



ECOSOC

United Nations Economic and Social Council

TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE LIVES

**Pathways to resilience in climate-affected SIDS:
A Forward-Looking Resilience Building Agenda
Promises, results and next steps
13 November 2018**

**ECOSOC President
Closing Remarks**

I would like to thank all our distinguished speakers for their contribution to this meeting. I am also grateful for the strong support and participation of Member States from all regions.

In view of the rich discussion, ideas and proposals we heard this afternoon, I intend to issue a Presidential Statement tomorrow to capture the key messages and recommendations.

Building on the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development called for special attention to Small Island Developing States (SIDS) given the unique vulnerabilities and constraints in meeting the SDGs.

Building resilience in SIDS, therefore, must be a priority if we want to achieve a risk-informed and resilient implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Let us build on our progress and continue to build resilience in all dimensions of sustainable development.

Next year is an important year for SIDS. We need to ensure that their voices and concerns are heard and addressed at key events in 2019.

- The 2019 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), convened under the auspices of ECOSOC, on the theme “empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality” will be reviewing progress made on SDG13 on climate change.
- As we heard from the Deputy Secretary-General, the Climate Summit of the Secretary-General in September 2019 will aim to scale-up and accelerate climate action to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- This will be followed by the HLPF under the General Assembly—the SDG Summit—in September.
- And the high-level mid-term review of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway will also take place in 2019.

I urge Member States—including SIDS themselves—the United Nations system, donors, international financial institutions, civil society, foundations and the private sector, to sustain the attention to SIDS and take action for follow-up on our commitments. And I would like to reiterate my commitment to addressing the challenges and issues of Small Island Developing States. The Economic and Social Council stands ready to work with you all towards that end.