



19 December 2023

Subject: Invitation to the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS4)

Excellency,

We are pleased to inform you that in accordance with General Assembly resolution 77/245, the Preparatory Committee of the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States will hold its first session from 22-26 January 2024 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to begin its substantive preparations for the Conference, which will be held from 27-30 May in Antigua and Barbuda under the overarching theme “Charting the course toward resilient prosperity.”

Please find attached the proposed programme of work for the January session of the Preparatory Committee. A zero draft outcome document is currently being finalized and will be circulated by us to all delegations in early 2024 to ensure timely preparations for the session.

Arrangements for accreditation and participation of non-governmental organizations, major groups and other relevant stakeholders

Further to the Preparatory Committee’s resolution adopted on 30 May 2023 (A/CONF.223/2024/PC/L.1) entitled “Additional modalities and format of the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States” and pursuant to section III of annex II thereto, we are pleased to also share a note prepared by the Conference secretariat on the arrangements for accreditation and participation of non-governmental organizations, major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States.

We invite your attention to annex I of the Secretariat’s note which includes the list of non-governmental organizations, major groups and other relevant stakeholders recommended by the secretariat for special accreditation to participate in the Conference as well as in the preparatory meetings.

In the absence of any objections by 6 pm on 12 January 2024, we intend to submit the list of non-governmental organizations, major groups and other relevant stakeholders contained in annex I of the enclosed note for the decision by the Preparatory Committee at its first session.

For further information, please contact Ibrahim Zuhuree (izuhuree@maldivesmission.com) and Rachael Pringle (rachael.pringle@mfat.govt.nz), in our Permanent Missions.

Side events

Finally, there will be an opportunity for interested delegations to organize in-person side events in connection with the first session of the Preparatory Committee. Interested delegations are encouraged to submit their side event applications [here](#) for review by the Conference Secretariat. The deadline to submit applications is 3 January 2024. For any inquiries or additional information, please reach out to Ms. Hanna Denekeew in the DESA Division for Sustainable Development at denekeew@un.org.

We look forward to working closely with you to ensure that the preparations for the Fourth International Conference on SIDS will be a success.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



H.E. Carolyn Schwalger

**Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of New Zealand to the United Nations**



Dr Ibrahim Zuhuree

**Chargé d'Affaires and Deputy Permanent
Representative of Maldives to the United
Nations**