

Thank you Chair,

Samoa wishes to speak on behalf of the Pacific Island States, Nauru, Kiribati, Tonga, Palau, Marshall Island, Solomon Island and Cook Island

We welcome the document UNEP/CBD/SBSSTTA/17/2/add1 and also thank the well informative presentations on this agenda item. I believe that issues raised in these presentations very much touched the difficulties that island states face.

Pacific Islands states have been implementing programmes that focussed on the target 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Goal A, however, we believe that we need to reflect the following:

Target 1.

1. We note issues in translating some of the global awareness materials into local context which ,may need resources to enable these to be done
2. To highlight gaps in evaluating and assessing impacts and effectiveness of awareness activities carried out which would also require resources and capacity support to carry these out
3. Supports the issue CEPA as raised by Indigenous people.

Target 2.

1. We note that work is needed to conduct biodiversity valuation to provide key information that will assist with the integration of biodiversity values into national planning processes and accounting systems
2. to note the need to translate global guidance into national contexts and request for funding and technical support to support these

Target 3

1. we request the need to share experiences on actions taken to address issues pertaining to positive and harmful incentives at the national level, if any.
2. Request to highlight any specific issues, gaps and challenges in implementing this target and where appropriate, request for specific assistance to support national efforts
3. Urges to stress the need to capture both economic and non-economic incentives and request for support in this area

Target 4

1. to highlight any specific gaps and challenges in implementing this target
2. to request for specific assistance to translate global guidance and tools to local/national context and resources to support these

Madam Chair,

All four goals are important to Pacific Island Countries that highlight some of the key issues, which we have identified of great importance to our Pacific Island nations.

Limited human and financial resources at the local and national government level are of concern. These continue to impede national efforts, therefore, the need for support and assistance is much required in Pacific Islands Countries to enable meaningful, cost effective and on the ground implementation, related to relevant goals.

We look forward towards programs that would contribute to said agenda items, as well as hearing from other countries on their views and experiences.

Thank you