



Distr.: General
3 August 2016

Original: English



**United Nations
Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment
Programme**

**United Nations Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment Programme**
Second session
Nairobi, 23–27 May 2016

**2/4. Role, functions and modalities for United Nations
Environment Programme implementation of the SAMOA
Pathway as a means of facilitating achievement of the
Sustainable Development Goals**

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/202 of 1 December 2015, which reaffirmed the Declaration of Barbados¹ and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,² the Mauritius Declaration³ and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,⁴ the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway⁵ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),⁶ including chapter VII, on the sustainable development of small island developing States,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012 on the outcome document of the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want,” in which the General Assembly, among other things, called for the convening in 2014 of a third international conference on small island developing States,

Taking into account that Member States called for the strengthening of the United Nations system to support small island developing States in keeping with the multiple ongoing and emerging challenges faced by those States in achieving sustainable development,⁷

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 69/15 of 14 November 2014, in which the General Assembly endorsed the SAMOA Pathway, adopted at the third International Conference on Small

¹ *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

⁴ *Ibid.*, annex II.

⁵ Resolution 69/15, annex.

⁶ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

⁷ “The future we want”, para. 179.

Island Developing States, which inter alia reaffirms that “small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities and that they remain constrained in meeting their goals in all three dimensions of sustainable development” and recognizes “the ownership and leadership of small island developing States in overcoming some of these challenges”, while stressing that, “in the absence of international cooperation, success will remain difficult”,

Recalling the outcome document of the ministerial segment of the first United Nations Environment Assembly for the institutional strengthening of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 adopting the outcome document of the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

1. *Expresses* its gratitude to the Government and the people of Samoa for hosting the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in Apia from 1 to 4 September 2014 and for providing all necessary support;

2. *Acknowledges* the implementation of Governing Council decision 27/2 on the strengthening of the regional presence of the United Nations Environment Programme through the establishment of new Programme subregional offices for the Caribbean and for the Pacific, and encourages further efforts in that respect;

3. *Encourages* Member States to support, both actively and effectively, the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, particularly through partnerships in North-South, triangular and South-South cooperation on issues of importance to small island developing States such as financing, trade, technology transfer, capacity-building and institutional support;

4. *Also encourages* the United Nations Environment Programme, within its mandate, to contribute as appropriate to the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, and requests the Executive Director:

(a) To incorporate into the medium-term strategy and its ongoing programme of work, and clearly identify, actions that assist small island developing States in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, with an emphasis on partnerships, technology transfer, capacity-building, institutional support, monitoring, reporting and evaluation;

(b) To enhance the provision of strategic and targeted support in areas covered by the environmental dimension of the SAMOA Pathway, including, inter alia, sustainable tourism;

(c) To facilitate learning, exchange of information, and North-South and South-South cooperation between small island developing States, regions and other developing countries, particularly with regard to how they have adapted and implemented approaches such as sustainable consumption and production patterns and resource efficiency;

(d) To build national and subregional capacity for reporting against the SAMOA Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals, linking it to United Nations Environment Programme international environmental reporting platforms such as UNEP-Live and utilizing the Programme Indicator Reporting Information System for reporting under multilateral environmental agreements and the Sustainable Development Goals;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to support small island developing States in actions to implement the SAMOA Pathway that will also contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

6. *Recognizes* that it and its subsidiary bodies can serve as an important forum for facilitating, and sharing information on, the implementation of the environmental dimension of the SAMOA Pathway by highlighting areas that need more action and directing attention and resources towards them as well as contributing to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to it on progress in the implementation of the present resolution, with an emphasis on programme activity outputs and impacts.

*6th plenary meeting
27 May 2016*