

A/6/12 (2022)



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*United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy For All (2014-2024)*

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**Seventh Session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK  
Via Telephone and Videoconferencing  
21st September 2022/22nd September 2022  
400 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. EDT – Eastern Daylight Time  
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. TO – Tonga Time**

**Modified programme of work and budget for the period 2020– 2022<sup>1</sup>**

**Establishment of the Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GOEA) and the  
Ocean Energy Platform (GOEP) for Blue Economies  
in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)**

**Promoting south-south and triangular SIDS-SIDS cooperation under the  
Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres**

**Project Steering Committee<sup>2</sup>  
Terms of Reference**

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<sup>1</sup> A/6/14

<sup>2</sup> A Committee of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council

## Project Steering Committee Terms of Reference

### 1. Policy Statement

The SIDS DOCK Executive Council is the body established under the Statute Establishing the SIDS DOCK (2015) and governed by the Assembly of SIDS DOCK, which is responsible for overall policy and direction and for providing oversight and advice for the development of the institution. The Executive Council delegates responsibility for day-to-day operations to the Secretary-General and committees.

The SIDS DOCK Executive Council has established a Project Steering Committee (hereinafter called “the Committee”) to provide oversight for the project: *Establishment of the Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GLOEA) and the Ocean Energy Platform (OEP) for Blue Economies in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) [the “Oceans Project”]*, implemented as a partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), with support from the Stimson Center Alliance for a Climate Resilient Earth (ACRE), and others.

UNIDO and SIDS DOCK have agreed on a strategic partnership to promote south-south and triangular cooperation in SIDS within the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centers (GN-SEC). Under the partnership, UNIDO and SIDS DOCK will support the GN-SEC SIDS Centres in the development and implementation of triangular SIDS-SIDS energy and climate resilience programmes and projects. There will be strong emphasis on creating synergies and exchange of best practice, lessons learned, tools and approaches. Relevant knowledge management activities will be promoted through the GN-SEC ([www.gn-sec.net](http://www.gn-sec.net)) and SIDS DOCK ([www.sidsdock.org](http://www.sidsdock.org)) web portals and the eventual establishment of the Island Life Information and Knowledge Network (ILIN). In this context, the overall objective of the partnership is to accelerate green COVID-19 recovery and climate change mitigation/adaptation in SIDS through inter-regional adopted sustainable energy solutions.

The project’s inception phase<sup>3</sup> marks the launch of implementation of the “Promoting South-South and Triangular SIDS-SIDS Cooperation Under The Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SECs)” Project, and covers approximately an eighteen (18)-month time period from mid-September 2021 to mid-March 2023. The Ocean Project activities aim at supporting the project to sustainably transition to the next phase, which includes the launch of the Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GOEA) in Lisbon, Portugal, in 2022, development and deployment of the first Floating OTEC Platform in Sao Tome and Principe, in 2024, and development of the programme for capacity building to ready SIDS for the deployment of ocean energies technologies, and the assessment of ocean energy resources.

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<sup>3</sup> Draft Inception Report on Promoting South-South and Triangular SIDS-SIDS Cooperation Under The Global Network Of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres, November 2021

## 2. Background

Pursuant to a decision from Heads of State and Government that are members of the SIDS DOCK Organisation and the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), the SIDS DOCK Secretariat was mandated in September 2016, as contained in document A/3/10<sup>4</sup>, during the third session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK, to achieve in the shortest timeframe, the commercial-scale deployment of ocean-based energy technologies that are appropriate to the demands in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), for the development of a low carbon economy with emphasis on generating sustainable gender-equity employment to replace those that will be lost due to the negative impacts of climate change. In response, the Secretariat of SIDS DOCK accelerated its work on the establishment of partnerships to support the mandate.

In his Opening Statement during the sixth session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly, held virtually on 28 September 2021, on behalf of His Majesty's Government and the people of the Kingdom of Tonga, and for the first time as Prime Minister and President of the sixth Assembly, the Honourable Rev. Dr. Pohiva Tu'i'onetoa, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga, announced a *Call To Action! to support the Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GOEA): Ocean Energy For Climate Resilient Economies*, which SIDS DOCK and its Partners, led by the Kingdom of Tonga, planned to launch at the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), scheduled to be held in Glasgow, United Kingdom, in November 2021.

The Prime Minister of Tonga noted that while all the leadership of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and low-lying developing states and coastal cities have been pre-occupied with combating the COVID-19 virus, they have not lost sight of the fact that almost all SIDS are ninety percent (90%) dependent on the importation of fossil fuels, which requires SIDS to spend tens of billions of dollars in foreign exchange annually, to import petroleum fuels. SIDS need to replace some ten thousand (10,000) megawatts of fossil fuel-powered electricity generating plants, over the coming decades, plants which consume more than \$5 billion dollars' worth of fuel, annually. Ten thousand megawatts represent most of the existing generating capacity in the SIDS. However, because most of these plants have reached or exceeded their economic life and are no longer efficient users of fuel, SIDS must ensure to take collective action to replace these generators with Ocean Energy Systems.

SIDS face a huge dilemma as they consume diesel, which is expensive and dirty. For example, before COVID-19, the cost of electricity in Tonga was thirty-seven cents (0.37) per kilowatt hour, which is about three times more compared to the United States (U.S.) at ten cents (0.10) per kilowatt hour. A year later in 2021, Tongans are paying about forty cents (0.40) per kilowatt hour, and climbing, and prices won't be coming back down anytime soon.

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<sup>4</sup> SIDS DOCK Work Programme Concept Note: SIDS DOCK Heads Of State & Government OTEC Initiative 2023: Bring Dominique Home [A/3/10], Third Session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK, 23 September 2017

Prime Minister Tu'i'onetoa amplified the *Call To Action!* during his virtual keynote address, delivered on 11 November 2021, at the SIDS DOCK Side Event on the margins of the 26th United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conference of the Parties 2021 (COP26) on the *Call To Action! for the Establishment of the Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GLOEA)*, held at Wood House, in Glasgow, Scotland. The Side Event was chaired by His Excellency Mr. Ronald Jumeau, Ambassador and former Permanent Representative of the Republic of Seychelles to the UN and Chair of the Executive Council of SIDS DOCK, and the newly-appointed SIDS DOCK Roving Ambassador for Oceans.

SIDS DOCK and its partners, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and Stimson Center Alliance for a Climate Resilient Earth (ACRE), will cooperate to establish the Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GOEA), mobilise resources, facilitate partnerships with the private sector aimed at the effective transfer of ocean energy knowledge, technology and investments, and to put the appropriate institutional framework in place for an Ocean Energy Industry in SIDS.

The partners also introduced the *Ocean Energy Platform For Blue Economies in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)*, powered by SustainChain™, a marketplace to facilitate science and technology exchanges necessary for advancing ocean energy technologies and in particular, the commercial-scale deployment of ocean-based energy technologies that are appropriate to the demands in SIDS. The decreasing technology costs and maturity for some ocean energy technologies makes ocean energy capable of helping SIDS and coastal cities with the goal of reducing long-term energy cost, generating employment, reducing trade imbalances resulting from the more than USD 25 billion payment for fuel imports, and challenges arising from climate change (reduction in freshwater, reduction of fish catch due to warming oceans and bleaching of coral).

Prime Minister Tu'i'onetoa was supported in the *Call To Action!* by the two Vice-Presidents of the sixth session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly, the Honourable Mr. Wavel Ramkalawan, President of the Republic of Seychelles, and the Honourable Mr. John Briceño, Prime Minister of Belize, respectively, along with Dr. The Honourable Ralph Everard Gonsalves, Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and former Vice-President of the third session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK. They were joined by the Honourable Dr. Jorge Lopes Bom Jesus, Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe, where the first floating Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) Platform, being developed in partnership with the United Kingdom (UK) company Global OTEC, is expected to be deployed in 2024, helping to unburden the people of São Tomé and Príncipe from importing expensive and dirty fossil fuels, and provide a demonstration for scaling up across small islands, coastal developing cities and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UNIDO intends to contribute to the building up of ocean energy project pipelines promoted through the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centers (GN-SEC). The various centers cover most of the thirty-eight (38) SIDS and accelerates the energy transition by creating spill-over effects, economies of scale and joint learning. The government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) also invited the international community and the private sector to join the UAE in its support for the *Call to Action!* for ocean energy and the GOEA. In her virtual remarks during the SIDS DOCK COP26 Side Event at Wood House in Glasgow, Her Excellency Dr. Nawal Al-

Hosany, Permanent Representative of the UAE to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), Permanent Mission of the UAE to the United Nations, announced that the new UAE-IRENA \$400 million global climate finance facility, the Energy Transition Accelerator Financing (ETAF) Platform, will include financing for ocean energy, where in 2023, at COP28, in Abu Dhabi, the UEA hopes to showcase support for the first ocean energy projects. The ETAF was launched at COP26.

The Prime Minister of Tonga announced that the partners will officially launch the GOEA at the UN Oceans Conference, scheduled for July 2022, in Lisbon, Portugal, and asked the international community and the private sector to answer the *Call To Action!* and join the Global Ocean Energy Alliance to help protect and conserve the oceans and support the development of the SIDS Ocean Energy Work Programme.

### **3. Purpose of the Project Steering Committee**

The “Council Rules<sup>5</sup>” note that under **Section V. Subsidiary Organs of the Council Rule 15 Establishment of subsidiary organs**, the Executive Council may, in accordance with Article VII, Section 4 of the Statute, establish such committees or other subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions. In establishing such organs, the Executive Council shall also agree on their terms of reference, membership, number of members, tenure, and deliverables. When determining the membership, the Executive Council shall consider fair and equitable geographic distribution and gender balance. Subsidiary organs should be periodically reviewed by the Executive Council to determine whether they should be continued, or their terms of reference modified.

**Membership and participation in subsidiary organs or committees created by the Executive Council is limited to members of the SIDS DOCK.**

This Project Steering Committee Terms of Reference (“the TOR”) defines the purpose, authority, and responsibility of the Committee. In addition, the TOR is intended to assist the Executive Council in fulfilling its fiduciary responsibilities. The Project Steering Committee is appointed to assist the Executive Council in reviewing, overseeing, and monitoring the Oceans Project.

### **4. Roles and Responsibilities**

The roles and responsibilities of the Committee include:

- a. Monitoring the progress in the implementation of the Ocean Project.
- b. Examining from time to time the development of project documents and proposals and make recommendations to the Executive Council on the implementation of such proposals.

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<sup>5</sup> Rules of Procedure of the Assembly and the Executive Council [A/2/6]; Second Session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK, 24 September 2016

- c. Keeping under review on an ongoing basis the Oceans Project Work Plan and make recommendations on adjustment mechanisms to facilitate speedier and smoother implementation of the project.
- d. Developing of strategies to address delays in the implementation of the project.
- e. Reviewing development of the São Tomé and Príncipe Floating OTEC Platform Project, which is part of the efforts to promote ocean energy in SIDS and achieve deployment of Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) Technology.
- f. Making such recommendations as relevant with a view to enhancing the operations and performance of the Executive Council and the SIDS DOCK organisation, in general.
- g. Perform such other functions as assigned by the Executive Council.

## **5. Composition**

The Members of the Project Steering Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Council and should consist of no less than six (6) individuals with regional representation, one of whom is to be designated as the Chair. The Chair shall ensure that decisions and recommendations of the Committee are arrived at in a timely manner and reports on the Committee's proceedings and recommendations sent to the Executive Council for approval.

Members should be selected based on their specialist knowledge, ability to represent the interests of stakeholders, and ability to help resolves issues the project may face.

The Executive Council may co-opt, to perform the duties of the Committee, individuals who are not members of the Executive Council but who possess specialist knowledge as well as a broad range of qualifications relevant to the functions of the Executive Council. Every co-opted individual shall have all the rights and responsibilities of the other members of the Committee with respect to the work of the Committee.

The Secretary-General and the Chief of Staff and Projects Director from the SIDS DOCK Secretariat shall be invitees to all Committee meetings.

All committee members participate fully at and between meetings, share expertise and information, are committee "ocean energy champions" and build networks to support committee work. Annex 1 lists the suggested membership of the Project Steering Committee.

## **6. Meetings**

The Project Steering Committee shall meet twice per year, and have the authority to convene additional meetings, as may be required. A meeting may be called by the Chair or by the majority of the members of the Committee.

- a. Failure to attend at least three (3) consecutive meetings without acceptable reasons to the Committee Chair, will give rise to a consideration of continued membership.
- b. The Committee shall determine its own procedures.
- c. The Committee may request any member of the Assembly or the Secretariat to attend meetings of the Committee in order to carry out its responsibilities.
- d. Meeting agendas and documents will be prepared for each meeting and provided at least three (3) working days in advance to the Committee members along with appropriate briefing materials.
- e. Meetings may be conducted via teleconference, face to face or electronically.

## **7. Quorum and Decision-making**

### **a. Quorum**

- (i) A minimum number of six (6) out of a possible nine (9) Steering Committee members are required for decision-making purposes.
- (ii) The quorum must include a minimum number of two (2) members of the Executive Council and any four (4) other members of the Committee, to make up a quorum (six [6] in total for a quorum).
- (iii) The Chair shall have a casting vote.

### **b. Decision-making Process**

The Steering Committee will use the following processes to make decisions. Options are as follows:

- (i) Two-third (2/3) Majority: A course of action or recommendation requires support from 2/3 of the members who attend the meeting if there is quorum.
- (ii) Consensus: a majority approve a given course of action, but that the minority agrees to go along with the course of action, potentially with some modifications.

## **8. Reporting Responsibilities**

The Project Steering Committee reports to the SIDS DOCK Executive Council by providing regular reports to the Council and by communicating any emerging issues to the Council.

The Project Steering Committee reports to the SIDS DOCK membership, by providing a written report of its activities in SIDS DOCK's Annual Report, and by giving verbal reports at Executive Council Meetings.

## **9. Staff Support**

The work of the committee will be supported by the SIDS DOCK Secretariat.

Committee minutes are distributed to Committee members by the SIDS DOCK Secretariat on behalf of the Chair.

## **10. Membership Term**

The Committee term is three (3) years over the period 2022 to 2024, ending at the conclusion of the Ocean Project. Continuity is a criterion considered when establishing the Committee.

At the end of that term members may serve a further three-year term of office, renewable each year, with the approval of the Executive Council.

## **11. Chair**

The Chair and two Vice Chairs are selected from the SIDS DOCK Membership and appointed by the Executive Council.

The Committee members are selected by the Executive Council, based on recommendations from the Secretariat of SIDS DOCK. The Chair and Vice Chairs do not need to be members of the Executive Council.

The Chair is appointed for a period of three years. A review will be held in the third year of the term of office of the Chair to establish whether there should be an initial three-year extension to the term to ensure that:

- a. There is continuity of the Project Steering Committee's work and experience;
- b. There is a succession plan together with development opportunities for members with an interest in future responsibilities as Chair.

## **12. Chair's Responsibilities**

The Chair shall:

- a. Work with the SIDS DOCK Secretariat to set the agenda, distribute and review minutes, plan and set meeting dates, prepare reports, and adhere to SIDS DOCK policies.
- b. Monitor and manage the committee meeting budget.
- c. Conduct and facilitate committee meetings.
- d. Liaise with other Committees to ensure full participation of women, reflective of our membership, within SIDS DOCK and in SIDS DOCK activities.
- e. Ensure that Executive Council discussions, decisions and policies reflect the purpose and mandate of the Project Steering Committee.
- f. Submit Committee-related project requests to the SIDS DOCK Secretariat in accordance with the timelines provided by the Executive Council.
- g. Submit Committee-related committee support budget requests to the SIDS DOCK Secretariat in accordance with the timelines provided by the Executive Council.



- h. Ensure the Committee's annual and other reports to the Executive Council are developed to reflect the Committee's work within the framework and deadlines provided.
- i. Ensure the Committee goals, objectives and purposes are fulfilled.

### **13. Staff Resources**

- a. The SIDS DOCK Secretariat shall:
  - (i) Provide administrative support to the Chair and the work of the Committee.
  - (ii) Liaise with members for input and implementation of Committee work as required.
  - (iii) Inform the Chair and Committee of issues which are relevant to the Committee's mandate.
- b. The SIDS DOCK Secretariat shall provide communication assistance and:
  - (i) Provide editorial assistance.
  - (ii) Review reports and presentations to the Executive Council in accordance with the template and time limits established by the SIDS DOCK Secretariat.

### **14. Ways of Working**

- a. The Committee shall have at least two (2) formal meetings per year, at which work and policy is agreed and signed off. Members are expected to attend formal meetings.
- b. Throughout the year, the work of the Committee will continue by means of email and other methods of communication, and small group working.
- c. Members will have a range of skills and expertise and there is an expectation that they will demonstrate commitment by contributing to the work of the SIDS DOCK Organisation.
- d. Individual members will take a portfolio approach to the work of the Committee by leading on:
  - a specific focus area related to Sustainable Energy and Climate Resilience Building (energy, water, waste management, agriculture, tourism, transportation and commerce);
  - an area of SIDS DOCK work such as ocean energy or Member Information;
  - a geographical area of SIDS (Caribbean, Pacific, AIS).
  - fundraising and resource mobilisation.
- e. Members will work by means of a range of activities, for example:
  - acting as representatives on SIDS DOCK (-related) committees, boards, working groups and in SIDS DOCK links with other bodies.
  - being involved in other SIDS DOCK and public engagement activities as part of the Committee or SIDS projects.
  - contributing to projects and sub-committees of the Executive Council.
  - providing perspectives to inform and achieve the Committee's goals through contributing to:

- Ocean Energy Project Reports
  - Committee Guidelines
  - Responses to concept papers
  - Information for the public
  - Development of standards
  - Research and audit projects
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- Training and human resource development.

## **15. Review and Assessment of Terms of Reference**

The Committee will review and assess the adequacy of its Terms of Reference, three (3) months after the constitution of the Committee, and at least every year of the project, and request the Executive Council's approval for proposed changes.

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## Annex 1

*Table 1: Proposed Membership of the SIDS DOCK Project Steering Committee*

No.	Name	Title/Position	Organisation
1	H.E. Mr. Ronald Jumeau (Chair)	Chair of the SIDS DOCK Foundation and SIDS DOCK Roving Ambassador for the Ocean and Climate Change  Former Permanent Representative of the Republic of Seychelles to the United Nations and former Chair of the Executive Council of SIDS DOCK	SIDS DOCK Foundation
2	H.E. Mr. Va'inga Tōnē (Vice-Chair)	Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Tonga to the UN and Chair of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council	Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Tonga to the UN
3	H.E. Mr. Jagdish Dharamchand Koonjul (Vice-Chair)	Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations, Member of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council	Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the UN
4	H.E. Mr. Conrod Hunte	Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations and Ambassador to IRENA, Member of	Permanent Mission of Antigua and Barbuda to the UN <b>[SIDS DOCK IRENA and AOSIS Liaison]</b>

		the SIDS DOCK Executive Council	
5	Mr. Luiselio Pinto	Advisor to the Ministry of Public Works Infrastructure Natural Resources and Environment, Member of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council, SIDS DOCK National Coordinator for Sao Tome and Principe	São Tomé and Príncipe
6	Mr. Tony Imaduwa	Chief Executive Officer, Seychelles Energy Commission, Member of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council	Seychelles
7	H.E. Dr. Vince Henderson, LLP, MP	Minister for Planning, Economic Development, Climate Resilience, Sustainable Development, and Renewable Energy, Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica  Patron SIDS DOCK Island Women Open Network (IWON), Former Chair of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council, Former Chair SIDS DOCK Foundation, Former Chair SIDS DOCK Steering Committee	Dominica
8	Mr. Solomon Fifita	General Manager	Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE) <b>[Representing the Global Network of Regional Sustainable</b>

			<b>Energy Centres (GN-SEC)]</b>
<b>9</b>	Ms. Sheikha Bundhoo	Senior Communications Officer, Office of the Prime Minister, Republic of Mauritius  SIDS DOCK Communications Advisor and Vice Chair, SIDS DOCK Island Women Open Network IWON)	Mauritius <b>[SIDS DOCK IWON Representative]</b>
<b>OBSERVERS</b>			
<b>1</b>	Mr. Martin Lugmayr	Sustainable Energy Expert Energy Systems and Infrastructure Division Department of Energy, SIDS DOCK Partner	UNIDO
<b>2</b>	Mr. Lelei LeLaulu	Chairman, Earth Council Alliance, Director Caribbean Media Exchange (CMEx), SIDS DOCK Strategic Advisor	Earth Council Alliance (ECA)  <b>[Communication &amp; Public Relations Support]</b>
<b>3</b>	Mr. Jan Hartke	Senior Fellow and Chair of the Board of Counsellors, SIDS DOCK Partner	Stimson Center Alliance for a Climate Resilient Earth (ACRE)
<b>4</b>	Mr. Nasir Khattak	Chief Operating Officer and Member of the Board, SIDS DOCK Partner	Climate Institute