELINES FOR REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AS WELL AS 'NON-SIDS' COUNTRIES REPORTS**

### **High-Level Meeting - 5- year Review of Progress made in Addressing Vulnerabilities of SIDS through Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Further Implementation (MSI) of the Barbados Programme of Action (BPOA).**

**Please note that the deadline for submissions is 30 November 2009.**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The UN General Assembly Resolution 63/213 (February 2009) Follow-up to and Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, reaffirmed the GA decision 62/191 to “review progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly”. Resolution 63/213 stressed “that the review should provide the international community with an opportunity to conduct an assessment of the progress made, lessons learned and constraints encountered in the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation (MSI) and agree on what needs to be done to further address the vulnerabilities of SIDS.”

As a first step in the process, the MSI acknowledges that sustainable development is primarily a national responsibility, and as such, it is crucial that any forward looking assessments of progress in addressing vulnerabilities of SIDS need to build upon national level assessments. Such National Assessment Reports (NAR) should inform the development of further concrete projects and programmes for the implementation of the MSI. In this regard, SIDS have been asked to prepare NARs based on a set of guidelines (attached for information) in accordance with the above mentioned GA resolutions. The NARs will be synthesized at the regional and global level.

The MSI also acknowledges that for SIDS to succeed there is a need for strengthened cooperation and partnership in support of sustainable development of SIDS at the national, regional and international levels. The Mauritius Declaration reaffirmed the commitment of the international community to support the sustainable development strategies of SIDS through technical and financial cooperation, regional and interregional institutional assistance and an improved international enabling environment. The Mauritius Declaration also invited the UN and its specialized agencies in advancing the sustainable development of SIDS to strengthen their support for the MSI, through enhanced coherence, coordination and appropriate monitoring. Furthermore, paragraph 104 of the MSI called on SIDS regional institutions to play a key role in monitoring the implementation of the MSI. In this regard, the regional intergovernmental organizations, international organizations, including UN agencies, as well as ‘non-SIDS’ countries are asked to submit assessment reports based on the following guidelines on the support they provide SIDS in the implementation, and in monitoring of progress of implementation, of the MSI.

**PROPOSED GUIDELINES - REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AS WELL AS 'NON-SIDS' COUNTRIES**

**For each of the sectoral/thematic areas identified in the BPOA and MSI, you are invited to provide information on the support provided by your organization in support of SIDS implementation of the MSI, in relation to the list of topics given below (which have been drawn from the relevant intergovernmental decisions on sustainable development), highlighting in particular:**

**Concrete actions taken and specific progress made in implementation;  
Lessons learned and good practices;  
Effectiveness of implementation support and mechanisms, including monitoring systems;  
Special constraints and challenges faced; and  
Recent trends and emerging issues.**

The information should focus on actions undertaken to address vulnerabilities of SIDS, particularly in relation to the means of implementation outlined in paragraph 85 of the MSI, i.e., financing, trade, access to environmentally sound technologies, education and awareness-raising, capacity-building and integration into national sustainable development strategies.

Please provide case studies as a text box (300 words, complete with pictures) that highlights success stories, good practices and effectiveness of implementation.

The thematic areas identified in the BPOA and MSI, include, but not limited to:

- (i) Climate Change and Sea-level rise;
- (ii) Natural and Environmental Disasters;
- (iii) Management of Wastes;
- (iv) Coastal and Marine Resources;
- (v) Freshwater Resources;
- (vi) Land Resources;
- (vii) Energy Resources;
- (viii) Tourism Resources;
- (ix) Biodiversity Resources; and
- (x) Transportation and Communication.

Given the current global financial and economic crisis, coming on top of the 2008 food and energy crisis, the MSI 5-year review process provides an opportunity to assess policy measures to address the adverse impacts of this multiple crisis, including the degree of alignment of these responses with achievement of MDGs and sustainable development objectives. In this regard, you are invited to include a brief discussion of the support you provided SIDS, if any, on broad-based policy measures introduced to address the multiple crisis and to strengthen their resilience against exogenous shocks.