

Royaume du Maroc
Ministère des Affaires Étrangères
et de la Coopération
Agence Marocaine de Coopération
Internationale



المملكة المغربية
وزارة الشؤون الخارجية
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الدولي

**3rd International Conference on Small Island Developing States
Apia (Samoa) From 1st to 4th September, 2014.
Project of Morocco's Declaration**

Mr. the Chairman, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for my country, the Kingdom of Morocco to take part in this 3rd International Conference on Small Island Developing States, which has a particular place in the agenda of the United Nations Organization.

Let me take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to the organizers of this Conference, which, I am convinced, will deepen our reflection on the development of the Small Island Developing States.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Small Island Developing States continue to face many challenges, limiting their capacity for growth and development. As results of this, their deficit in infrastructures, weak productive capacities and very limited integration into the world economy. This also reflects the fragile volume of their trade, as well as their increased vulnerability to the effects of the global warming.

All these factors ecological, climatic and economic reunited permanently hinder the socio-economic development of these countries and undermine their efforts aiming to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Therefore, it becomes imperative to take into account the interests of these countries in the agenda of Post 2015 for development.

The Mauritius Strategy has clearly defined the 19 priority -areas in which some measures should be taken for the development of these countries. However, these measures cannot be implemented effectively without the support of the international community, taking into consideration the emergency of these actions and which must be consistent and well coordinated.

Besides, the Mauritius Declaration recognizes that particular attention should be granted to strengthen the resilience of the Small Island Developing States, namely through the transfer of technology, their capacity building and development of their human resources.

The Five- Year review of the Mauritius Strategy held in September 2010, has allowed to the international community to the finding of the deficiency of the measures taken and the lack of mobilized resources for economic and social development of these small island countries.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The economies of these countries continue to depend on a few sectors such as tourism, which is affected by the effects of climate change and natural disasters, or the export of basic products whose prices fluctuate significantly on the international market, which, consequently make their economic growth more vulnerable to the external shocks.

Making a diversity in the economies of these countries for the purpose of increasing the share of manufacturing and improve their productive capacities, is the best ways indicated to achieve sustainable growth in these countries and to strengthen their resilience.

To make the essential changes to support their growth, these countries need an important mobilization of Official Development Assistance, Direct Foreign Investment, and transfer of technology and access to international markets.

Regarding the climate change and natural disasters, it is necessary to increase both the capacity for prevention and adaptation of these countries whose environmental vulnerability was aggravated in recent years. For this purpose, programs of support of the national policies must be conceived and implemented with the backing up of international institutions.

For that purpose, it is appropriate to take advantage of the results of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development of Rio +20 held in June 2012, concerning the world governance for sustainable development in general and biodiversity of the oceans and seas as well as the financing of sustainable development in particular.

The particular challenges facing the Small Island Developing States must be recognized and treated as such by the international community, which should establish renewed development partnerships for the benefit of the development of these countries.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Morocco has always been conscious of the problems of Small Island Developing States and shares the same aspirations that were formulated in the Barbados Action Program and in the Mauritius Strategy.

The Kingdom of Morocco is convinced that important projects of cooperation on transfer of clean technology, use of renewable energy and finance of sustainable development projects will significantly contribute to the economic growth and the stability these countries.

Morocco has always been attentive to the challenges which are faced by the Small Island Developing States and has actively contributed to the 1st meeting of the Island States of the Pacific, held in Rabat in December 13, 2012, whose works have been approved by the joint communiqué on the reinforcement of the bilateral relations, cooperation and coordination with all of these states.

Morocco, which has always taken a position in the favor of the Small Island Developing States, and strongly believes in the role and the effectiveness of South-South cooperation, is fully committed to its consolidation through effective, dynamic, active cooperation and solidarity, to support the priority issues identified by the Mauritius Strategy.

The Kingdom of Morocco has developed several programs of cooperation in several sectors and domains in which he is ready to share his experience within the framework of south- south cooperation. The transfer of know-how and sharing of Moroccan experience covers many areas, including infrastructure, electricity, renewable energy, agriculture, marine fisheries, tourism, the industry, phosphates, vocational and university training and financing sustainable development projects.

This cooperation is also illustrated by the wide range of human development projects, related to the requirements of globalization and democracy, the cancellation of the debt of least developed countries (PMA) and access to its market free of customs duties and off contingent.

Morocco has also insisted to share his experience with those countries namely his experience of the National Initiative for Human Development (NIHD). In this context, Morocco, organized in April 2007 the first African Conference on Human Development, whose work culminated on the elaboration of an Action Plan for the strengthening and promoting cooperation and share of experience in this domain.

Besides, Morocco, which has always made of multilateralism a means for developing cooperation projects for the socio-economic development, hosted the Ministerial Conference for Least Developed Countries in 2003, the first bilateral meeting between Morocco and Caribbean Community in 2007, which culminated in the elaboration of a framework for bilateral cooperation between both parties, as well as the 4th Ministerial Conference of the African Countries Bordering the Atlantic Ocean in 2009.

In the end, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I would like to express the hope that our work will be crowned by ambitious commitments, able to support this group of countries in their integration into the world economy.

Thank you