

7th March 2017

**Intervention by the Director for Statistics Development Division,
Pacific Community (SPC) at the 48th UN Commission of Statistics
Meeting 6-10 March, 2017, NY**

**Agenda Item 3(a) Data and Indicators for 2030 Agenda for
Sustainable Development**

Thank you, Madam Chair for the opportunity to speak. I understand time is limited therefore I will be very brief. I am intervening on behalf of the Pacific Community who is here to support the island member countries of the Pacific Region. I would like to reiterate the intervention made by the Government Statisticians for Fiji and Samoa reinforcing the following points:

- That the 109 indicators proposed in the Pacific Regional SDG
Headline Indicator be considered in the finalisation of the Revised Global
Indicator Framework and of the list of Global SDG Indicators. It has been
hard work for the island member countries in the region to agree on
these indicators it should be received by this meeting as a significant
achievement;

- The next step for the Pacific Region is to start mapping these indicators to potential data sources. We want to minimize putting extra respondent burden on small island member countries and urge development partners to work in close collaboration with the Pacific Community in sourcing data and in reporting on these regional indicators. In here I acknowledge the collaboration made with international agencies such as UNESCO; UNFPA, WHO; World Bank; UNESCAP; FAO and other UN agencies in supporting this exercise;
- I will urge this meeting and the Commission to give special attention to supporting small island member countries in reporting on the SDG indicators. The idea of strengthening capability of regional organisation such as the Pacific Community to assist member countries will be most welcome;
- Finally, we are now naming a global custodian for each of the 231 global indicators. How well are we in connecting these custodians with national statistical systems and regional agencies? Let's be very careful that we do not leave behind small member countries when we make changes to our SDG journey. The Commission must make sure the smaller island members are well informed on these various changes.

Thank you Madam Chair.