



# PACIFIC SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES

## United Nations Member States

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Nauru to the United Nations  
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Dear Excellency,

Pursuant to A/63/RES/281, *Climate change and its possible security implications*, we, the Pacific Small Island Developing States (the "Pacific SIDS"), urgently call upon the Security Council to begin consideration of the threats to international peace and security posed by climate change.

Climate change threatens to place tremendous stress on our national and international institutions and could displace millions of people around the world. In our region of the Pacific, climate change may result in the physical disappearance of entire nations, with their populations rendered stateless. As the United Nations body holding "primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security," the Security Council has a duty to use the expansive powers granted to it under the UN Charter to respond to the security threats posed by climate change.

The Secretary General's report on climate change and its possible security implications clearly identifies five categories of threats attributable to climate change that have implications for international peace and security. They are:

- Threats to human well-being;
- Threats to economic development;
- Threats from uncoordinated coping;
- Threat of loss of territory and statelessness; and
- Threats to international cooperation in managing shared resources.

The Secretary General also states that, "[T]he international community must anticipate and prepare itself to address a number of largely unprecedented challenges posed by climate change for which existing mechanisms may prove inadequate."

We agree with these conclusions and consider it imperative that the Security Council begin immediate consideration of actions it could take to respond to these growing threats. The Security Council has long recognized that it must act to *prevent* disputes before they arise. To those countries that will hold the Security Council presidency in 2010, we ask that you place this issue on the agenda with all due haste. To the remaining Security Council members, we ask that you support this call to action. Given the enormity of the threats posed by climate change, it is incumbent upon the Security Council to begin work on this enormous task at once.

Sincerely,

Marlene Moses  
Ambassador & Permanent Representative  
Chair, PSIDS