PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Members Appointed to SIDS DOCK Executive Council

9 December 2019, United Nations Headquarters, New York, U.S.A.: SIDS DOCK, the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Sustainable Energy and Climate Resilience Organization, established in 2015, with all the rights and privileges of the United Nations (UN), is pleased to announce the election of three (3) new members to the governing SIDS DOCK Executive Council. His Excellency Dr. The Right Honourable Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada and President of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK, announced that the new members will take office on 1 January 2020, replacing the retiring 2017-2019 cohort of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council members.

In accordance with paragraph 6 of Article 6 of the SIDS DOCK Statute, the new SIDS DOCK Executive Council members were elected by the Assembly of SIDS DOCK. The Assembly is the supreme organ of the SIDS DOCK Organisation and is composed of all the member governments. The Council is responsible for overall policy and direction and for providing oversight and advice for the development of the organization and to consider and approve the annual SIDS DOCK work programme and budget. The Executive Council delegates responsibility for day-to-day operations to the Secretary-General and committees. The three new members of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council are:

**His Excellency Mr. Conrad Hunte**, Permanent Representative to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), Ambassador / Deputy Permanent Representative of **Antigua and Barbuda** to the United Nations (2020 to 2022)

**Dr. Peter Allen**, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for the Ministry of Public Service, Energy and Public Utilities, **Belize** (2019 to 2020)

**Senator The Hon. Pernel P. Charles, Jr.**, Minister without Portfolio with responsibility for Water, Housing and Infrastructure, Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, **Jamaica** (2020-2022)

The Executive Council comprises nine (9) member government representatives who serve in their official capacities, with due consideration being given to equitable regional distribution encompassing the Caribbean, Pacific, and Atlantic and Indian Oceans, and gender representation. Appointed members of the Executive Council are nominated by their country’s government and serve in an individual capacity.

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Executive Council member selection is based on achieving, to the extent possible, geographic and gender balance, with due regard to major academic, scientific, educational and cultural trends, as well as each member’s field(s) of expertise. His Excellency Mr. Ronny J. Jumeau, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Seychelles to the UN, is the current Chair of the Executive Council (2018-2020). The other members serving on the Council are:

- **Her Excellency Ms. Keisha McGuire**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Grenada to the UN (2019)
- **His Excellency Mr. Jadhish Dharamchand Koonjul**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mauritius to the UN (2017-2019)
- **Mr. Sione Foliaki**, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Energy Policy Coordination & Management Division, Ministry of Finance, Government of the Independent State of Samoa (2019-2021)
- **His Excellency H.E. Mr. Samuelu Laloniu**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Tuvalu to the UN (2017-2019)

The Executive Council members are responsible for promoting SIDS DOCK, and provide guidance and support to the organisation’s mission to catalyse the transformation of the energy sector of Small Island Developing States to increase energy security, reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), and generate resources for investment in adaptation to climate change.

The next (7th) meeting of the SIDS DOCK Executive Council will convene at UN Headquarters, in New York, in September 2020.

*****END*****

*SIDS DOCK, was established in 2015, and is a UN-recognized international organization with all the rights and privileges for addressing climate change, resilience, and energy security in small islands. SIDS DOCK represents 32 small islands and low-lying developing states, and is so named because it is designed as a “DOCKing station,” to connect the energy sector in SIDS with the global markets for finance, sustainable energy technologies and carbon. The organization’s work is coordinated by the Secretariat in Belmopan, Belize. Small islands comprise more than one-fifth of the total membership of the UN, and have stewardship over more than 20 percent of the world’s oceans.*

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