**A/6/SR/1 (2022)**



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23 July 2023

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

**Sixth Extended 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**

**REPORT OF THE SIXTH EXTENDED SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE**

**SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES DOCK [SIDS DOCK]**

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| **NO.** | **DOCUMENT NO.[[1]](#footnote-1)** | **TITLE** |
| 1 | A 6 1 Rev.3 (2022) | Provisional Agenda Sixth Extended session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK |
| 2 | A 6 5 (2022) | Depositary Report for SIDS DOCK Sixth Extended Assembly |
| 3 | A 6 6 (2022) | Report of the Credentials Committee Sixth Extended Session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly |
| 4 | A 6 7 (2022) | Arrangements for the Sixth Extended Session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly September 2022 |
| 5 | A 6 8 (2022) | General guidance on audiovisual file submission Sixth Extended Session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly |
| 6 | A 6 9 (2022) | General Guidance On Joining The Zoom Meeting Sixth Extended Session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly |
| 7 | A 6 10 (2022) | Registration Sixth Extended Session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly |
| 8 | A 6 11 (2020) | Draft Concept Paper Global Ocean Energy Alliance |
| 9 | A 6 12 (2020) | Terms of Reference Project Steering Committee UNIDO Ocean Energy Project |
| 10 | A 6 13 (2022) | Inception Report SIDS DOCK-UNIDO Ocean Energy Project |
| 11 | A 6 14 (2022) | MoU SIDS DOCK-Climate Institute A 6 MoU14 2022 |
| 12 | A 6 15 (2022) | Global OTEC 1.5MW Plant Project Summary 2022 |
| 13 | A 6 16 (2022) | Concept Paper - SIDS DOCK Herbal-Botanical Project (Sao Tome & Principe) |
| 14 | A 6 17 (2022) | Note Verbale F.2-6 of 6Jan2022 to SIDS DOCK (advice of Tonga's new Prime Minister) |
| 15 | A 6 18 (2022) | Letter to Executive Director CCREEE re Request for Project Documents and Status Reports Feb 2022 |
| 16 | A 6 19 (2022) | Agenda & Concept Note SIDS DOCK UN Ocean Conference Side Event, 29 June, Lisbon |

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**Report of the sixth extended session of the**

**Assembly of the SIDS DOCK**

1. The convening of the sixth extended session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK was conducted remotely by means of conference using Zoom, a web-based hosting service, pursuant to Article VI (1), on 21st September 2022.

**Agenda item 1: Opening of the session**

1. The Honourable Siaosi ‘Ofakivahafolau Sovaleni (Hon. Huʻakavameiliku), Prime Minister of His Majesty’s Government of the Kingdom of Tonga and President of the sixth session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly, called to order the sixth extended session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK.
2. The President invited the Assembly to observe a minute of silence in observance of the passing, on 8th September 2022, of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, monarch of the United Kingdom, numerous other realms and territories, and Head of the Commonwealth, of which many of SIDS DOCK and AOSIS (Alliance of Small Island States) countries are members. The President, on behalf of the Assembly, extended condolences to the Royal Family.
3. In his opening statement, the President recalled that in 2021 and 2022, the people of SIDS experienced a series of traumatic events, most significantly for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, when the La Soufrière volcano erupted in April 2021, and in Tonga, when the Hunga-Tonga-Hunga-Ha’apai volcano erupted in January 2022, with the war in Ukraine following right after in February 2022. These and other major events as well as the continuing impact of the COVID-19, caused the SIDS DOCK Organisation to implement contingencies to enable the continuity and negate disruption to the organisation’s governance structure, therefore, the Assembly decided to extend the term of the Bureau till 31 December 2022, hence the reference to the sixth extended session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly.
4. The President said that the Assembly members understood the challenges facing the SIDS DOCK Executive Council and the SIDS DOCK Secretariat that administers the work of the organisation and its efforts to keep the fledging SIDS DOCK organisation afloat and operational, without lowering its high standards. He said they have done unbelievable work in helping the organisation stay focused on its mission and executing the mandates of the Assembly. He therefore was moved to commend the nine (9) Executive Council Members from Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, and Jamaica, representing the Caribbean Region; Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe and Seychelles, representing the AIS Region; and Samoa, Tuvalu and Tonga, representing the Pacific Region, with Tonga serving as the current Chair of the Executive Council and Antigua and Barbuda and Mauritius as Vice Chairs. He said the Secretariat informed him that this is the first time that both the President of the Assembly and the Chair of the Executive Council are from the same country, a very proud moment of history, for Tongans.

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1. Recognising that the SIDS DOCK Secretariat was unable to adequately coordinate with Member States the recruitment of new members for the Bureau and to undertake a smooth transition and continuity of work of the Bureau, therefore, due to the negative continuing impact of the COVID-19 and its new variants, it was not practicable to nominate a new President and Vice Presidents. Noting Rules 16 and 17 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly and Executive Council as contained in Document A/2/6, the Assembly, without setting any precedent and acting within its authority decided to adopt the decision on 12th September 2022, as contained in Document A/6/DC/1 (2022), for Tonga to continue to serve as President, representing the Pacific Region; and for Belize to continue to represent the Caribbean Region, and Seychelles to continue to represent the AIS Region, as the two Vice Presidents, till 31st December 2023. The President indicated that this matter will be formally addressed under Agenda Item 2a., Organization of Work: Election of Officers – President and Vice Presidents of the Assembly.
2. On behalf of his fellow Bureau Members, the Honourable John Briceño, Prime Minister of Belize and Vice President representing the Caribbean Region, and the Honourable Wavel Ramkalawan, President of the Republic of Seychelles and Vice President representing the AIS Region, and on his own behalf, the President thanked the Assembly for its strong support and confidence in them to lead the SIDS DOCK Organisation. He said the Assembly can count on them to continue to serve their utmost best in the interest of not just SIDS DOCK, but all Small Island Developing States and Low-Lying Developing States and other Coastal Nations and countries that support the SIDS DOCK Mission and are a part of the coalition.
3. The President highlighted that progress was made over the last year by the SIDS DOCK Organization with the various projects in the work programme. In June 2022, based on the overwhelming support to the 2021 Call to Action! for the Establishment of the Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GLOEA), SIDS DOCK launched the GLOEA[[2]](#footnote-2) in Lisbon, Portugal, on the margins of the 2022 UN Ocean Conference in partnership with the United Nations Development Organisation (UNIDO) and supported by Austria and Norway. SIDS DOCK helped raise awareness about the vast opportunities for SIDS, Least Developing Countries (LDCs) and Coastal Nations to deploy ocean technologies: wave, tidal, offshore wind and solar, and Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC). SIDS DOCK also proudly supported the Government of Sao Tome and Principe, and Prime Minister the Honourable Dr. Jorge Bom Jesus and his delegation as the event witnessed the signing of the first Memorandum of Understanding for a Partnership for Development and Execution of a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for baseload sustainable power from Global OTEC’s 1.5-megawatt (MW) Floating OTEC Platform called “Dominique”, for the island of Sao Tome.
4. Regarding the Caribbean, the President said Prime Minister Briceño is piloting a project to address the invasion of Sargassum seaweed which has exploded in growth, severely impacting the Caribbean Region’s all-important tourism and fisheries industries. The President said that Prime Minister Briceño sent apologies for his absence, as he could not

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join the meeting as he was traveling on route to New York, having just returned home to Belize, after a successful working mission to Berlin, Germany, supported by a technical

team from the SIDS DOCK Secretariat and UNIDO, to meet with representatives of the German government, and discussion with experts on waste-to-energy technologies capable of converting the Sargassum harvested from the ocean into electricity, for export to the national power grid, and liquid fuels that can reduce imported fuels for transportation. Again, this is exciting news for our Caribbean SIDS, who are expending scare resources in attempts at Sargassum removal. The President said that the organisation was determined to seek out partners who are willing and able to deliver SIDS-Appropriate Technologies and more importantly, scaled technologies suited to our situation.

1. The President also noted that the Pacific SIDS and SIDS DOCK partners are also focusing on threats from sea level rise and coastal erosion, and are looking to develop a Pilot Living Breakwater Prototype Project - the Biorock Shore Protection Project. This project will regenerate reefs using the electrolytic mineral accretion (Biorock) coral reef system, comprised of structures fabricated from steel reinforcing bars which when placed on the seafloor and provided with low voltage direct current electricity delivered by electrodes fixed to the stell reinforcement bars become attached to the ocean floor. Continued provision of low voltage direct current results in the growth of solid limestone rock over the reinforcement bars, and the structure then supports the growth of native corals. The limestone that grows on the structure (called Biorock) is stronger than concrete and the rebar is completely protected from rusting. Growth of the Biorock reef is accompanied by increase in fishes, crabs, corals, and biomass, increasing the diversity of marine life.
2. These Pilot Ocean Projects in the Caribbean, Pacific and the AIS Regions, approved by the Assembly, provides demonstrations for the rest of us and the confidence to pursue these SIDS-Appropriate Technologies. The Secretariat and the SIDS Institutional Partner, UNIDO, have demonstrated the ability to bring governments and the private sector in public-private partnerships, where financing is also a part of the bankable projects being demonstrated by the Sao Tome and Principe ocean energy project and the Belize waste-to-energy project.
3. The President concluded his opening statement by reaffirming the Bureau’s commitment to the SIDS DOCK Organization and to developing strategic partnerships to promote the Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GLOEA)in the context of a green COVID-19 recovery, while building back better and leaving no one behind. He recognized those SIDS that have joined the GLOEA, and encouraged those SIDS who have not done so, to join.

**Agenda Item 2: Organization of work**

Noting the agenda for the meeting, the President said that the Chair of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council, Mr. Vaʻinga Tōnē, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Tonga to the UN, informed him that the agenda items were updates, as the Assembly, aided by the Bureau and the Executive Council, were able to conduct its work in a very efficient manner, enabling the Assembly to adopt key decisions and perform necessary functions, by taking decisions under silence procedure of

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at least 72 hours, and that if the silence is not broken, the decision shall be considered adopted, and the SIDS DOCK Assembly shall take note of the decision at its first plenary meeting. The Chair further informed the President that the documents pertaining to the extended sixth session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly are available on the SIDS DOCK website at: [sidsdock.org/assembly](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cabwp2%5CDownloads%5Csidsdock.org%5Cassembly).

1. The President proposed that Tonga act as Rapporteur for the extended sixth session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly. Noting no objections, the Assembly agreed by acclamation, Tonga, as Rapporteur of the extended sixth session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly.
2. ***Election of Officers of the Assembly – President and Vice-Presidents***
3. The President reminded Members that in his opening remarks he informed the meeting that on 12th September 2022, the Assembly adopted the decision to extend the term of the SIDS DOCK Bureau, for one year, till 31st December 2023. He once again, on behalf of the SIDS DOCK Bureau, extended thanks to the Assembly for its confidence, and noted for the record under this agenda item that the terms of the following Bureau members have been extended till 31st December 2023, namely:
4. Hon. Siaosi ‘Ofakivahafolau Sovaleni (Hon. Huʻakavameiliku), Prime Minister, Kingdom of Tonga, President of the sixth session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly representing the Pacific Region;
5. Hon. John Briceño, Prime Minister of Belize and Vice President of the sixth session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly representing the Caribbean Region, and;
6. Hon. Wavel Ramkalawan, President, Republic of Seychelles and Vice President of the sixth SIDS DOCK Assembly representing the AIS Region.
7. The President said the Chair of the Executive Council further informed him that the SIDS DOCK Secretariat transmitted three (3) Notes Verbale to the Permanent Missions of the Kingdom of Tonga, Belize and Seychelles to the United Nations, transmitting messages to members of the SIDS DOCK Bureau, regarding matters as they relate to the extension of the term of the members of the Bureau of the sixth session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK. These documents were circulated to Assembly Members, and are available online at the SIDS DOCK Website:
8. Note No: SIDS DOCK/Assembly07/003/2022 – Re: Extension of Term of the Members of the Bureau of the sixth session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK (Tonga).
9. Note No: SIDS DOCK/Assembly07/003A/2022 – Re: Extension of Term of the Members of the Bureau of the sixth session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK (Belize).
10. Note No: SIDS DOCK/Assembly07/003B/2022 – Re: Extension of Term of the Members of the Bureau of the sixth session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK (Seychelles).

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1. These and all documents referencing the seventh session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly will be amended to reflect the extension of the sixth session of the Assembly. The Secretariat has therefore duly noted the amendments to be made to the Assembly documents. In this regard, the oral amendments made to the Notes Verbale regarding the Extension of the Term of the Members of the Bureau of the sixth session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK are hereby recorded.
2. **The Assembly agreed to adopt the documents as orally amended and that the revised documents will now be renamed and contained in documents:**
3. **Note No: SIDS DOCK/Assembly06/003/2022 – Re: Extension of Term of the Members of the Bureau of the sixth session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK (Tonga).**
4. **Note No: SIDS DOCK/Assembly06/003A/2022 – Re: Extension of Term of the Members of the Bureau of the sixth session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK (Belize).**
5. **Note No: SIDS DOCK/Assembly06/003B/2022 – Re: Extension of Term of the Members of the Bureau of the sixth session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK (Seychelles).**
6. The President invited the Hon. Wavel Ramkalawan, President of the Republic of Seychelles and Vice President of the Assembly representing the AIS Region, to bring brief remarks.
7. Hon. Ramkalawan opened his remarks by thanking the President for his warm welcome, and welcomed all the Excellences and guests attending the meeting. He wished the President and the people of Tonga courage, as they continue to face challenges as a result of the volcano that disrupted life, in their beautiful country.
8. Hon. Ramkalawan thanked the Assembly for confidence in adopting the decision to extend the term of the Bureau until 31st December 2023. He once again pledged his full commitment in supporting the work of SIDS DOCK. He said the Assembly convenes on a day when SIDS are advocating for our cause through the United Nations (UN) and noted that too often, notwithstanding well-stated intentions and commitments, SIDS tend to be relegated to the margins of the global development narrative.
9. Climate and change and energy are at the centre of Seychelles’ Government agenda and he believes it is at the centre of the SIDS agenda. Hon. Ramkalawan noted that the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of the Republic of Seychelles, updated in 2021 and communicated to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in June 2021, commits the country to reducing economy wide absolute Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions by 293.8 ktCO2e in 2030 (26.4%) compared to business as usual (BAU) scenario. Today Seychelles’ electricity generation is **25%** from fuel oil and 5% from renewable energy (RE) sources, including a 6-megawatt (MW) wind farm and 6MW

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utility-scale photovoltaic (PV) plant, and around 6.25MW of distributed rooftop PV systems. Noting the present reality of the Republic of Seychelles, and also taking into consideration the AIS islands working hard in converting from fossil fuel to renewable energy, he said everyone is doing their part. SIDS limited landmass poses a problem for the adoption of RE as such, for example, Seychelles is turning to the ocean and currently developing its first utility-scale floating PV plant, which is first floating PV on marine environment in Africa.

1. He continued by saying that today, the Bureau is calling for action. On the day of their election as President and Vice Presidents of the sixth session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly on 28 September 2021, Tonga, Belize and Seychelles, mandated as leaders of the SIDS DOCK Bureau, embarked on a campaign to decarbonize our islands with a focus on ocean energy, initially accompanied by Sao Tome and Principe, Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. He said, together, they kept up the momentum which culminated in a Call To Action! in the margins of the UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland, in November 2021, and this led to the establishment of the Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GLOEA), at the 2022 UN Ocean Conference in June 2022.
2. He recalled the work of Sao Tome and Principe who have taken the lead in the development and deployment of “Dominique,” a 1.5 MW Floating Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) plant that will provide baseload power for the country, and guidance for many small islands and coastal nations. The possibility of developing and deploying a Floating OTEC Platform is worthy of our consideration, he said.
3. Hon. Ramkalawan closed his remarks by calling on everyone to join and assist the SIDS in transforming our ways to protect the earth and in creating the right future for our children. He is hopeful that together, we can join forces to save our islands, and as we do so, he also believed we should continue to “stick to each other,” so that the UN can help in adopting the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) because this is the way forward for SIDS, and this will help SIDS face the many challenges and vulnerabilities that islands face. He extended best wishes to everyone and closed by saying that he believed that all our hearts are in the right place and together we can achieve the best for our various islands.
4. The President thanked Hon. Ramkalawan for his remarks and extended thanks to his Government for the outstanding leadership and governance roles played by the Republic of Seychelles in the establishment of the SIDS DOCK Organisation. The President said the organization is indebted to Seychelles for its contribution to the start-up of the SIDS DOCK Organisation and for the many ground-breaking lessons learned as examples for SIDS, for example, leading the charge with the world’s first sovereign Blue Bond, mobilising private sector investment to support the ocean economy.
5. The President said as we promote the Global Ocean Energy Alliance, SIDS have been supported by Seychelles, and in particular President Ramkalawan, who has made several impactful statements in support of the GLOEA. Further, the SIDS DOCK Roving Ambassador for the Ocean and Climate Change is from Seychelles, and in this regard, we are grateful to Mr. Ronald Jumeau, former Permanent Representative of the Republic of

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Seychelles to the UN and former Chair of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council, for accepting the invitation to serve.

1. Seychelles is also a member of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council. The Council was constituted in 2016, and fifteen (15) of our seventeen (17) members have served on the nine-member Council, over the years. This means that the business of the organisation has had wide regional input, and we therefore encourage members to participate, particularly in nominating women as members to help us achieve gender balance and representation.
2. The President thanked Hon. Ramkalawan, and said that through his leadership we can count on Seychelles in continuing to help direct and grow the Organization.
3. The President invited Mr. Carlos Fuller, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Belize to the United Nations to make brief remarks on behalf of the Hon. John Briceño, Prime Minister of Belize and Vice President of the sixth session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly representing the Caribbean region, who unfortunately, was not able to join the meeting, as he was overseeing celebrations marking Belize’s 41st Independence. The President extended congratulations to the Government and people of Belize, on this important occasion.
4. Ambassador Fuller expressed thanks to the President on behalf of the Prime Minister, and the Government and people of Belize for his warm words in honour of Belize’s anniversary of its 41st Independence. As the President noted, the Prime Minister could not join us as he is now concluding his remarks in Belize and will be traveling to New York later tonight. Ambassador Fuller thanked the Assembly for the honour of extending the term of Belize on the Bureau of SIDS DOCK, including that of Prime Minister Briceño’s term on behalf of the Caribbean.
5. He said that the Assembly was meeting during a period of crises and uncertainty. He said we are seeing a crises on our climate, our oceans, our land, our health, and even our food security. He asked what is the global community doing to address these problems? He recalled the energy crisis of the 1970s, and how many countries took actions to address those crises then. There was load shedding, countries lowered speed limits to 55 miles per hour, there was carpooling, and reduction in duties on four-cylinder vehicles. The administration of U.S. President Jimmy Carter, actually put solar panels on the roof of the White House. These were actions taken to address the energy crisis then. But what are the concrete actions we are doing now to address the challenge of increasing emissions? He said we seemed to have wasted the opportunity provided by the COVID-19 Pandemic, when emissions fell dramatically. With the recovery now, we are seeing emissions even greater than before the pandemic. The conflict in Eastern Europe has caused oil prices to escalate. Let us not waste this crisis, he said, noting that SIDS DOCK can be our mechanism to respond to this new crisis.
6. Ambassador Fuller commended the excellent SIDS DOCK side event in Lisbon, in the margins of the 2022 UN Ocean Conference in June 2022, and commended the Secretariat for pulling of an excellent event. He congratulated the Government of Sao Tome and

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Principe for the historic signing of an agreement for the Floating OTEC Platform that was announced at the side event.

1. He also thanked the Secretary-General and the SIDS DOCK Secretariat for support provided to Belize on Prime Minister Briceño’s recent visit to Germany, to seek support for its waste-to-energy proposal for converting municipal solid waste (MSW) to energy, which will be supplemented by Sargassum, as mentioned earlier by the President in his opening statement. If successful, this pilot would achieve many benefits. It would address waste management problems on San Pedro and Caye Caulker islands, as well as from the major urban centres, it would address the Sargassum problem that is befouling beaches across Belize and across the Caribbean, it would reduce our carbon footprint, and strengthen energy security. He said that these initiatives and this meeting of the Assembly will lead to more initiatives such as these to use our indigenous resources
2. Ambassador Fuller wished the Assembly a successful session now being convened and closed by thanking the President for the opportunity to bring brief remarks from Prime Minister Briceño.
3. The President thanked Ambassador Fuller, and through him, thanked the Hon. Prime Minister of Belize and the Government of Belize for its strong support as Host Country for the SIDS DOCK Secretariat. The President emphasized that the Government of Belize ensured the full functioning of the Secretariat, even as the COVID-19 virus raged, that led to fewer than expected interruptions in the execution of the work of the Secretariat.
4. The President said that the Secretariat shared some disturbing reports about the Sargassum invasion in the Caribbean region, and it was frightening to see how the seaweed seems unstoppable. He was therefore encouraged by the reports of progress being made on behalf of the Caribbean in addressing this serious issue that is threatening livelihoods, and commended Prime Minister Briceño for his leadership. He said he looked forward to the Members being updated on the progress in addressing this serious situation.

***Agenda Item 2 – Sub-Item b. – Adoption Of The Agenda***

1. Before inviting the Assembly to turn to the next Agenda Item, Adoption of the Agenda, the President informed the meeting that the Secretary-General requested that he remind delegates and observers that during the virtual meeting, each speaker who had not previously indicated time to speak, is invited to submit their request to take the floor by emailing the SIDS DOCK Secretariat at: secretariat@sidsdock.org, and this also applies to messages, comments and questions from the floor. The information is contained in document A/7/9, General Guidance On Joining The Zoom Meeting of the Seventh Session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK.
2. **The oral amendments made to the General Guidance On Joining The Zoom Meeting of the Seventh Session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK is hereby recorded. The Assembly therefore agreed to adopt the document as orally amended and that the revised document will now be renamed and contained in document A/6/9 (2022).**

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1. The President invited the Assembly to turn its attention to sub-item b. of Agenda Item 2, *Adoption of the Agenda* of the sixth extended session contained in document A/7/1/Rev.3. Noting there were no objections to, or matters for inclusion in the current revised Draft Agenda, therefore, the agenda of the Assembly as outlined in A/7/1/Rev.3 was adopted. The Secretariat has duly noted the amendments to the Document.
2. **The oral amendments made to the Agenda were recorded and the Assembly agreed to adopt the Agenda as orally amended and that the revised Agenda was now renamed and contained in document A/6/Rev.3 (2022).**

***Agenda Item 2 – Sub-Item c. – Appointment Of The Credentials Committee***

1. The President informed the Assembly that the Secretariat has advised that Grenada, Mauritius, Seychelles, and Tonga, are desirous of serving on the Credentials Committee.
2. The Assembly was then invited to approve the appointment of Ms. Nerissa Williams (Grenada); Ms. Vreeshini Raojee (Mauritius); Ms. Veronique Morel (Seychelles); and Ms. Darlene Vaea (Tonga), to the Credentials Committee.
3. **The Assembly approved by acclamation the appointment of the four aforementioned Members to the Credentials Committee.**

***Agenda Item 2 – Sub-Item d. – Participation of Observers***

1. In accordance with Article VI (8) of the Statute, in which the Assembly can provide observer status to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the field of adaptation to climate change and renewable energy, and Signatories that have not ratified the Statute, with the understanding that Observers may participate, without the right to vote, in the public sessions of the Assembly and its subsidiary organs. Consideration is

also being granted to Members of the Alliance of Small Island Developing States (AOSIS) who are not signatories or members of SIDS DOCK.

1. In accordance with Rule 13 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, the Assembly approved the requests of countries and organizations as contained in document A/7/2 to participate as Observers in the sixth extended session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly.
2. **The Assembly agreed to amend document A/7/2 to duly reflect the meeting’s participation and approved the participation of the countries and organizations contained in document A/7/2 to participate as Observers in the sixth extended session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly. The Secretariat shall further amend and rename the document as, A/6/2 (2022).**

***Agenda Item 2 – Sub-Item e. – Adoption Of The Report Of The Sixth Session Of The Assembly***

1. The President introduced the report of the sixth session of the Assembly and invited the Assembly to consider and approve the report as contained in document A/6/SR/1.

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1. **The Assembly adopted the Report of the sixth session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK, as contained in document A/6/SR/1.**

***Agenda Item 3 – Report of the Chair of the Executive Council***

1. The President took the opportunity to thank the Chair and the nine (9) Members of the Executive Council for their hard work and dedication, and thanked the dedicated Members from Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Jamaica, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Samoa, Tuvalu and Tonga, for their outstanding service.
2. In January 2022, Tonga was elected Chair of the Council, and a seamless transition of the Chair took place when the gavel was passed from Seychelles to Tonga. In this regard, the President recognized Ambassador Ronald Jumeau (Seychelles), who ably guided the work of the Council through the COVID-19 Pandemic and oversaw the planning and coordination of the establishment of the Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GLOEA), in Glasgow, Scotland, on the margins of COP 26, in November 2021. Ambassador Jumeau worked closely with the current Chair, Ambassador Vainga Tone, who was responsible for overseeing the planning and coordination of the successful launch of the GLOEA, in Lisbon, Portugal, on the margins of the UN Ocean Conference, in June 2022. The President congratulated both Excellences, noting that their joint leadership led to the launch of one of the most successful initiatives in the organisation’s short history.
3. Regarding the Chair’s Report, the President said the Chair informed him that the Executive Council had not completed its review of the Chair’s Report as there are a few matters that have not been decided on to make the Report official and for circulation to Members. However, the main theme of the Report is the preparations for the establishment and launch of the GLOEA. In this regard, the Chair recommended that the Assembly give time to the new Council to complete its review and submit the Chair’s Report to the Assembly for its review and adoption at the next meeting of the Assembly. The President expressed personal thanks to the Members of the Executive Council, and on behalf of the SIDS DOCK Organization, saluted them for all their hard work.
4. **The Assembly agreed to give time to the Executive Council to complete its review, and submit the Chair’s Report to the Assembly for its review and adoption at the next meeting of the Assembly.**

***Agenda Item 4 –*** ***Update: Implementation Of The Modified Programme Of Work And Budget For The Period June 2020 To December 2022, Sub-Item a. - SIDS Ocean Programme: Launch of the Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GLOEA), Lisbon Portugal, on the margins of the 2022 UN Ocean Conference***

1. The decision to focus on SIDS largest and most important renewable source of energy – the ocean – is a matter of our survival, the President said. SIDS have looked inward, outward and around, and decided to embark on a *Call To Action for the Establishment of the Global Ocean Energy Alliance*, in September 2021, during the sixth session of the Assembly, on the margins of the seventy-sixth UN General Assembly, in New York. This

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was quickly followed by a successful second *Call To Action!* for the Establishment of the GLOEA, at a SIDS DOCK Side Event in Glasgow, on the margins of COP 26, in November 2021. The tremendous support from the Glasgow Side Event provided a solid foundation and springboard for the equally successful Launch of the GLOEA in Lisbon, in June 2022.

1. Each GLOEA milestone in New York, Glasgow, and Lisbon, brought its own revelations. In New York, we were introduced to “Dominique”, by Sao Tome and Principe and its private sector partner, Global OTEC. At the sixth session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly, last September, the Assembly approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and a Concept Paper to “Bring Dominique Home,” a concept for a public-private partnership to develop and deploy a 1.5-megawatt (MW) Floating OTEC Platform in Sao Tome and Principe, by 2024.
2. In Glasgow, Honourable Dr. Jorge Bom Jesus, Prime Minister of Sao Tome and Principe, knowing full well the high risks involved, and knowing the potential significant benefits to SIDS, committed Sao Tome and Principe as the first Pilot Country for the development and deployment of Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) technology. Sao Tome and Principe has the most perfect conditions for OTEC, and the studies that have been conducted are already informing the Secretariat as it supports scaling up the technology to other SIDS and Coastal Nations. In Lisbon, Prime Minister Bom Jesus kept up the quick pace, and took Sao Tome and Principe to the next step, by signing a MoU between the Government, Global OTEC and SIDS DOCK, to begin the process of negotiating the power purchase agreement for the 1.5 MW floating ocean thermal energy facility.
3. The President said he has the pleasure to inform the Assembly, that Sao Tome and Principe is in the final stages of honouring the MoU, by completing the Heads Of Terms Agreement for the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) between Global OTEC and the country’s national electric utility (EMAE), which will set out the standard elements for the commercial energy infrastructure project. He said the Secretariat informed him that this is expected in a matter of a weeks. The project has been moving at a fast pace because of the “urgency of now.” The President extended gratitude to our partners the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres – the GN-SEC, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the Governments of Austria, Norway and Spain. Identifying genuine and durable partners always enhances relationships, and when it comes to the private sector, the President said the SIDS have found such a partner in Global OTEC.
4. The President invited Mr. Dan Grech, Chief Executive Officer for Global OTEC, to update the meeting on the status of Dominique, the stage of design, launch plans and progress. Unfortunately, due to connectivity issues, Mr. Grech was unable to deliver remarks, however, the Secretariat introduced a visual of the newly designed model of Dominique.
5. The President, on behalf of the Assembly, placed on record, the organization’s profound gratitude to Sao Tome and Principe, as he knows that the Prime Minister and his team have invested significant time and resources in advancing and implementing the project that will benefit countries that are interested in OTEC. He also expressed profound gratitude to the

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Secretary-General and his small team for their dedication and excellent leadership in advancing the work and vision of the Organization.

1. **The Assembly noted with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the update on the on the implementation of the GLOEA, and to expressed further appreciation to Mr. Dan Grech and the Global OTEC team their work on Dominique.**

***Agenda Item 5 - Election of the members of the Executive Council for the term 2023-2025 – Pacific, Caribbean and AIS***

1. The President informed the Assembly that the Secretary-General asked him to convey his apologies as the Secretariat received one nomination form for the election of one of the five members to the Executive Council of SIDS DOCK, however, due to time constraints, the Secretariat was unable to circulate the Nomination to the Assembly members, and will do so, following the meeting.
2. The President further informed the Assembly that the terms of office of the following will expire on 31st December 2022:
3. His Excellency Mr. Conrad Hunte of Antigua and Barbuda;
4. Dr. Peter Allen of Belize;
5. Honourable Mr. Pearnel Charles, Jr. of Jamaica;
6. His Excellency Mr. Jadgish Dharamchand Koonjul of Mauritius, and;
7. His Excellency Mr. Samuelu Laloniu of Tuvalu.
8. The Secretariat received one nomination form from the Government of Belize, who has nominated their respective representative to the election under reference. The Bahamas, Mauritius, St. Lucia and Tuvalu, have requested additional time to submit the names of their respective nominees, and as soon as the nominations have been received, the Secretariat shall inform the Assembly regarding The Bahamas, Mauritius, St. Lucia and Tuvalu’s election to the Executive Council of SIDS DOCK.
9. **Noting that there were no other nominations the Assembly approved the recommendation of the Executive Council and agreed to elect Mr. Carlos Fuller of Belize, representing the Caribbean Region, to the Executive Council for the period beginning 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2025. The Secretariat shall update the Assembly regarding The Bahamas, Mauritius, St. Lucia and Tuvalu’s election to the Executive Council of SIDS DOCK.**
10. The President congratulated Ambassador Fuller on his election as a new Member of the Executive Council, and also thanked Ambassador Conrad Hunte of Antigua and Barbuda, Dr. Peter Allen of Belize, Honourable Mr. Pearnel Charles, Jr. of Jamaica, Ambassador Mr. Jadgish Dharamchand Koonjul of Mauritius, and Ambassador Mr. Samuelu Laloniu of Tuvalu, for their service to the Organization. He also thanked the Executive Council for its hard work. He also reiterated that these individuals serve on the Council in their personal capacities and therefore it is imperative that they commit to participate fully in the Council

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and its work. The President took the opportunity to urge countries to consider nominating more female candidates for the vacancies.

***Agenda Item 6 – Institutional and Administrative Matters – Sub-Item a. Report Of The Depositary***

1. The President introduced the Report of the Depositary, as contained in document A/7/5, and took the opportunity to express the Assembly’s profound gratitude to the Government of Belize for the excellent work it has done in its capacity as Depositary to the SIDS DOCK Statute.
2. The President reminded members of the Organization that thirty-two (32) countries signed the Memorandum of Agreement Establishing the SIDS DOCK between 2009 and 2014. In 2014, twenty (20) countries signed the Statue Establishing the SIDS DOCK in Samoa, at the Third UN International Conference on SIDS, and since September 2015, when the Treaty came into force, 17 countries have either ratified or acceded to the Statute, with one country – Tuvalu, through signature effectuated ratification, was the first country to ratify the SIDS DOCK Treaty, in Samoa, in 2014, at the SIDS Conference. He urged each Member to work on encouraging the other SIDS to join by either ratifying, if they are already a signatory, or acceding to the SIDS DOCK Statute.
3. On behalf of the Assembly, the President expressed heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to the Government of Belize for its outstanding work and for its commitment to ensuring that SIDS DOCK became a reality, and looks forward to the Government’s continued support and cooperation as we move forth to strengthen the membership and the Organization as a whole.
4. **The Assembly took note with appreciation of the report of the Depositary, as contained in document number A/7/5. The Secretariat has duly noted amendments to the Document. The oral amendments made to the Report of the Depository are hereby recorded. The Assembly agreed to adopt the Report of the Depository as orally amended and that the revised Report will now be renamed and contained in document A/6/5 (2022).**

***Agenda Item 6 – Institutional And Administrative Matters – Sub-Item b. Report Of The Credentials Committee***

1. The Chair of the Credentials Committee, Ms. Nerissa Williams (Grenada), introduced the “Report of the Credentials Committee” as contained in document A/7/6. She reported that the Committee met on Thursday, 21 September 2022, and on its examination of the credentials received, the Committee determined that 10 Members (namely Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, Mauritius, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Tuvalu and Tonga) had submitted credentials in the form required by Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.

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1. The Credentials Committee noted that a number of delegations attending the extended session of the Assembly had not submitted any credentials. Without setting any precedent for future sessions, the Committee agreed to accept credentials from Antigua and Barbuda and Dominica, who did not submit credentials in the proper form but through Mission Diplomatic Note Verbales, noting that official credentials will be submitted to the Secretariat as soon as possible. The Committee recalled the importance of submitting credentials in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly and called on delegations to conform to this requirement at forthcoming sessions of the Assembly.
2. Ms. Williams added that in accordance with Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure, the latter countries can be permitted to participate provisionally in the sixth extended session of the Assembly on the understanding that their credentials in the proper form will be submitted to the SIDS DOCK Secretariat as soon as possible. The Committee therefore recommended that the 10 aforementioned Members be permitted to participate in the sixth extended session.
3. **The Assembly approved the report of the Credentials Committee and agreed to amend the document accordingly to reflect participation and to rename and reissue the report as A/6/6/Rev.1 (2022).**

***Agenda Item 7 – SIDS DOCK Foundation Update – Sub-Item a. Registration and Launch of the SIDS DOCK Foundation***

1. The Secretary-General, reporting in his capacity as President of the SIDS DOCK Foundation Board of Directors, informed that the major challenge to SIDS DOCK Foundation is receiving not-for-profit or 501(c)(3) status from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Receiving 501(c)(3) ruling means that contributors to the Foundation can receive a tax credit, which is very important for corporations and high-net worth individuals. The final documentation has been submitted to the IRS by the SIDS DOCK lawyers in June 2022, and a response is expected from the IRS by December 2022 or January 2023. With this status, the Foundation will be able to establish a bank account and begin operations.
2. **The Assembly took note with appreciation of the status update by the Secretary-General and looks forward to the update on the Foundation’s not-for-profit status.**

***Agenda Item 8 – SIDS DOCK*** ***Brief Remarks by Member States and Observers***

1. As there are no delegations requesting the floor, the President agreed for Mr. Dan Grech, CEO, Global OTEC, to update the meeting on the Sao Tome and Principe OTEC Project during this agenda item.
2. Mr. Grech thanked the President and apologized for the technical issues he experienced earlier in the meeting. He updated the Assembly on the progress in the development of Dominique, noting that Sao Tome and Principe is the best location in the world for OTEC this is a fact, he said. He said that Global OTEC has conducted several studies and aspects which influence the development of an OTEC system and have identified deployment sites.

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1. Since the April 2022 visit to Sao Tome and Principe, they have conducted a techno-economic study in partnership with the operators of a real world, grid connected OTEC plant in Hawaii, which informed a preliminary proposal and Heads of Terms for a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) to be presented to the Government.
2. Mr. Grech said that negotiations are going well and an update on the PPA is due in approximately two weeks, that will inform a critical investment proposal which has been shared with venture capital funds which collectively have over one billion dollars of capital and they are looking for the next game-changing climate-addressing idea. Global OTEC is promoting how SIDS, starting with Sao Tome and Principe, and followed by other SIDS DOCK members, are the ideal place for catalysing climate investments to be made, not just give a return on investment but have a significant impact in reducing CO2 and greenhouse gas emissions. Global OTEC had an initial warm response from the network and they are confident moving forward to close this phase of the financing round and make an announcement once they have successfully completed negotiations on the PPA with Sao Tome and Principe. Next steps are mobilising research vessels to conduct detailed site surveys of the deployment location including, but not limited, to geotechnical and geophysical studies which will inform the final detailed design of the OTEC system undertaken in collaboration with their Hawaii partners.
3. Mr Grech concluded his remarks by extending deepest thanks for the support of the SIDS DOCK team, especially the President and Vice Presidents, the Secretariat and the Executive Council, in particular, Mr. Luiselio Pinto the Executive Council member from Sao Tome and Principe, who has been instrumental in the development of the progress.
4. The President thanked Mr. Grech for his remarks and said the Assembly looks forward to the next update on “Dominique’s” progress.

***Agenda Item 9: Organization & Arrangement For The Seventh Session Of The Assembly, Sub-items a. – Designation of the date***

1. The President proposed that the seventh session of the Assembly be convened in September 2023, on the margins of the General Debate of the seventy-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly. She noted that this year the United Nations will be
2. **The Assembly took note of the discussion and agreed that the seventh session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly will be scheduled in New York, in September 2023, on the margins of the General Debate of the seventy-eight session of the United Nations General Assembly, and that the Secretariat in collaboration with the President of the Assembly would determine the exact date.**

***Agenda Item 9: Organization & Arrangement For The Seventh Session Of The Assembly, Sub-items b. – Designation of members of the Bureau***

1. The President invited States Parties to indicate their desire to serve on the Bureau of the seventh session of the Assembly to the SIDS DOCK Secretariat, as soon as possible and no later than 1 July 2023, in order to facilitate a smooth transition in September 2023.

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1. In keeping with the principle of equitable regional rotation of the post of the Presidency among the three sub-regions, the President of the seventh session should come from the AIS sub-region, and the Vice-Presidents from the Pacific and Caribbean sub-regions, respectively.
2. The Assembly hereby agreed that interested States Parties would communicate to the SIDS DOCK Secretariat no later than 1 July 2023, their desire to serve on the Bureau of the seventh session of the Assembly, and that the President of the seventh session be from the AIS sub-region.

***Agenda Item 10: Any Other Business***

1. Before opening the floor for any comments, the President said there is one item that the Bureau would like the Assembly to take a decision on. He said as leaders, sitting together on the platform as they launched the Global Ocean Energy Alliance, in Lisbon, they, along with the entire room and those participating online were momentarily shocked into a new awareness when Ms. Jeanette Larue from Seychelles, who is the Vice President for the SIDS DOCK Island Women Open Network (IWON), which is responsible for the SIDS Day In Schools Programme, announced that the vast majority of children in SIDS cannot swim. It was heartbreaking to hear about the drownings in some islands. One drowning, is too many.
2. Based on its research, the IWON proposed in Lisbon, to develop a pilot programme, “SIDS Kids Can Swim,” based on lessons from Seychelles, which is the only SIDS where swimming is compulsory at the primary and secondary levels. Recently, Seychelles launched snorkeling in schools, with the intention to make it compulsory as well.
3. We already know that SIDS have some of the youngest populations, and if we are going to prepare them as future custodians of the ocean and as the future face of the GLOEA, it is imperative that we do all we can to help them understand the natural resources by seeing and feeling, and inspecting what they are expecting - the food, jobs, and critical environmental services that a healthy ocean generates.
4. In this regard, the Assembly is being asked to orally adopt a decision and mandate the Secretariat and the IWON to develop a Concept Paper for the “SIDS Kids Can Swim” Programme, identify at least three pilot countries across each region, and update the Assembly at its next meeting.
5. **The Assembly agreed by acclamation that the Secretariat and the IWON are to develop a Concept Paper for the “SIDS Kids Can Swim” Programme, and to update the Assembly at its next meeting.**

***Agenda Item 11: Closure of the session***

1. On behalf of the Permanent Missions of Tonga, Seychelles and Belize, His Excellency Mr. Vainga Tone of Tonga, Chair of the Executive Council, and Dr. Albert Binger, Secretary-General of the Secretariat of SIDS DOCK, and on his own behalf, the President

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thanked everyone for their participation in this extended sixth session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK.

1. He said without a doubt, Tonga has had a series of back-to-back life-changing events, more than “watershed” moments, that when placed in perspective and context, it can be said that no other group would understand, than our fellow SIDS. This is why it is necessary for us to strengthen our capacity to assist each other, and we are already doing this through our regional organisations, through the Alliance of Small Island States, and when it comes to Sustainable Energy and Climate Resilience, SIDS DOCK and the UNIDO-supported GN-SECs, in Barbados and Tonga.
2. Trending towards stronger SIDS-SIDS cooperation is leading to SIDS-Appropriate policies and technology transfer he said The “one-size-fits-all ship” has been grounded onshore, for good, as when it comes to Ocean Energy, SIDS are looking at all forms of ocean energy technologies, including OTEC, tidal, wave, offshore wind, and floating solar. The President said the Secretariat informed him that they have identified the technology and potential partners, and encouraged those countries who are interested to participate in the GLOEA, to do so now.
3. SIDS DOCK has thus far been successful in bringing the public and private sectors together. Since 2014, and particularly over the last four to five years, partnerships have formed the core of our project pipeline. Creative government leaders develop partnerships with the private sector to provide essential services, with clear agreement on shared objectives for delivery of public infrastructure and/ or public services. Also, governments realize that the combined capital and intellectual resources of the public and private sectors can result in better, more efficient services.
4. The President took the opportunity to urge the members of AOSIS who have not acceded to the SIDS DOCK Statute to do so. He encouraged SIDS to join forces to position ourselves to work as one, to secure a stronger, better and brighter future for our Peoples and to strengthen our stewardship of the ocean. He also urged them to join the Global Ocean Energy Alliance, and if they have not done so, and support its establishment.
5. He noted this year’s UN General Assembly theme, “A watershed moment: transformative solutions to interlocking challenges”, acknowledges the shared roots of crises such as COVID-19, climate change and conflict - and the need for solutions that build global sustainability and resilience. The President said all are hopeful that the return of full delegations to New York for the 77th UN General Assembly, the jam-packed agenda, committee meetings, side events and the numerous social events, and the gridlock, will indeed have concrete solutions backed by commitments that “build global sustainability and resilience.” Through the Global Ocean Energy Alliance, SIDS are providing a global solution.
6. The President extended congratulations to the outgoing President of the seventy-fifth (76th) General Assembly, His Excellency Mr. Abdulla Shahid, Foreign Minister of the Maldives – one of our own from SIDS, on the outstanding execution of the work leading up to the

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seventy-seventh (77th) Assembly, where His Excellency Mr Csaba Kőrösi of Hungary, has been elected as President of the seventy-seventh (77th) session of the General Assembly.

1. In closing, the President commended the SIDS DOCK Member States for their strong show of support, evidenced by the turnout of delegates from 13 of 17 Member States. This level of participation indicates the commitment from the countries and the importance placed on the work of the SIDS DOCK Organization. Prioritising the Assembly says SIDS DOCK matters, recognising that the high-level debate started the day before the Assembly. The President expressed respect and commended the delegates for their diligence. The President wished everyone a safe journey back to their respective destinations, and for those online, he thanked them for joining the meeting.
2. **The President adjourned the sixth extended session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly.**
1. Documents available at: https://sidsdock.org/Assembly [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [Home - Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GLOEA)](https://gloea.org/) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)