Statement by the Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS) at INC-3

Part III Item 2 Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer

Nairobi, Kenya – 15 November 2023

Delivered by: Vanuatu on behalf of the Pacific Small Island States

Vanuatu has the honour to speak on behalf of the 14 Pacific Small Island Developing States and aligns with the statement by Samoa on behalf of the Alliance of Small Islands States (AOSIS).

The implementation of this instrument necessitates the need to build capacity of Parties, provision of technical assistance and technology transfer to meet commitments and obligations of this instrument. Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer go hand in hand with a financial mechanism agreed in this instrument. These are key drivers of implementation by Parties.

Our Pacific region not only faces challenges of accessing financial mechanisms, but are compounded by capacity constraints within institutions, policy support, awareness, training, research and education, among others. The implementation of this instrument will require timely, sustainable, comprehensive and adequate capacity-building and technical assistance to developing countries, particularly Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

With small administrations, the capacity to enforce MEA compliance is one of many key challenges. Technical assistance to developing countries, such as S IDS, need to be better framed to suit national circumstances, capacity and capability gaps. Technology transfer, more often than not, is not compatible with national existing infrastructure and systems. As obligations to this instrument become clearer, there will be a need to develop focus areas of capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer.

We support the text in Item 2 of Part III and emphasise that capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer must be designed to be sustainable and long-term with due consideration of national circumstances and needs of Parties especially SIDS. We support a needs assessment to design technical assistance and technology transfer based on fair and most favourable terms including concessional and preferential ones according to mutually agreed terms.
Our environment, biodiversity and our livelihoods are severely impacted by plastic pollution, and we urge Parties to cooperate to provide, ensure and facilitate support to developing countries through capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer that best fits national circumstances and priorities of developing countries particularly, SIDS.

I thank you.