GUIDANCE FOR SPEAKERS

SIDS National Focal Points (NFPs) Meeting:
“Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway in coherence with the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and SDGs”

26 July 2019,
Praia, Cabo Verde

High-level mid-term review of the SAMOA Pathway and the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development (SDG Summit 2019)

**Background**

This session will focus on the expected outcomes of the High-level mid-term review of the SAMOA Pathway and the SDG Summit to be held during the high-level week of the 74th session of the General Assembly in September 2019.

The one-day high-level review of the SAMOA Pathway (mandated by A/RES/71/225) is the first global stocktaking meeting on the document since its adoption at the Third International SIDS Conference held in Apia, Samoa in 2014. In preparation for the high-level meeting which, will take place under the Auspices of the General Assembly\(^1\) will take place on 27 September 2019. In preparation for the high-level review, a series of regional consultations were held in 2018, starting with the AIS regional meeting held in Mauritius (23-24 May), Pacific regional meeting in Tonga (17-19 June) and the Caribbean regional meeting in Belize (9-10 August). The regional preparatory process concluded with an inter-regional meeting held in Apia, Samoa (2-4 November) culminating in the adoption of the Apia outcome document that was agreed to be used as a basis for the political declaration currently being negotiated and will be the outcome of the high-level meeting in September.

2019 will mark the first HLPF meeting at the leader level on 24 September (afternoon) and 25 September, to follow up and review progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the 17 SDGs. The SDG Summit will result in a concise negotiated political declaration. The SDG Summit will also seek to mobilize further support for action to achieve the SDGs and will encourage voluntary commitments by governments and all stakeholders to accelerate action also known as the **SDGs Accelerated Actions**.

---

\(^1\) For modalities for the high-level review see General Assembly resolution A/RES/72/307
Key objectives:

1) Share information with the focal points network on the upcoming high-level meetings of relevance to SIDS taking place at the global level and the expectations of these meetings.

2) In-depth discussions on some of the key priority areas for action including access to finance for SIDS, Connectivity and resilience building which, have been identified as cross cutting themes in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the SDGs in going forward.

3) Discussion on how the SIDS National Focal Points network can contribute to translating the commitments in the political declarations from the Mid-Term Review of the SAMOA Pathway and the SDG Summit into tangible results on the ground.

Guidance for Speakers/Resource Persons

General progression of session:

- The speaker(s) will be introduced by the Moderator at the beginning of the session.
- Speaker(s) are asked to make 10-minute presentations.
- The use of PowerPoint is encouraged.
- Following the presentations, there will be an interactive dialogue with questions and comments from the floor.
- The Moderator will give the floor to the Lead Discussant to begin the discussion. The Lead Discussant is asked to make a 3-5 minute intervention.
- Please email copy of the presentation/speaking notes to the session focal point (below) by 22 July 2019 at the latest.

Guiding Questions

The following questions are intended to guide the presentations and the interactive discussions:

1. What types of actions are needed to translate political commitments at the global level into action on the ground?

2. How can the UN system entities better support national and regional implementing partners in this regard? Are there examples of partnerships that have been successful in providing coordinated and coherent support to SIDS in this context? How can such institutional partnerships be strengthened and/or replicated?
3. What steps can be taken to strengthen coordination of actions within the three SIDS regions as well as inter-regionally to advance the limitation of the SAMOA Pathway and SDGs over the next five-years? How do you see the national focal points fulfilling this role?

Focal Point

Ms. Tishka Francis
UN-OHRLLS
Tel: +1 917 367 4468
Email: tishka.francis@un.org

Ms. Shifaana Thowfeequ
UN-OHRLLS
Tel: +1 212 963 4747
Email: thowfeequ@un.org