

**Preparatory Committee for the Fourth International Conference on Small Island
Developing States**

**Statement delivered by Ms. Toni-Shae Freckleton, Chief of the New York Liaison Office,
United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction**

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Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Colleagues,

We commend all delegations on their swift and committed efforts to forge a comprehensive, forward-looking, action oriented and ambitious Programme of Action for Small island developing states (SIDS). From the discussions so far, it has been clear that resilience-building, risk-informed development and investments are a priority, and ensuring a comprehensive and systemic approach to climate change, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development that factors in multidimensional vulnerabilities is critical.

We look forward to the finalization of the outcome document which will be adopted at the Fourth International Conference on SIDS. Based on the outcome, UNDRR is committed to presenting a clear offer of support at the Conference demonstrating UNDRR's contribution to the implementation of the programme of action in SIDS.

We also look forward to working with the rest of the UN system and Member States on establishing a robust monitoring and evaluation mechanism that utilises existing reporting structures. This will enable better tracking of progress, and identification of areas for enhanced efforts, including the collection of data on loss and damage. This is also instrumental in directing support to where it is most needed and will facilitate strategic prioritization as we navigate implementation of this new Framework which extends beyond the 2030 Agenda and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Critically, we look forward to ensuring that the Early Warnings for All Initiative, the Santiago Network for Loss and Damage, and the new generation of disaster loss databases being developed by UNDRR all contribute positively towards building capacity, mitigation of risk and strengthen resilience in SIDS.

Let me conclude by reaffirming UNDRR's strong support in the development and implementation of this new sustainable development blueprint for SIDS.

Thank you.