Comments on the zero draft of the outcome of the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

**Climate Change (paragraphs 21-24)**

1. UNEP Ozone Secretariat submitted its contribution to the First Prepcom meeting based on decision XXV/9 on the implementation of the Montreal Protocol with regard to Small Island Developing States, which was adopted by the 25th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in October 2013. The decision seeks to promote discussions on the challenges associated with the implementation of the Montreal Protocol. In the light of the decision of the Parties, the following insertion is suggested, based on paragraph 68 of the Barbados Outcome document:

- After paragraph 23 of the zero draft outcome document:
  "We acknowledge the significant contribution of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone layer to mitigating climate change through the phase-out of those substances, most of which are potent greenhouse gases"

- After paragraph 24 e) of the document:
  "f) Support a gradual phase down in the consumption and production of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and explore the use of the Montreal Protocol in this regard".

2. Given the importance discussed attached to the sustainable consumption and production, we suggest to add a new bullet: "g) promote resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production throughout the supply chain in support to climate change mitigation".

3. Concerning the existing paragraphs under the Climate Change, UNEP notes and supports the paragraphs, and in terms of the operative paragraph (24 a-e), we are happy to continue to, and indeed enhance, our work with and support to SIDS as they implement these actions once adopted.

4. The UNEP-GEF en.lighten initiative was established to accelerate a global market transformation to efficient lighting technologies. It assists countries to develop policies, strategies and actions for the phase out of inefficient lighting products. Based on the support we are providing to countries in the Pacific region to help them develop energy efficient lighting strategies, we could
extend this to the rest of SIDS to ensure that other countries in the SIDS region benefit from the en.lighten initiative.

5. The UNEP-supported Global Adaptation Network (GAN) promotes knowledge sharing in adapting to climate change. At present strong regional sub-networks exist in Asia (APAN), Latin America and the Caribbean (REGATTA) and Africa (AAKNET). The possibility exists to form a SIDS specific thematic sub-network focused on the specific adaptation challenges faced by SIDS. This proposal was discussed in a side event during the 1st Prepcoc meeting on 25 February 2014. UNEP stands ready to support SIDS in the event they may choose to move forward with creation of a SIDS adaptation network under the GAN.

Oceans and Seas(paragraphs 30–33)

6. In regard to paragraph 32, we support this paragraph and would like to re-introduce two reports UNEP produced. The “SIDS-based Green Economy - Analysis of Challenges and Opportunities” produced together with UN-DESA and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), reviews Green Economy approaches in the Small-scale Fisheries and Aquaculture, Tourism, Water, Energy and Waste sectors in SIDS1. The “Green Economy in a Blue World” report analysed Green Economy approaches to Ocean-based resource management and sustainable development2.

7. UNEP welcome paragraph 33 b) “Support the full and effective implementation of the UN Environment Program (UNEP) Regional Seas Strategy. We believe that this refers to Regional Seas Strategic Direction for 2013-20163. UNEP further proposes that four regional seas programmes concerned about SIDS (Wider Caribbean, Pacific, Western Indian Ocean and West and Central Africa) develop an information and experience exchange platform among them, starting with blue economy and marine litter. The latter discussion should be closely linked with the Global Partnership on Marine Litter operated under the framework of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities.

8. In regard to paragraph 33 b), in addressing land-based sources of pollution, the member States already adopted the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities in 19954 and the Manila Declaration in 20125 clearly indicated priority actions to address this issue. The Manila Declaration specifically stresses “the commitment to the implementation of the Global Programme of Action on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities at the international, regional

1 http://www.unep.org/pdf/Green_Economy_in_SIDS.pdf
3 http://www.unep.org/regionalseas/globalmeetings/default_ns.asp
4 http://www.gpa.unep.org
5 http://www.gpa.unep.org/index.php/global-partnership-on-nutrient-management/publications-and-resources/igr-3-1/305-igr-3-6-english
and national levels as a flexible and effective tool for the sustainable
development of oceans, coasts and islands, and for human health and well-
being." (Operational Paragraph 1)

9. We therefore propose the following amendment: “c) Provide support to SIDS to
address marine pollution from a number of marine and land-based sources,
through, inter alia, the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for
the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and other
International Conventions”.

10. As expressed in paragraph 33 d), UNEP expresses its support for urgent action
on coral reefs and other important marine and coastal ecosystems. In order to
support the International Coral Reef Initiative and Global Coral Reef Monitoring
Network, UNEP has initiated global partnership on coral reefs with regional
seas, and we believe that SIDS participation would enhance the
implementation of needed action in this critical area.

Water (paragraphs 36 and 37)

11. In regard to paragraph 37 c), UNEP has initiated the Global Wastewater
Initiative, which is a multiple stakeholder partnership aimed to advance global
wastewater agenda with specific emphasis on recycling and reuse of
wastewater for human benefits6.

Sustainable Consumption and Production (Paragraphs 40 and 41)

12. In regard to paragraph 41, we welcome this paragraph on 10 Year Framework
of Programmes. We are pleased to announce that UNEP, which has been
entrusted to fulfill secretariat role for 10YFP, started developing a SIDS
platform under the Programme and having dialogues with member states and
donors to explore the feasibility of the platform.

Management of chemicals and waste, including hazardous waste (Paragraphs
42 and 43)

13. In regard to paragraphs 42 and 43, UNEP would like to introduce the Global
Partnership on Waste Management, which is a global multistakeholder
partnerships addressing waste management issues7, and to discuss
possibilities for developing national waste management strategies and action
plans for SIDS.

6 http://www.gpa.unep.org/index.php/global-wastewater-initiative
14. Further UNEP has been successful in addressing this issue through the OzoneAction Programme with focus on Ozone Depleting Substances. Most of SIDS are participating in this Programme and in the middle of phase-out of ozone depleting substances according to the Montreal Protocol.\(^8\)

**Biodiversity (Paragraphs 52 and 53)**

15. In regard to paragraph 52, we support the statement that biodiversity and associated ecosystem services support livelihoods and identify of SIDS. In support of assessing and valuation of ecosystem services and establishing natural capital accounting, UNEP has been developing a manual for ecosystem service valuation and natural capital accounting in SIDS, to be launched in June 2014.

16. We fully support paragraph 53 c), and would like to introduce UNEP publication “Taking Steps toward Marine and Coastal Ecosystem-Based Management - An Introductory Guide” where practical guidance is provided in advancing and planning area-based Ecosystem based Management of marine and coastal areas.\(^9\) Further, UNEP, working with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and Global Environment Facility Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, started reviewing lessons learnt from practical experiences in marine spatial planning, which should lead to establishment of knowledge sharing system on practical marine spatial planning and implementation.

**Technology Transfer ( Paragraphs 66 and 67)**

17. The Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) is part of an international Technology Mechanism established under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Its aim is to help accelerate the deployment of low carbon technologies for climate change mitigation and adaptation. As the host of the CTCN in collaboration with UNIDO and other partners, UNEP is holding a series of training of the national focal points to the CTCN known as the National Designated Entities (NDEs). We are aiming to hold a training session for NDEs of the SIDS region sometime in June 2014.

**Data Collection and Management (Paragraphs 68 and 69)**

18. Paragraph 69 c) calls for a SIDS Sustainable Development Statistics and Information Programme. Such a programme, once established, would incorporate all elements of sustainable development in SIDS. It would provide the information that enables member states to track their efforts to leave no one behind, and to decouple prosperity and growth from environmental degradation and social inequality. Sufficient data and information that are timely, and of good quality, enable the formulation and correct implementation of appropriate,
technically sound, and country-specific science-based policies for sustainable development.

19. In this context, UNEP is on its way to provide support in producing a Global Environment Outlook for SIDS within the context of future Global Environment Outlook Reports. We are pleased to inform the Preparatory Committee that it has started developing a SIDS platform to connect sustainable development data and information bases, allowing us to regularly issue environmental outlooks for SIDS. In addition, UNEP will make available relevant data flows and knowledge related to key SIDS issues on its new web-based knowledge management platform – UNEP-Live, by September 2014 at the Third International Conference on SIDS.