

New Zealand intervention under topics of "interlinkages among the three themes and all cross-cutting issues"

Delivered by Mark Ramsden, Counsellor, New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York

Madame Vice Chair

NZ would like to focus on a point of interest to my delegation, and to our neighbours in the Pacific region.

Having listened to the discussion over the past couple of days, and considering the links between the three themes, the special case for small island developing states stands out. This has been referred to by a number of speakers, most recently by Jamaica on behalf of the G77.

The work programme agreed at CSD11 specifically includes SIDS as a cross-cutting issues to be considered during each CSD cycle. As recognised in Barbados, Johannesburg, Mauritius and at other conferences and summits, SIDS face a complex set of challenges because of fragile ecosystems, limited human capacity, and environmental and economic vulnerability.

The Mauritius Implementation Strategy recognises the support required for SIDS, and the action needed by SIDS, to meet development goals related to water, sanitation and human settlements.

NZ hopes that the CSD13 outcomes reflect the particular challenges and vulnerabilities of SIDS in these respects.

On a related point, a number of delegations have raised the need for follow-up in future CSD sessions. The Mauritius International Meeting decided that the CSD should monitor the implementation of the Mauritius and Barbados outcomes. The G77 has suggested that time be specifically set aside for this at future CSD sessions. This is an idea which deserves serious, and positive, consideration.

Thank you Madame Vice Chair.