



**Statement by the Republic of Maldives  
on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States  
at the first Intergovernmental Consultations on the zero draft of the Habitat III Outcome  
Document**

**20 May 2016**

**Follow Up and Review**

1. Thank you Madam Co-Chair; we would like to provide a brief intervention regarding the follow up and review section on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) and align with the statement from the Group of 77 and China.
2. We would first like to acknowledge that this section still needs further thought and we anticipate more significant work taking place in these paragraphs to clarify the path forward. At the same time, the central issue that we believe needs to be considered as we solidify our follow up and review modalities is coordination.
3. Building in coordination and cooperation with the other tracking and reporting processes for our many other agreed agendas and frameworks is important for several reasons. By aligning with existing reporting requirements we can help avoid placing an un-due burden on governments.
4. Furthermore, as part of our larger goal of embracing the inter-linkages between the agendas and highlighting opportunities for integration, it may be counterproductive to silo the tracking of progress on issues that overlap between the New Urban Agenda and other areas. As such, we welcome in paragraph 166 the reference to having the follow up and review feed into and be coherent with the 2030 Agenda, and the call for complementarity with the 2030 Agenda indicators.
5. In terms of how follow up and review is conducted, we referenced the importance of building capacity for data collection and analysis in yesterday's implementation section and it is worth repeating today. In order to track progress and gather useful information on urban issues outlined in the transformative commitments section, many governments will need support to address data deficits and empower local decision-making. Right now data collection is focused in paragraphs 161 to 163, a

sub-section in the implementation section, and while we see the value of data for implementation, it also has relevance to follow up and review and could be referenced here.

6. In conclusion, over the past two years the international community has come together and agreed to a series of ambitious, forward looking agendas. As we move forward in developing the New Urban Agenda we need to think pragmatically about how the New Urban Agenda can support settlements of all sizes in realizing public and ecological health, and promoting cooperation around thoughtful planning and innovation.
  
7. Thank you for this opportunity to provide our initial comments and we look forward to commenting on the document in greater detail. We appreciate the significant amount of preparation that preceded the formal intergovernmental process. It allowed an opportunity for smaller states to prepare and delve into the conceptual and technical concerns to be considered within the agenda. AOSIS remains committed to generating the necessary momentum to design a new future of sustainable urbanism through the New Urban Agenda and Habitat III Conference.