



THE RESIDENT COORDINATOR OF THE
UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM'S OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Closing Statement from Ms. Osnat Lubrani on behalf of the UN agencies

- We would like to congratulate the Government of Fiji and the incoming President of COP23, Honorable Prime Minister Bainimarama and the Honorable Minister Inia Seruiratu, Fiji High-level Climate Change Champion for hosting this 2-day inaugural Climate Action Pacific Partnership Event.
- I would also like to acknowledge the presence of Pacific Island Leaders and their global leadership on combating climate change.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- I am pleased that the UN system actively participated in this important event as another step in implementing the Paris Agreement, specifically the Marrakech Partnership for Global Action.
- This provided a useful platform for bringing the Pacific voice together prior to COP23. This is an important milestone on the road to a successful COP23.
- I would like to add the UN voice in offering our collective support to the Incoming President of COP23 in achieving an ambitious outcome at COP 23 which would set a tone of progress on the Paris Agreement
- I would also like to commend the Climate Champions work on progressing the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action and creating this space for an all-stakeholder approach that brings in both Parties to the UNFCCC, but importantly non-parties such as civil society and private sector who have critical roles in combating climate change.
- We can see a global surge in towns, cities and states in combating climate change.
- Recalling the opening statement of the Hon Prime Minister and the need to follow three basic principles in the engagement for COP23: i) transformative, ii) practical and affordable and iii) replicable, the UN system looks forward to working with you and the Pacific to realize this outcome.
- SDGs is our collective framework for development. Climate Change action is one of the main challenges in the Pacific, so we need to see the SDGs through a climate lens. If we look at risk-informing development, then we can mainstream climate action across the development spectrum.

UN Agencies based in the Pacific

**ESCAP, FAO, IFAD, ILO, IMF, IOM, ITC, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNDSS, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA,
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- What is clear is that we need action now. The roadmap for implementation of the Paris Agreement here in the Pacific is embedded in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), but also in the national and sectoral development plans. The UN stands ready to work with governments to implement these plans.
- I would also like to highlight the importance of addressing the impacts of climate change on health. A common problem is the triple burden of communicable diseases, non-communicable diseases, exacerbated by health impacts of climate change that causes high rates of morbidity and mortality.
- As we conclude the good discussions held over the past two days, allow me to recall the importance in focusing on effective implementation of existing projects and programmes. There are numerous initiatives underway in the Pacific, and it would be critical to ensure this finance is effectively delivered to combat climate change now, while we work tirelessly to increase ambitions over time.
- Finally, invoking the symbol of the canoe, which was beautifully displayed yesterday, I assure you all that the United Nations is with you in the Pacific canoe as you navigate towards COP23 and beyond.

Thank you.