UN STATISTICAL COMMISSION 48TH SESSION ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

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Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda*

A warm Pacific Greeting to the Chair and Delegates.

Last week, the Pacific Region endorsed a final draft of what it calls the Regional Pacific SDG Headline Indicators consisting of 109 indicators. These 109 indicators will tell a Pacific regional development story to the rest of the world. What are our aspirations, achievement but also what are our challenges. The largest number of indicators are for the health and education sectors. That speaks a lot about the priority of the Pacific region, where the social sector is still the highest priority and with that the social statistics is of essence to the region's development. The details of these 109 indicators can be referred to a table I have attached to this intervention.

The biggest challenge we face is reporting on these indicators is having the right data source and methodology. This is particularly critical when we have a number of indicators sitting in tier 3. Over 60% of these indicators are measurable or are in Tier 1 while the remaining 40% are in tier 3 and requires some further work on methodology and data source. We fully support the requirement for development partners to work closely with member countries in developing data source and reporting on these indicators. This is particularly important in terms of small island member countries.

Finally, I would like to urge the Commission to consider carefully the 109 indicators suggested by the Pacific region that they be included in the Global set of SDG Indicators. As with other smaller member countries, we in the Pacific wanted to be able to tell our story at the global level and not be left behind. Again, I ask that the 109 indicators from the Pacific region be included in the global list.

A summary table of indicators by SDG goal is given below, adding to 109.

Goal number	Sustainable Development Goal	Number of Indicators
1	No Poverty	4
2	Zero Hunger	7
3	Good Health and Wellbeing	15
4	Quality Education	7
5	Gender Equality	6
6	Clean Water and Sanitation	3
7	Affordable and Clean Energy	2
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	8
9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	3
10	Reduced Inequalities	7
11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	6
12	Responsible Consumption and Production	2
13	Climate Action	3
14	Life below Water	5
15	Life on Land	6
16	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	6
17	Partnerships for the Goals	19
Total		**109**