Coalition of Atoll Nations on Climate Change (CANCC) Leaders' Summit, Funafuti, Tuvalu, 7th October 2016

Funafuti Declaration

1. We, the Heads of Government and heads of delegation from the Coalition of Atoll Nations on Climate Change (CANCC), met in Tuvalu on the 7th of October 2016, and wholeheartedly thank the government and the people of Tuvalu for their kin d and warm hospitality and hard work in hosting this meeting.

2. We welcome the entry into force of the Paris Agreement, and encourage all countries that have yet to ratify the Agreement, to do so as soon as possible. We call on all countries to fast track the implementation of the Paris Agreement, taking into consideration the need for urgency of action for the particularly vulnerable atoll countries. We recognize that extensive work needs to be done to ensure that all decisions contributing to its implementation is done in a coherent, coordinated and facilitative manner.

3. We reaffirm our commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which seeks to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030.

4. We also strongly urge all countries to ratify the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol to ensure that we have an ongoing commitment from developed nations to reduce their emissions before the end of 2020.

5. We acknowledge that the Paris Agreement is a first step towards achieving a temperature goal of well below 1.5 degrees C, relative to pre-industrial levels, which is fundamentally critical for our future sustainability and our survival.

6. We firmly believe that much more needs to be done. In this regard, we welcome the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in developing a Special Report on 1.5 degrees C. We call on the IPCC to ensure that its Special Report includes consideration of the impacts and vulnerabilities of atoll nations under a 1.5 degree C world.

7. We recognise that people around the world are already being displaced due to climate change. This includes people within our own countries. We strongly believe that people displaced by the impacts of climate change shall be afforded proper protection of their rights to a safe and a secure future. To this end, we call for the development of a legal regime to protect people displaced by climate change and shall work together to further progress a UN resolution to protect people displaced by climate change.

8. We shall therefore, strive to develop a clear timeframe to advance the work of the UN resolution to protect people displaced by climate change, in an expedited manner.

9. We agree to elaborate a clear roadmap that addresses the issues of climate change migration and displacement at the regional, national and local level and endorse efforts to provide education opportunities and the inclusiveness of remote atolls to allow access to formal and vocational education and other related schemes in order to develop the necessary skills and expertise to facilitate migration with dignity.

10. We support other regional initiatives in relation to climate change related migration and displacement such as the Pacific Climate Change and Migration Project and encourage CANCC participation in relevant regional initiatives.

11. We call on the Green Climate Fund Board, the Adaptation Fund and other financial institutions to expedite their work in developing simplified modalities to assist particularly vulnerable nations and communities to the impacts of climate change, like our own, to easily access funds from the Fund.

12. We, CANCC countries commit to developing joint funding proposals, including a possible trust fund, for projects, which will help build resilience and the adaptive capacity of our land and people.

13. We call on the Green Climate Fund to establish clear guidelines on how non-Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change can access funding support under the GCF.

14. We call on regional organisations and development partners to support our efforts to strengthen CANCC capacity to engage with the Green Climate Fund and other sources of climate financing to ensure that all CANCC nations and communities, should have access to funding for projects.

15. We acknowledge the importance of innovative sources of funding to support our climate change efforts. To this end we encourage support from foundations and other philanthropic sources such as the Pacific Rising initiative.

16. We are deeply concerned at the high material and social costs from the impacts of extreme weather and other climate-related events on our nations. We support efforts to develop a Pacific Climate Change Insurance Facility and encourage donors and other regional organisations to provide support for the development of such a Facility.

17. We also recognise that some cultural and natural resources have a high value beyond simple economic valuations. Compensating for damage or loss of these resources due to climate change may need other approaches that are not covered by insurance.

18. We acknowledge that the shipping and aviation sectors are significant contributors to global greenhouse gas emissions. We therefore strongly support initiatives being developed by the Republic of the Marshall Islands to establish a Centre for Sustainable Sea Transport. We call on the Green Climate Fund and other donor sources to support such an initiative.

19. We further call on the International Maritime Organisation and the International Civil Aviation Organisation to set targets and timetables in line with the Paris Agreement for reducing emissions in their respective sectors, noting that such emissions reductions should take into consideration the special needs of CANCC member countries.

20. We recognise that the arrangements for reporting on finance under the transparency framework shall be effectively developed to ensure transparency and accountability.

21. We strongly support the continuation of the Adaptation Fund and it operation under the Paris Agreement.

22. We welcome the work of the Warsaw Mechanism on Loss and Damage and encourage the Executive Committee to advance its work on developing a Clearinghouse for Risk Transfer and a Task Force on Displacement. We encourage the Executive Committee to elaborate a 5 year work programme as soon as possible so that the provisions of the Paris Agreement can be effectively included in the work of the Warsaw Mechanism.

23. We believe that the Transparency Framework and Global Stocktake under the Paris Agreement are important processes to regularly increase ambition under the Agreement.

24. We firmly recognise that CANCC should have a strong voice in meetings of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Agreement and the Montreal Protocol work on regulating HFCs. To this end, we strongly agree to work together and coordinate their efforts at such meetings.

25. We commit to continue to protect and conserve our oceans, particularly as they are being impacted by climate change. We call on our development partners to support initiatives that we can develop adaptation measures associated with the coastal and marine environment. We fully commit to engaging actively in the Ocean Conference to be held in New York in June 2017.

26. We firmly believe that the Coalition of Atoll Nations on Climate Change is an effective institution for raising the voice of the most vulnerable nations and communities to the impacts of climate change. We call on donors to provide financial support to assist in secretarial support from within our membership to service our membership.

His. Excellency. Taneti Maamau
President of the Republic of Kiribati

Hon. Enele Sosene Sopoaga
Prime Minister
Government of Tuvalu

H.E. Ms Amatlain Kabua
Permanent Representative to United Nations
Republic of the Marshall Islands

Ms. Paula Faiva
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