



Misión Permanente de la República Dominicana ante la Organización Mundial
del Comercio (OMC) y la ONU Comercio y Desarrollo (UNCTAD)
en Ginebra, Suiza

**SIDS UNCTAD
GENEVA**

9th Session Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development
Room XVI, Palais des Nations

Statement of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

by the Dominican Republic in its capacity of Regional Coordinator of SIDS Group to the UN
Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

*Item 3 : Advancing the Sevilla Commitment towards a shared framework: enhancing
responsibility, capacity and scalability (TD/B/EFD/9/2)*
Statements by Regional Groups and Member States

1 December 2025

Thank you, Chair

H.E. Ms. Sofia Boza Martinez and H.E. Mr. Ioannis Ghikas
Secretary-General of UNCTAD,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

I am speaking on behalf of the Ambassador and Permanent Representative José Sánchez-Fung and the Permanent Delegation of the Dominican Republic to the WTO and UNCTAD, it is a honor to deliver this statement in the capacity of Regional Coordinator of the Small Island Developing States Group at this *9th Session Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development*.

We congratulate H.E. Ambassador Sofia Boza Martinez and H.E. Ambassador Ioannis Ghikas for their election as Co-Chairs of this Session. We thank the opening remarks by Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General, and we also thank UNCTAD for convening this session placing at the center of our deliberations the important mission of advancing the *Compromiso de Sevilla* towards a shared framework that enhances responsibility, capacity and scalability. For SIDS, this endeavor is both timely and essential.

SIDS Members express their endorsement of the declaration presented by the delegation of Peru on behalf of the G77 and China.

In furthering the *Compromiso de Sevilla* and promoting a shared global framework for financing sustainable development, we recognize that despite the resilience and leadership of

SIDS in advancing sustainable development, they remain disproportionately impacted by global economic and other external shocks, climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, high debt burdens, and limited access to financing.

In this context, SIDS Group emphasize that blended finance must reflect the structural vulnerabilities and development needs of its Members States, considering the unique investment challenges that they face, such as high exposure to climate change and requirement for adaptation and mitigation measure, dependence on narrow export bases, high import bills, and structural constraints; also bearing that the existing trade preference schemes do not adequately reflect these vulnerabilities as most SIDS are middle-income countries and ineligible. In this regard, we commend the Bridgetown Initiative 3.0 which seeks to reform the global financial system in order to respond to many of these realities. Transparency, alignment with national priorities, and simplified access remain essential, as do harmonized approaches that prevent SIDS from being penalized for inherent vulnerabilities.

The need for a holistic approach to vulnerability assessments, incorporating multidimensional indices that include trade vulnerability, climate vulnerability, and debt vulnerability assessments to ensure that SIDS have equitable access to grants and concessional financing and other international support measures to recover from and build resilience to external shocks, including in respect of ports and other critical transport infrastructure.

SIDS Ministerial Declaration at the UNCTAD 16, called on to enhance of SIDS' access to digital infrastructure and connectivity to bridge the digital and geographical divide, strengthen readiness to benefit from e-commerce and digital trade by assisting in undertaking e-readiness assessments and the development and implementation of e-commerce strategies, fostering supportive legal and regulatory frameworks and enhancing capacities to gather data on e-commerce and digital trade.

In this sense, we highlight that strengthened trade-related physical and digital infrastructure is critical for resilience and economic diversification. Targeted support for connectivity, port and logistics efficiency, digital public infrastructure and robust statistical systems is particularly urgent for SIDS given our geographic remoteness and high trade costs.

For SIDS, advancing the Sevilla Commitment, considering private finance, trade, and debt sustainability, requires embracing differentiated approaches, strengthening multilateral cooperation, and ensuring that developing countries, particularly those most vulnerable, have the means, voice and agency to shape the systems that govern their development pathways.

Chair,

SIDS stand ready to engage constructively throughout this session. We look forward to concrete, actionable recommendations that bring us closer to a financing system capable of supporting resilience, and advancing SIDS sustainable development priorities for a shared prosperity for all.

Thank you.