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

Part II. Item 12 Just Transition

Nairobi, Kenya – 15 November 2023

Final

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

Mr Co-facilitator,

On behalf of the PSIDS and aligning with AOSIS we present the following views on the important issue of Just Transition in the future instrument.

PSIDS supports the provisions in the Just Transition item that promote and facilitate a fair, equitable, and inclusive transition for affected populations in the implementation of this instrument leaving no one behind. PSIDS proposes the inclusion of the Indigenous People and local communities in the affected populations covered in this item. PSIDS recognizes the importance of the transition to a sustainable circular economy and recommends Parties to focus on reducing production and consumption, increasing recycling rates, and chemicals in plastics that must be given sufficient attention, as hazardous chemicals are barriers to safe and transparent material preservation. PSIDS would also want to put forward concerns that recycled and/or reused plastics may contain higher levels of hazardous chemicals than virgin plastics.

PSIDS would like to reiterate the importance of a global approach to support a just transition in which harmonized international action could accelerate the move towards a just transition. We propose to have adequate international support in the instrument, including capacity building and finance resources to implement national and international action that could include, among other things, a separate fund for establishing a just and inclusive EPR system that includes a globally coordinated fee or tax. However, it is important that a diverse source of funds be considered in this instrument to provide support for activities such as ratification, development of national plans, etc. which may occur before EPR and other systems are finalized. In addition, PSIDS would like to propose that the provisions be strengthened by designing some of the suggested actions as mandatory and empowering the governing body to develop guidance for Parties to implement this provision.

We will send our language suggestions.

Thank you.
1. Each Party shall promote and facilitate a fair, equitable and inclusive transition for affected populations, with special consideration for Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women and vulnerable groups, including children and youth, in the implementation of this instrument*. This may include:

a. Designating a national coordinating body for engagement with relevant stakeholders, including public authorities, non-governmental organizations Indigenous Peoples and local communities and local communities,