From Paris to Marrakech:
MAINTAINING THE MOMENTUM

7th - 18th November 2016
Marrakech,
Morocco.
Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) is a space for catalysing, mobilizing and mainstreaming action in support of sustainable development through green/blue economy in Pacific Island Countries. It’s an action-oriented platform to identify innovative solutions that will ensure sustainable development and works closely with international institutions to engage state and non-state actors to develop high-impact collaborations on sustainable development through the Green Economy and is a unique platform bringing together leaders from the public and private sectors and civil society to address regional development challenges, through mutually beneficial innovative partnerships. No one sector in society can deliver the complexities of sustainable development alone. PIDF uses the expertise of the private sector, normative leadership of the public sector, and successful delivery mechanisms of civil society. It provides a framework for bringing together governmental, business and civil society leaders to secure concrete commitments and mobilize action.
The Pacific Islands Development Forum, with assistance of the Pacific Small Islands Developing States missions in New York, submits this guidance note for the perusal of the Pacific Islands delegations during COP 22 in Marrakech, Morocco.

PIDF welcomes the adoption of the Paris Agreement on the 12th of December 2015 and wishes to see the Paris momentum take on a Marrakech spirit;

Further welcomes the signatures of 191 Parties to the Paris Agreement and the ratifications of 86 Parties to the Agreement representing over 61% of global emissions;

Welcomes the entry into force of the Paris Agreement on 4th November 2016;

Underscores that Pacific Islands are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and as a result, Pacific Islands demonstrated strong leadership in Paris in shaping the Agreement;

Expresses our grave concern about the growing adverse impacts of climate change and recognizes its impacts as a threat multiplier that continues to claim lives, pose existential threats to our people and land, and undermine our sustainable development efforts;

Registers our serious concerns about the current low mitigation ambition under the Paris Agreement to stabilize the global average temperature increase to well below 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels;

Further recognizes with major concern that the results of the 2015 UNFCCC Synthesis Report on the aggregate effect of submitted Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) are not consistent with the goal of limiting warming to well below 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels;

Declares that Article 8 of the Paris Agreement and paragraph 51 of decision 1/CP.21 in no way limit the ability of Parties to raise, discuss, or address any present or future concerns regarding the issue of liability and compensation for loss and damage, and in no way constitute a renunciation of any rights under international law concerning State responsibility for the adverse effects of climate change;

Acknowledges that the Paris Agreement requires all countries to participate effectively in addressing the adverse impacts of climate change on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, with the developed countries taking the lead with respect to mitigation actions and the provision of the means of implementation to developing countries to translate the Paris Agreement into action;

Reaffirms our commitment to actively participate in the UNFCCC decision making process in operationalizing the Paris Agreement in an inclusive, transparent and balanced manner that leaves no one behind;

Welcomes the decision to have the financial institutions serving the Paris Agreement to establish more simplified application and approval procedures for accessing funds;
The Pacific Islands Development Forum Secretariat makes the following calls on the road to Marrakech:

- Calls for those Parties who have not yet signed the Paris Agreement to do so as soon as possible and those who have yet to ratify the Agreement to do so by COP 23. The call is made in light of recent scientific evidence registering that global average temperature has increased to 1 degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and that we are now experiencing impacts of climate change at unacceptable levels, reminding us that without bold and urgent action now, far worse is yet to come;

- Works with the Moroccan Presidency, recognizing the fact that without closing the ambition gap with concrete pre-2020 actions, the goals of the Paris Agreement will not be met, and therefore strongly urge Parties who have yet to ratify and implement the Doha amendment under the Kyoto Protocol to do so as soon as possible;

- Supports the Moroccan Presidency’s initiative in convening a facilitative dialogue in Marrakech on unlocking the means of implementation for translating NDCs into action;

- Continues to welcome all climate change initiatives at the international, regional and bilateral levels, both in mitigation and adaptation actions, as these initiatives will translate Pacific Island Countries’ Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) into actions. Such initiatives that have been proven successful and will further allow Pacific Island Countries to translate their NDCs into actions are the PSIDS-Italy Model, the UAE-Pacific Partnership Fund, and the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) Programme, amongst others;

- Welcomes the Green Climate Fund’s decision to disburse USD2.5 billion by the end of 2016 and further call on the developed country Parties to take the lead in scaling up their level of financial support to the GCF to achieve the goal of jointly providing USD100 billion annually by 2020;

- Encourages the COP22 to consider having financial institutions serving the Paris Agreement to establish more simplified application and approval procedures for accessing funds;

- Supports the Moroccan Presidency in accelerating work on strengthening the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage, building on informal consultations carried out in Bonn in May 2016;

- Calls for the Adaptation Fund to serve the Paris Agreement;

- Supports the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) in Marrakech in providing guidance, clarity, and understanding on the features of NDCs, and in establishing registration and accounting mechanisms for NDCs that promote environmental integrity, transparency, accuracy, completeness, comparability and consistency;
The Pacific Islands Development Forum Secretariat makes the following calls on the road to Marrakech:

- Welcomes the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue for reviewing progress towards the long-term temperature goal of the Agreement and strongly calls on all Parties to communicate new ambitious NDCs that will put the world on a 1.5 degrees Celsius pathway;

- Welcomes the IPCC Special Report on the impact of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse emission pathways due in 2018 and calls on all international, regional and Pacific institutions to contribute to the exercise;

- Welcomes the IPCC Special Report on Oceans and Cryosphere and calls for particular attention to feedbacks in the Ocean and Climate System that impact Pacific Small Island Developing States;

- Welcomes the IPCC AR6 synthesis report and supporting working group reports due in 2022 call on IPCC AR6 to align more of its scope, objectives and analysis with 1.5 degrees Celsius scenarios to feed into the 2023 Global Stocktake;

- Calls on the IPCC AR7 to synchronize its reporting cycle with Article 14 of the Paris Agreement; Welcomes the establishment of the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency as this will enable our meaningful participation in the new transparency framework under the Paris Agreement. PIDF therefore calls for the Pacific Small Island Developing States to have priority access to the Initiative;

- Supports proposals to phase down the production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) under the Montreal Protocol as a critical component of a comprehensive climate change mitigation strategy and urges countries to proceed with increased haste in terminating their use;

- Encourages states to give ample consideration to the safeguards needed to protect the rights of people affected by climate induced displacement and migration;

- Calls for the implementation of an international moratorium on the construction of new coal mines;

- Calls for an increased effort in the control of emissions arising from land, sea and air transport and encourages the creation of a mechanism that would support countries to transition to transport systems based on renewable energy;

- Calls for greater support to Ocean issues in recognition of the Oceans’ climate regulation functions.
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