



The Special Needs of Island States

WSIS Prepcom2 Roundtable 4: Groups with Special Needs



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Topics for Discussion

- “Islands paragraph” of the Tokyo Declaration
 - Rationale for elevating Pacific to SIDS
 - Regional and National ICT Strategy Plans
 - Regional Commissioners
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The “Islands Paragraph”

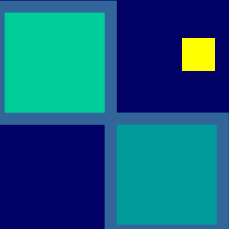

- Para 11, section 2, page 4 of WSIS/PC-2/DOC/6-E
- “Special circumstances of regional Small Island Developing States: These countries, vulnerable to environmental hazards, and characterized by small, homogenous markets, high costs of access and equipment, human resource constraints exacerbated by the problem of “brain-drain”, limited access to networks and remote locations, will require particular attention and tailored solutions to meet their needs.”
- Environmental hazards
 - Lack of early warning systems
 - Better management and co-ordination of disaster relief
 - Wider communication of needs – supplies, expertise, personnel
- Brain-drain
 - How do we arrest the outward flow?

SIDS rationale

- "Special circumstances of regional Small Island Developing States: These countries, vulnerable to environmental hazards, and characterized by small, homogenous markets, high costs of access and equipment, human resource constraints exacerbated by the problem of "brain-drain", limited access to networks and remote locations, will require particular attention and tailored solutions to meet their needs."
- SIDS is UN created and GA endorsed
- PI caucus is part of SIDS caucus is part of G77
- "Islands paragraph" to be in Prepcom Declaration
- Action Plan contained "particular attention and tailored solutions"




Regional & National E-Strategies

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- Pacific Islands Information and Communication Technologies Policy and Strategic Plan" or PIIPP
 - UNDP e-Pacifica for National ICT Strategy Plans
 - Fiji has strong National ICT Strategy Plan
 - WHY, WHAT, WHEN for HOW LONG, WHO with WHAT resources, and HOW MUCH?????
 - WSIS Pacific Consultation meeting
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Regional Commissioners

- 2003 Geneva Summit will produce Declaration and Action Plan
 - 2005 Tunis Summit will review 2003 goals
 - Appointment of Regional Commissioners to ensure significant achievement of 2003 goals
 - 2005 cover up
 - Unique Fiji Govt request, call for support
 - Recommendations include: UN ICT TF, appropriate regional agency (PIFS/SPC)
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Conclusion

- "Special circumstances of regional Small Island Developing States: These countries, vulnerable to environmental hazards, and characterized by small, homogenous markets, high costs of access and equipment, human resource constraints exacerbated by the problem of "brain-drain", limited access to networks and remote locations, will require particular attention and tailored solutions to meet their needs."
- Environmental hazards and brain-drain
- Rationale for Pacific to SIDS
- Regional & National ICT Strategy Plans
- WSIS Pacific Consultation meeting
- Appointment of Regional Commissioners



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"Sandeshni and Timoci reviewing the Immigration project".

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