

Colleagues, friends:

Let me start by thanking Fiji and Poland for providing this unique opportunity to work together toward achieving our shared objectives.

As you know, the Talanoa Dialogue was borne out of Fiji's leadership at the COP last year. Talanoa is a long-standing tradition in the Pacific—a facilitative, non-adversarial way of problem-solving based on storytelling and collective decision-making. AOSIS is excited to engage in this distinctly island approach and we look forward to making progress as we move toward Katowice.

It cannot be stressed enough just how urgent the situation is for AOSIS members. We all remember the terrifying images from the Caribbean in the aftermath of hurricanes Irma and Maria last year, and a report out last week predicts that sea level rise could overwhelm some of the world's low-lying atolls as early as the middle of this century.

We simply can't afford any more delays and Talanoa offers a critical opportunity to take stock of where we stand to inform the preparation of nationally determined contributions based on the best available scientific knowledge.

Everyone will recall that Parties agreed in Paris to pursue efforts to limit the global average temperature increase to 1.5°C. Time is short, so our focus should be on identifying effective strategies, solutions, and untapped opportunities to inspire and enable the implementation of ambitious climate actions. Our work should not only encourage increased mitigation actions, but support them in developing countries through the provision of adequate and predictable means of implementation.

The forthcoming IPCC Special Report on 1.5 degrees will be a critical input into this process and must be given full consideration in advance of the COP, perhaps as a special session in the margins of the Pre-COP.

To ensure we stay on track we believe the Talanoa Dialogue political outcome in Katowice should include:

- A re-affirmation of the long-term temperature goal.
- A statement on the importance of increasing ambition in recognition of the mitigation gap relative to a 1.5 degree C pathway.
- A statement noting the importance of filling the finance gap and accelerating the means of implementation (MOI) in order to peak global emissions as soon as possible, and keep global temperature increase within the 1.5°C limit.
- A commitment by Parties to consider the outcomes of the Talanoa Dialogue in the context of relevant domestic processes leading up to the communication or updating of their NDCs.
- Identify steps to take the Talanoa Dialogue forward through to 2020, including how it might feed into the 2019 Secretary-General's Climate Summit. We believe the

Secretary-General should be invited to make raising the ambition of NDCs a central focus of the Summit.

This Sunday, you will hear the story of Small Island Developing States – both the immense challenges and the opportunities for transformative action. Vinaka vaka levu.