Third Session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK

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**REPORT OF THE INTERIM SECRETARIAT**

**ON THE WORK OF SIDS DOCK**

**DECEMBER 2015 TO DECEMBER 2016**

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The period December 2015 to December 2016, proved to be an eventful year for SIDS DOCK, following on the heels of the historic and momentous ceremony celebrating the coming into force of the SIDS DOCK Treaty, in September 2015. The first Assembly of SIDS DOCK, held on 10 December 2015, in Paris, France, on the margins of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP 21), brought to life the governance structure of the organisation with the appointments of the President and Vice President of the first Assembly and members of the Executive Council.
2. The Interim Secretariat supported the convening of two sessions of the Assembly (December 2015 and September 2016) and three Executive Council meetings (June, August and November 2016) that adopted decisions on rules and procedures, approved the Budget and Work Programme (2016-2021) further defining the thematic focus with an emphasis on waste-to-energy, ocean energy, developing a risk mitigation platform, gender and energy, resource mobilisation, and public education and awareness.
3. In November 2016, the Executive Council transmitted, to the Assembly, as a matter of urgency, the Decision on the selection of a Secretary-General of SIDS DOCK, in which the Secretary-General Selection Committee identified a candidate. The matter of the Host Country Agreement with Belize, will be finalized once the Secretary-General is appointed, meanwhile discussions on the terms of the agreement are being concluded by the Interim Secretariat.
4. In January 2016, Grenada hosted the ***First Caribbean Regional Waste-to-Energy (WtE) Technology Expo and Conference*,** from 20-23 January, where over 100 senior professionals with expertise in energy, climate change, environment and waste management gathered at the Grenada Trade Centre to share lessons learned and perspectives on WtE solutions that are appropriate for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The Expo showcased technology solutions and case studies via presentations by technology providers from the Caribbean, Austria, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States.
5. The WtE Technology Expo and Conference in Grenada, also provided the opportunity to convene the **First Meeting of the SIDS DOCK Island Women Open Network (IWON)**, chaired by H.E. Ms. I. Rhonda King, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations (UN) and Interim Chair of the SIDS DOCK IWON. Over 25 professional women from 14 Caribbean countries attended the meeting. Supported by their male counterparts, they committed to help build the capacity of women at the community and grassroots levels in Caribbean small islands and low lying developing states in order to allow them to participate in the transformation of the Caribbean energy sector.
6. **The Secretariat’s work on increasing energy efficiency** in the SIDS energy sector seeks to contribute to meeting the SIDS DOCK goal of *25 percent (2005 baseline) increase in energy efficiency by 2033*, focused on building the capacity needs of the UNIDO-supported SIDS Regional Centres which are funded by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), namely the Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE) and the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE). A new agreement with ADA will provide additional technical support to the CCREEE in the area of energy efficiency, and similar plans should follow for the PCREEE and the SIDS Unit located in Cabo Verde, at the ECREEE. Other efforts included partnering with the Global Environment Facility-United Nations Environment Programme (GEF-UNEP) Energy for Sustainable Development in Caribbean Buildings (ESD) Project, to convene the first Capacity Building for Caribbean Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) Workshop, in St. Lucia, that trained over 30 ESCO leaders.
7. **Work on the Blue Guardians Programme** continued, in partnership with GRID-Arendal and other partners, developing the proposal piloting the development and strengthening of national capacities to better utilise science resources, information, and technology tools to build climate resilience of coastal communities and economies with an emphasis on oceans. In February 2016, the Seychelles completed a debt swap that established sustainable funding for ocean reserve management, the first ever climate adaptation debt restructuring with a strong focus on ocean conservation, between the government and its international creditors. The Blue Guardians Programmes will bring to the table important tools necessary for implementation of the Marine Spatial Plan for the entire Seychelles Exclusive Economic Zone, a territory approximately 3,000 times the size of their land mass.
8. **Climate Resilience work** continued with support from the Government of Sweden, under the SIDS DOCK-Swedish Energy Agency (SEA) *Building Resilience to Climate Change in Islands through the Energy Sector: North-South Cooperation for Sustainable Energy Development in SIDS* Project, where a new Process-Based Methodology (PBM) was developed in partnership with the SEA and CAITE, currently being tested in Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. A draft concept for a Captive Insurance Mechanism was circulated to members of the Executive Council; it’s a self-owned and managed insurance mechanism that would provide SIDS DOCK members with insurance against climate change impacts for economic assets in countries where such risk instruments are becoming increasingly costly as a result of the more frequent occurrence of weather-related disasters, or in countries where the market is too small and consequently there is no availability.
9. **Strong and Genuine Partnerships** continue to be the guiding light as we navigate start-up steps. We recognize that SIDS DOCK’s effectiveness relies on the strength of our partners. UNIDO, the *SIDS DOCK Institutional Partner*, responsible for administering the development of the SIDS Regional Centres, has helped keep us on track and ready to begin facilitating regional sustainable energy and climate resilience activities and programmes. UNIDO has also supported the development of the SIDS-focused sustainable energy sub-sector, waste-to-energy, as well as facilitated the participation of two women from the Caribbean SIDS, on WtE Study Tours to Europe. Through our joint partnership with UNIDO, over 3 million euros have been raised to support start-up of the regional centres.
10. In September 2016 during the second Assembly, the United States-based international law firm, Squire Patton Boggs, was appointed **SIDS DOCK *pro bono* attorneys**. This new partnership contributed significantly to helping the organisation prepare important legal documentation, reviews of national and regional proposals, as well as assistance with the drafting of the documentation for the registration of the proposed SIDS DOCK Foundation and Trust Fund in support of capacity building and project implementation.
11. **Support of the SIDS DOCK Mission** came from: The Clinton Climate Initiative, Earth Council, Carbon Works, The International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), Austria; GEC Co. Ltd., Saga, Japan; Ludvik Energy, Climate Institute, ACCIONA, Spain; and IRENA.
12. **A Resource Mobilisation Strategy** is being developed to support the Work Programme and beyond. For the reporting period, more than USD 250,000 was raised in support of start-up activities and the convening of statutory meetings. Discussion with the host country Belize, on its contribution towards start-up of the Secretariat are progressing, now that the Secretariat has presented the government with a budget for discussion and finalisation. Additional income is expected to come from grant funding from the Government of Japan under the World Bank Energy Management Program (ESMAP) managed SIDS DOCK Support Program, over three years, sovereign partners, philanthropic organisations, development partners and other grant making institutions. Secretariat income-generating activities include will include management fees and carbon trading in the longer-term.
13. **Membership** **has been increasing**, and to date, sixteen (16) countries are now members of SIDS DOCK: Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cook Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica (2017), Mauritius, Samoa, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Tonga and Tuvalu. There are nine (9) signatories who have not yet ratified.
14. **SIDS DOCK Interim Secretariat:** In January 2016, following elections of members of the Assembly and Executive Council, the Belize-based Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC/5Cs) accepted the invitation to formally continue in its role as the SIDS DOCK Interim Secretariat. The CCCCC designated a special email address for the Interim Secretariat to help manage and facilitate communication among members and stakeholders. The CCCCC also acts as the grant and financial administrator and responsible for procurement of all goods and services on behalf of the organization.

**II. ASSEMBLY**

1. The Assembly held two sessions during the reporting period.

***First Session***

1. The first session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK was held on 10 December 2015, in Paris, France, on the margins of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP21). The Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica, Honourable Roosevelt Skerrit, was elected as President of the Assembly, and Honourable Mr. Kenred Dorsett, Minister of the Environment and Housing of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, was elected as Vice-President. The latter presided over the session in the absence of the President, who, unavoidably, could not attend. The session was attended by eleven (11) SIDS DOCK Member States, two (2) signatories, four (4) AOSIS Members who are non-Signatories, and three (3) Organizations and Agencies.
2. At this session, the Assembly adopted two decisions; one appointing eight (8) of nine (9) members to the Executive Council [A/1/DC/2 Rev.1], and the other approved the draft rules of the Assembly and the Executive Council and mandated the Executive Council to review and resubmit the draft rules to the second Assembly for its consideration and approval [A/1/DC/1 Rev.1]. [Complete report of the first session contained in document A/1/SR/1].

***Second Session***

1. The second session of the Assembly of SIDS DOCK was held on 24 September 2016, in New York, on the margins of the General debate of the seventy-first session of the United Nations General Assembly.
2. His Excellency Mr. Enele Sosene Sopoaga, OBE, Prime Minister and Minister for Public Utilities of Tuvalu, was elected as President for the second session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly, and Minister Dorsett of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and His Excellency Ambassador Ronald Jumeau of the Republic of the Seychelles were elected as Vice-Presidents.
3. The Assembly was attended by ten (10) SIDS DOCK Member States, two (2) signatories, two (2) AOSIS Members Non-Signatories, one (1) UN Member State non-AOSIS, and ten (10) Organizations and Agencies.
4. The Assembly adopted three decisions; one establishing the rules of procedure of the Assembly and the Executive Council (A/2/DC/1), another approving the Budget and Work Programme for the Organization for 2016-2021 (A/2/DC/2 Rev.1), and the final one was the criteria and process for the selection of a Secretary-General for the Organization (A/2/DC/3 Rev.1). On the latter decision, the Assembly mandated the Executive Council to begin the process of identifying a suitable candidate for the post of Secretary-General of the SIDS DOCK and to submit its recommendation to the Assembly no later than its third session. [Complete report of the second session contained in document A/2/SR/1].
5. Subsequent to the Assembly session held on 24 September 2016, on the recommendation of the Executive Council, the President of the Assembly and the Bureau through a process of silence procedure instructed the Interim Secretariat to prepare the appropriate correspondence and decision to the President of the second Assembly of SIDS DOCK, for delivery the first week of January 2017, recommending the selection of Dr. Albert Binger to the post of Secretary-General of the SIDS DOCK effective 1 May 2017.
6. The Secretariat takes this opportunity to thank Mr. Ellsworth Dacon of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Mr. Sylvester Clauzel of Saint Lucia, for their exemplary service to the Executive Council and to SIDS DOCK as a whole, as their tenure on the Council expired on 31 December 2016.

**III. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

1. The Executive Council held three meeting under this reporting period.

***First Meeting***

1. The first meeting of the Executive Council was held in New York, on 16 June 2016. His Excellency, Ambassador Vince Henderson of the Commonwealth of Dominica to the United Nations was elected as Chair, and Ambassador Ronald Jumeau of the Seychelles and Mr. Sione Foliaki of Samoa, were elected Vice-Chairs, and Mrs. Rhianna M. Neely-Murphy of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas as Rapporteur. Six (6) of the eight (8) members of the Executive Council was in attendance.
2. At this meeting, the Executive Council established a Committee for the selection of a Secretary-General of SIDS DOCK, and appointed Dr. Kenrick Leslie of Belize, as the Chair and Ambassador Ronald Jumeau of the Seychelles, Mr. Ellsworth Dacon of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Mr. Sione Foliaki of Samoa, as members to serve on the Committee. The Committee was mandated to begin its work on the identification of a suitable candidate(s) as soon as possible. [Complete report of the first meeting of the Executive Council contained in document EC/1/SR/1].

***Second Meeting***

1. The second meeting of the Executive Council was held via telephone conferencing on 15 August 2016. Seven (7) of its eight (8) members participated.
2. At this meeting, the Executive Council agreed to the venue and date for the second session of the SIDS DOCK Assembly and approved the following three decisions with recommendations for the consideration and approval of the second session of the Assembly which was scheduled for 24 September 2016: (i) the draft rules of procedure of the Assembly and the Executive Council (EC/2/DC/1); (ii) the criteria and process for the selection of the SIDS DOCK Secretary-General (EC/2/DC/3); and (iii) Draft Budget and Programme of Work for 2016-2021 (EC/2/DC/2).

***Third Meeting***

1. The third meeting of the Executive Council on 30 November 2016 was also held via telephone conferencing. However, it was prematurely adjourned due to technical problems with connectivity. The Chair and Bureau subsequently decided that there were several items on the Agenda, which needed urgent attention and consideration by the Executive Council, so the following Items were approved through silence procedure: (i) Decision on the selection of a Secretary-General of SIDS DOCK, in which the Secretary-General selection Committee identified the candidate for the post of Secretary-General with a recommendation to the Executive Council to transmit to the Assembly, as a matter of urgency, for its consideration and approval. (EC/3/DC/1); (ii) recommendation for the Interim Secretariat to continue its work on: Institutional Structure (EC/3/2); Resource Mobilization (EC/3/3); Risk Financial Facility (EC/3/4); and Blue Guardians (EC/3/5).

**IV. DEPOSITARY**

1. The Government of Belize, in its capacity as Depositary to the SIDS DOCK Statute has continuously updated the Assembly, the Executive Council and the Membership on the status of the Statute. To date the depositary has confirmed the receipt of sixteen (16) instruments - eleven (11) instruments of ratification, four (4) instruments of accessions and two (2) instrument of acceptance. There are nine (9) signatories who have not yet ratified.

**V. HOST COUNTRY**

1. At the second session of the Assembly, the Government of Belize through its Minister of Foreign Affairs, expressed the country’s unwavering support to the Organization and reiterated its commitment to host the Secretariat.
2. At the request of the Government of Belize, a budget reflecting the commitments outlined in their letter of intent to be Host country has been prepared and submitted by the Interim Secretariat. The Interim Secretariat is now awaiting confirmation of the annual contribution for the first five years.
3. Discussions on the privileges, immunities and the overall host country agreement have been deferred until the SIDS DOCK Secretary-General has assumed his duties.

**VI. INTERIM SECRETARIAT/SECRETARIAT**

***Institutional Arrangements***

1. Establishment of a tax exemption US-based organization is in progress. Its establishment will facilitate the mobilizing of resources from foundations, corporations, philanthropists and individuals in the US and elsewhere, to support SIDS DOCK. The purposes, objectives and activities of the Foundation, as defined in the Articles of Incorporation, shall include but not be limited to the following:
2. to promote education and awareness regarding the SIDS DOCK mission of promoting the development of renewable energy technology for small island developing states; and;
3. mobilize financial and technical resources to support SIDS DOCK’s mission.

***Staffing***

1. The organization staffing during the period consisted of part-time and volunteer staff: SIDS DOCK Coordinator, Projects Coordinator, and a Liaison Coordinator supported by a *pro bono* Legal Counsel from the Washington DC, USA-based law firm, Squire Patton Boggs.
2. The SIDS DOCK Coordinator is responsible for organizational development, resource mobilisation and assistance to members states.
3. The Projects Coordinator manages information and communication with members and assists the SIDS DOCK Coordinator with organizational and partnership development.

1. The Liaison Coordinator is based in New York, supporting relationships with the members and organizing meetings of the Assembly and Executive Council.

**VII. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET**

**A. THEMATIC PROGRAMME AREAS**

1. The thematic areas are based on the Objectives in the Statute, Article II.

**OBJECTIVE 1: ADVOCACY FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT**

1. Ocean energy is the largest renewable energy resource common to all SIDS. Technological progress in Japan and France, driven by clean energy concerns have seen increased levels in investment in ocean energy technologies. Beginning with the SIDS technology fair in Mauritius, as part of the Second UN International Conference on Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, ocean energy technologies have been identified as a priority for SIDS.
2. The Interim Secretariat is in contact with two groups of actors currently undertaking ocean thermal energy conversion feasibility studies. The Secretariat is also in contact with entities who are exploring deep ocean water as a means of responding to the growing demand for air conditioning. Support is being sought to assist the Marshall Islands with their feasibility study request.
3. To advance this segment of the organization’s work programme as set out in the Statute, the Interim Secretariat pursued the following activities:
4. Preparation of concept paper to start the process of application to the Green Climate Fund for the establishment of the SIDS Ocean Energy Feasibility Fund. The next step by the Secretariat will be to expand the current list of potential partners which include the Japanese Government, Japanese Private Sector, and the Japan Export Bank, UNIDO, IIASA, Government of France, and the Inter-American Development Bank.
5. In collaboration with Japanese partners fourteen prefeasibility papers for SIDS DOCK Member countries for producing baseload power, desalinated water, and mari-culutre, have been prepared. These papers and the results provided the justification for the Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) Feasibility fund.
6. In cooperation with the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), a SIDS DOCK team visited the Kumejima OTEC Research Facility, in Kumijima, Japan, in June 2016, aimed at building relationships and partnership for advocacy. The CARICOM Energy Unit and SPREP have taken the advocacy lead, specifically in the Caribbean and Pacific. OTEC was promoted at the UN Meeting, moderated by the SIDS DOCK Coordinator at the May 31, 2016, Sustainable Energy for All meeting, sponsored by the UN ECOSOC and the Government of Kazakhstan, to promote member states interest in OTEC and Waste-to-Energy as priority areas for renewable energy development and/or deployment in SIDS, because of the significant contribution projects in these areas can make to climate resilience building and many areas of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as a result of the many co-benefits.
7. Climate Institute partnership for the preparation of analytical information on the energy sector in SIDS to provide information for advocacy, preparation of project application and guide member government policy.
8. The Interim Secretariat also advocated at the Bloomberg Asia and Pacific Renewable Energy Summit in Shanghai, China, November 2016, for renewable energy development as a viable option for SIDS in addressing trade deficits and addressing climate adaptation, for example, waste-to-energy systems such as anaerobic fermentation to protect coastal ecosystems and marine resources thereby reducing vulnerability of island states to projected climate change impacts.

**OBJECTIVE 2: MEMBER SUPPORT TO BENEFIT FROM EVOLUTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY**

1. The coastal waters of the SIDS are critical to its tourism and food security. Failures or inadequate capacity for management of waste (solid and liquid) are degrading the coastal environment, putting at risk livelihoods and the future of the critical tourism industry. SIDS DOCK Secretariat in partnership with the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, and St Vincent ad Grenadines, with assistance from the Government of Sweden, implemented a pilot project to identify and develop a pipeline of potential waste-to-energy projects which could be further assessed for feasibility.
2. Work by the Secretariat in these countries confirm that improper disposal of waste and in particular organic effluent waste and plastics, are resulting in degradation of the coastal ecosystems critical to tourism, food security, and protection from coastal erosion. Conversion of the existing organic waste streams to energy sources, energy products and agricultural inputs provide a feasible option for significant improvements in managing nutrient rich waste streams.
3. The Secretariat organized the first ever Technology Expo and Conference on Waste Management for Energy production in the Caribbean, from January 20-23, in Grenada, organized in partnership with UNIDO, the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) Green Marketplace, the Government of Sweden, GIZ, and hosted by the Government of Grenada. Over 125 participants from across the region and internationally attended. Based on the decisions of the Technology Expo and Conference, a draft concept paper has been prepared for a regional pilot project to support the development of a viable market for such projects and is being discussed with the GEF and the Austrian Development Agency. The Secretariat is awaiting the beginning of operations by the Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE), which will have responsibility for implementation, before proceeding with submission of the Concept to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to start the process.
4. Resulting from the Technology Expo and Conference, a number of potential projects have been identified and support continues from the Secretariat to further develop these possible projects as well as identify new ones. Solid Waste Characterization Studies are ongoing in Antigua and Barbuda and Dominica. The work is in proceeding in partnership with UNIDO, Swedish Energy Agency, CARICOM Energy Unit, and the CCCCC. It is planned to have similar activities in the Pacific in partnership with the regional organizations to develop a regional programme in collaboration with the PCREEE. The proceedings of the Technology Expo and Conference is available at http://sea.sidsdock.org/.
5. The Secretariat is also supporting geothermal development in three member countries: Dominica, St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The technical assistance in the form legal and financial support, was provided primarily through SIDS DOCK *pro bono* Legal Counsel SQB. These countries will also benefit from the SIDS DOCK Support Trust Fund operated by the World Bank ESMAP on behalf of SIDS DOCK. The Government of Japan earmarked funding to support geothermal development in SIDS.

**OBJECTIVE 3: MOBILIZING FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES**

1. The SIDS DOCK goal is to increase energy efficiency by 25 percent (2005 baseline) and to generate a minimum of 50 percent of electric power from renewable sources and a 50 percent decrease in conventional transportation fuel use by 2033: ***Island Energy for Island Life 25-50-25 by 2033.*** Small islands are haemorrhaging precious foreign exchange, as each year they import over 220 million barrels of petroleum fuels which cost more than US $40 billion, meanwhile, it would cost in excess of US $20 billion to achieve the SIDS DOCK goals by 2033.
2. The interim Secretariat utilities two primary means for mobilizing financial and technical resources in support of member governments in two areas, sustainable energy and building climate resilience. Partnerships with research organization, academia, private sector and consultants represent the dominant means through which the interim Secretariat has provided technical assistance to member countries, and the preparation of concept paper and proposals to identify potential funding sources. The main area of activities where technical and financial resources mobilized in the period was in the areas of:

***Sustainable Energy***

1. Energy Efficiency: In partnership with the CCCCC, and with funding from the GEF, a Pilot Energy Efficiency Project for buildings in being implemented in five (5) Caribbean Member states – the *UNEP-GEF Energy for Sustainable Development in Caribbean Buildings*. The Interim Secretariat provides technical assistance to the CCCCC as the implementing agency, additional technical assistance is being provided by US Department of Energy, National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL). The Interim Secretariat has been supporting the CCREEE leadership in reaching Agreement with the Austrian Development Agency for the provision of an energy efficiency expert to support development of the regional energy efficiency programme and building on the lessons learned during the pilot.
2. Preparation of a Concept Paper for a potential Green Climate Fund (GCF) project to co-finance a *“Conditionally Recoverable Grant Mechanism to support EE Activities.”* The draft concept paper is with the CCCCC for review and for submission to the GCF. The CCCCC is an accredited regional implementing entity of the GCF. The level of support being sought is USD 25 million to provide co-financing of seed capital.
3. The Blue Guardians Programme Proposal, being developed in partnership with GRID-Arendal from Norway, and IT and private sector partners from the project, is focused on piloting the development and strengthening of national capacities to better utilize science, information and technology to build national and climate resilience of coastal communities and economies. A Draft Concept Note and Proposal for submission to development partners and the GCF is under preparation. The Programme is designed as a four-year pilot covering six SIDS DOCK Members and representation from each region. The requested funding would provide each country with technical assistance, capacity building resources, and funding of pilot projects to enable the development of national institutional capacity to manage the pilot projects demonstrating sustainable approaches to addressing coastal vulnerability related to a changing climate. The results of the pilots will form the basis for full-scale projects for the other member countries. The level of funding sought is US $40 million. The project will be jointly implemented by the SIDS DOCK Secretariat, GRID Arendal, Blue Guardians, the regional institutions (CCCCC, SPREP, CCREEE and PCREEE), and the Governments.
4. Risk Financing Platform: As noted earlier, significant investment in new renewable energy capacity and energy efficiency is needed to significantly reduce member countries’ dependence on imported fuels. A critical component of this investment is high front-end cost which characterizes sustainable energy options, and given the balance sheets of the national electricity utilities, most national utilities and governments cannot afford to make the investment. Involvement of the private sector is therefore crucial but, with few exceptions, there has been relatively little local private sector investment, to date, in the renewable energy sector in SIDS. The proposal seeks initial funding of US $1.5 million to undertake the preparation of the proposal for co-financing of the US$500 million facility.
5. This facility is intended to provide resources and services to promote investment by both local and foreign entities through provision of services and products to address the identified bottle necks including limited availability of:

* Development capital and expertise by renewable energy project developers;
* Expertise in financial structuring and lack of access to long-term debt, equity and risk mitigation instruments (due to high perceived risk and high transaction costs);
* Requisite institutional capacity to develop supportive policy environments for private sector participation in renewable energy project development;
* Existing private sector with medium- to large-scale service industry track record.

***Bilateral Partnerships***

1. The Executive Council has identified bilateral partnerships as a priority for the mobilization of technical and financial resources. Below is a brief summary of the current partnerships:
2. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) announced an initiative to provide US $50 million to members of CARICOM to support renewable energy projects. The SIDS DOCK Interim Secretariat previously provided information to the UAE in support of the implementation of the Pacific Islands initiative, and is also providing information, as requested, to help the UAE develop the Caribbean project pipeline. The Interim Secretariat has lobbied for support of Waste-to-Energy project inclusion in the pipeline.
3. Establishment of a Centre of Excellence in Geothermal Energy for the Eastern Caribbean: The French Government, through its regional Ambassador to CARICOM, have expressed interest in supporting such a Centre that would, over time, provide the institutional capacity needed to manage this resource for the countries who have this endowment. This Centre would be linked to the CCREEE.
4. Jamaica Waste-to-Energy Project Concept Paper: Based on the request from the Jamaican government, a draft concept paper for an integrated project to minimize air and coastal pollution as well as protecting coastal ecosystems was prepared by the Interim Secretariat. The proposed project would manage solid waste and wastewater generated in the Kingston Metropolitan Area (KMA), to produce some 50 MW of baseload power and some 50 million gallons, per day, of nutrient rich irrigation water, and a hundred of tons, per day, of organic fertilizer. The Government is now planning on issuance of a Request for Proposal to implement the project.
5. In partnership with ACCIONE, a Spanish Sustainable Energy Company, projects are being evaluated in: (i) Jamaica, for a 2 MW PV project for the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, including a Training facility, (ii) a 10 MW wind farm in Antigua and Barbuda, is also being examined.
6. Waste Characterization Studies in Antigua and Barbuda and Dominica to determine best economic options for use, are underway. Activity to be implemented in partnership with the CCCCC and Government of Sweden.
7. In 2015-2016, SIDS DOCK, in partnership with the CCCCC, the Swedish Energy Agency, and CAITE, Costa Rica, developed a **Process-Based Methodology (PBM)**, designed to help provide answers and assist decision-makers identify the concrete steps needed to allow for countries **to improve their climate resilience** through the use of renewable energy and energy end-use efficiency. This requires creating market conditions that allow for competition, a system that promotes a level playing field in the evaluation of renewable sources, and proper analysis of potential co-benefits of the different options to maximize climate resilience.
8. The new methodology requires the best available information to help decision-makers define what the key components of energy resilience for their particular conditions, and identify the changes that need to occur for energy efficiency and renewable energy sources to minimize the need for imported petroleum fuels. Potential financing options are an integral part of the analysis for development of biomass, solar, wind, geothermal, ocean and waste-to-energy (WtE). The critical output of this Process-Based Methodology is to identify the key decisions that need to be made, when they need to be made and by whom, in order to achieve the desired scenario. Decision-makers require a set of instruments or tools to evaluate and prioritize among sustainable energy measures in small island states, targeting climate resilience, both social and environmental co-benefits. As defined here, measures can range from individual projects, to programmes, policies and national strategies. The long-term aim is to align the identified climate resilient project options with activities in the newly-established Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE). The PBM will also be adopted into the CCREEE, thus creating leverage, coherence and an institutional foundation to disseminate successful examples and good practices in a second project phase. The long-term plan is to scale up the project to the other regions, starting with the Pacific and the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE).
9. As part of the resource mobilization efforts the Interim Secretariat submitted proposals to the following governments and organizations for the provision of grant funding for institutional development: Rockefeller Foundation, and the Governments of Spain and Italy. Follow-up discussions will begin soon, with the appointment of the SIDS DOCK Secretary-General.
10. Developing Private Sector Partnerships: Recognizing the increasing nature of the challenge facing SIDS, as GHG emissions continue at record pace despite the UNFCCC best efforts, the Interim Secretariat has continued the work started under the Steering Committee to identify and develop partnerships with the private sector in order to make possible the formation of public-private partnerships (PPPs) for the transfer of technology and support for project development and implementation. The Interim Secretariat is working with GEC Company, based in Saga, Japan, for OTEC technology transfer; Ludvik Energy, based in Denver, Colorado, USA on PV systems and utility operation; and ACCIONE, from Madrid, Spain on PV, wind and project development. Member states benefitting from these partnerships include: Barbados, Belize, Bahamas, Grenada, Mauritius, Jamaica, Samoa, Seychelles.
11. Developing a Fund-Raising Strategy: A priority list of potential sources of financial support has been prepared by the Interim Secretariat with assistance from its Legal Counsel Squire Patton Boggs, and the Clinton Foundation. This list and strategy will provide the incoming Secretary-General with names and background information to guide resource mobilization.

***Climate Resilience***

1. Captive Insurance Mechanism: A draft concept paper has been prepared and circulated to members of the Executive Council for review. The concept paper described a self-owned and managed insurance mechanism that would provide SIDS DOCK members with insurance against climate change impacts for economic assets in countries where risk instruments are becoming increasingly costly as a result of the more frequent occurrence of weather related disasters; or, in countries where the market is too small and consequently there is no availability.
2. Significant work remains on the draft concept, most critical is finding partners. The term Captive Insurance Mechanism is intended to represent the difference between what now exists in countries that have insurance markets and what is being proposed by SIDS DOCK. The conventional property insurance issue company provides coverage to holders, annually, for a price which is always increasing. The local insurer then sells off a significant portion of the risk to a foreign-based reinsurance company, which is a large global company. The cost of reinsurance is about 70 percent of the premium. So, annually, there is a significant export of foreign exchange from SIDS, and only small amount of the premiums in invested back into the economy. Whenever the reinsurer has to pay out to clients, the premiums are increased for all, whether your countries was impacted or not. The concept of the captive insurance is for the countries collectively to be their re-insurers and to use the premiums as sources of investments for sustainable energy and climate resilience building. Key to a successful mechanism is seed capital which the concept paper is intended to help mobilize. Initial estimates for the first set of ten countries is estimated in the region of US $600 million.

**OBJECTIVE 4: PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE USE OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY**

1. ***Belize Biomass Research and Development Project:*** Developed in partnership with the Government of Belize, Clinton Foundation, and the Belize Sugar Company, the research project is to provide information on the feasibility of establishing a biomass plantation that would produce an estimated 250,000 tons of biomass as fuel for the sugarcane factory co-generation plant to facilitate year-round generation of baseload power for export to the national grid. The research is to determine the agricultural practices for growing *Arundo donax*, a fast-growing grass found in Belize, on lands that are not viable for food production. The project would reduce the need for the importation of fossil fuel generated power from Mexico, and provide new employment in rural communities. Assistance is being provided by NREL in addressing issues related to biodiversity. This project is directly linked to the SIDS DOCK goals for increased green electricity generation, and transportation fuels substitution as the biomass produced can also be converted to substitute fuel for compression ignition engines (diesel).
2. ***Proposal for the Development and Establishment of a Small Island Ocean Energy Financing Facility:*** This Proposal for the development and establishment of *A Small Island Ocean Energy Feasibility Facility* is in response to a mandate from SIDS DOCK members desirous of undertaking detailed business planning for ocean energy projects and thereby advance the commercialization of ocean energy technologies and low carbon business models. To date, almost half of the SIDS DOCK 32 countries have completed Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) pre-feasibility studies – 14 countries have completed OTEC pre-feasibility studies and are awaiting assistance to move to the next stage, which is conduction of full feasibility studies. It is proposed to establish a USD 30 million (principal amount) “Facility” to provide “Soft Loans” to members. The Facility would have a lifetime period of 12 years, with loans reimbursed to the Facility upon Financing of a Project’s first stage, then converted to grant upon formal abandonment of the project. The proposed transaction size (assuming a 7% annual percentage rate) for scoping and applications loans is USD 50,000 and between USD 1.5-3 million for feasibility studies and business plan loans. In the case of OTEC, the major economic benefit of OTEC is that this baseload technology is not dependent on fossil fuel price fluctuations or other international influences, thereby allowing full control on the pricing and volumes to be decided domestically. A major climate change adaptation characteristic of OTEC is the co-production of potable water and improved food security.

**OBJECTIVE 5: PROMOTION OF CONSERVATION & SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION EFFORTS**

1. The SIDS goal of ensuring sustainability of energy production and improved energy security by promoting the diversification of energy sources, improved energy efficiency and the use of indigenous renewable resources will require the establishment of policies to encourage energy efficiency end-use and conservation. The operational goal of SIDS DOCK is to increase energy efficiency by 25 percent (2005 baseline).
2. This can best be achieved by adopting best practices in energy efficiency and conservation. Policies should encourage sustainable methods of production which will include reducing waste, recycling and reuse of materials, energy production from renewable energy sources, and the incorporation of sustainable energy practices into business practices. Overcoming high levels of inefficiency in fuel conversion in the generation systems and reducing transmission and distribution losses also remain areas that still need to be dealt with in some SIDS. The reduction of electricity transmission and distribution losses represents a major area where the efficiency of energy use can be improved.

***Development of an Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Financing Facility (EEREFF)***

1. SIDS DOCK wishes to eliminate as far as possible, barriers that currently reduce the attractiveness of Energy Efficiency (EE), Energy Conservation (EC) and Demand-side Management (DSM) projects to investors and project financiers in the small island states. To assist in doing this, it wishes to examine the concept of establishing a sustainable financing facility that would be used to finance studies and prepare projects seeking project financing based on, *inter alia*, a revolving contingently recoverable loan mechanism. This facility would re-cycle the funding repaid from resources which were able to attract commercial financing after they had been properly defined to benefit other projects.
2. It is proposed that the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Financing Facility (EEREFF) should comprise several types of assistance to potential beneficiaries which will involve direct Technical Assistance from the staff of SIDS DOCK for the development of project ideas, grants for Technical Assistance, contingently recoverable loans for Technical Assistance to undertake energy audits, resource assessments, pre-feasibility and feasibility studies and project preparation to seek project financing as warranted, and guarantee facilities to assist in mobilizing loan finance. If warranted, project cost and interest rate subsidies will also be available in select cases. It is envisaged that although EE and Energy Conservation (EC) activities will be the main focus of the facility’s attention, suitable opportunities for developing small RE projects will also be considered, particularly at the level of small business enterprises, because in many cases, a combination of approaches will be necessary to achieve optimum results. In all cases where loans or equity positions are involved, the EEREFF will act as a so-called “lender or investor of last resort”.

***Promotion and Support for the Development of a Caribbean Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) Association***

1. To promote energy efficiency project development in SIDS, a program is being developed, in partnership with the CARICOM Energy Unit and the UNEP-GEF Energy for Sustainable Development in Caribbean Buildings Project, with assistance from the NREL, to enhance opportunities for Energy Services Companies (ESCOs). The objective of this effort is to support ESCOs across the Caribbean region to encourage business partnerships that develop energy conservation and renewable energy projects in the Caribbean. This is accomplished by fostering strategic alliances among Caribbean and international ESCOs to promote regional and international cooperation, and technology transfer, and leverage financial resources from international lending institutions in an effort to ensure that ESCO partners are successful in developing energy efficiency projects. The benefit of these partnerships is that the partners can combine their talents and strengths to offer clients and financiers attractive turnkey projects with reduced risk and transaction costs.
2. A Capacity Building Workshop for Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) in the Caribbean took place from 4-6 July 2016, at the Bay Gardens Hotel, Saint Lucia. The workshop was jointly sponsored by the GEF-UNEP ESD Project, IRENA, and SIDS DOCK, with workshop facilitation from the NREL. The goal of the workshop was to provide participants with the tools to prepare fundable proposals to clients and financial institutions to undertake integrated RE and EE interventions and to contribute to the regional strategy on energy efficiency. Over 40 participants from 11 CARICOM countries participated. Two (2) things emerged from the workshop: (i) ESCOs said that they needed to organise themselves, learn how to communicate with the rest of the world, learn how to collaborate and also that they need to become more professional; and (ii) There was a clear segmentation of ESCOs as distinct from the broader EE and RE industry. They recognised that there was a parallel bottom up process, energy through enterprise, which was a transaction approach, rather than a public sector procurement approach. They noted that they were two (2) different things which had to be meshed together well over time. They also noted that they would volunteer some professional work and would do so in their personal capacity. Sixteen (16) professionals volunteered into two teams to address the needs and establish an association.
3. ESCOs are energy performance contractors who are responsible for an energy improvement project’s design, financing, installation and operational requirements. This is completed either directly by the ESCO or through subcontractors. The ESCO arranges for long-term project financing that is provided by a third-party financing company.  It also provides a guarantee (to the client) that the savings produced by the project will be sufficient to cover the cost of project financing for the life of the project. Using ESCOs allows clients to invest in energy efficiency without the upfront costs or financial risk. After the project construction and implementation is complete, the ESCO monitors the savings and may also provide service upgrades for a period of time.  After the energy service performance contract term is over, the customer stops making payments to the ESCO and begins to operate and maintain the energy efficiency improvements and retains all energy savings. In many cases, an ESCO will guarantee a certain level of energy savings to the customer (enough to finance the full cost of the project).  If the guaranteed level of energy savings is not delivered, the ESCO will have to pay the difference between the guarantee and the actual level of savings.
4. SIDS DOCK is partnering with the GEF-UNEP ESD Project, the CARICOM Energy Unit and the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) and national Bureaus of Standards and Planning and Building Departments, to develop the regulatory framework for building codes and minimum performance standards for appliances and equipment for CARICOM Countries. It is recognised that globally, buildings account for over a third of total energy use and associated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; typically, 10 to 20% (depending on building type) of the total life‑cycle energy consumed is used for the manufacturing and assembly of building materials, construction, maintenance, refurbishment and demolition. Some 80 to 90% is used, over the life of the building, for heating, cooling, lighting and ventilation, house appliances, etc. Since buildings are major consumers of electricity across the Caribbean region, the Project focuses (in fact, in three of the five participating countries under the Project, buildings are the major consumers) on the buildings sector for improving the efficiency of energy use. Two outputs of the ESD Project include (i) Draft National Legislation on agreed set of standards for energy equipment in the participating countries; (ii) Draft national legislation on new codes for new buildings construction.
5. The Project will also include pilot activities to implement and test specific best practices with regard to energy consumption and to promote the development of business opportunities for introducing and using energy efficient technologies that are essential for mitigating the risks associated with climate change. Governments will stimulate public participation in sustainable energy use in buildings through the development and implementation of relevant regulatory and incentive schemes for using energy efficient appliances, products, and systems; building codes including “green building” designs; financial support mechanisms; and increasing their awareness about the benefits of energy efficiency and the increased use of renewable energy. The Project will develop several technical standards and tools, including (i) Energy Efficiency Building Code; (ii) Standards and Labelling Protocols for Domestic Appliances, especially television sets, air-conditioning units, and refrigerators; and (iii) Guidelines and Technical Specifications for the use of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies in buildings. Best‑practices “tool‑kits” will also be made available and distributed.

**OBJECTIVE 6: REDUCTION OF GREENHOUSE GASES (GHG)**

1. The multiple activities in pursuit of attaining the objectives contained in the Statute, and listed above, are intended to contribute to the reduction of GHG. The current Indicative SIDS DOCK Project Pipeline which is currently being updated, represents investment opportunities in excess of USD 4 billion and mobilizing partnerships and co-financing will require significant effort on the part of the Organization. The Interim Secretariat, in addition to working on the development of RE and EE projects and programmes, has also explored low carbon options that could be readily implemented and have significantly lower capital costs. The Interim Secretariat is currently working on a report on low carbon options to bring about significant reduction in GHG emissions and reduce and provide long-term stable prices for energy services.
2. With the collective GHG emission of SIDS being much less than one percent, and a few countries being far and away the principal emitters, the opportunities for reduction in the rest of SIDS lies in the area power generation and transportation. Reduction in methane emission through improved management of organic waste streams, the ongoing work on waste-to-energy is intended to address this opportunity as described earlier. The availability of natural gas liquids in certain regions of SIDS provide an opportunity to combine plans for reduction in power generation and transportation services cost, and achieve even higher levels of GHG reduction as well as significantly lower energy services cost. For example, natural gas liquids used as a substitute for diesel fuel in existing electricity generator sets has one-third less GHG emission, no black carbon, and costs less than 50 percent of the price of diesel oil-based services. Cooling of buildings with alternate systems has significant potential for GHG emissions, along with lighting and air conditioning which are major users of electricity in SIDS.

**B. ACTIVITY AND BUDGET PROJECTIONS FOR THE SIDS DOCK SECRETARIAT**

1. The principal sources of funding for SIDS DOCK activities in the member states came from the funds from Denmark (US $14.5 million) and Japan (US $15 million) administered by the UNDP and World Bank ESMAP, and World Bank, respectively. No funding from these sources go through or is accessed by the Interim Secretariat. The funding to support the Interim Secretariat activities are mobilized as needed by the Secretariat staff, from partners and foundations.
2. The activities that required financing during the period were the first and second Assembly, held during COP 21 in Paris, France, in 2015, and the 72nd Session of the UNGA in New York USA, in 2016. Funding was also raised to help cover the preparation, travel and convening of the First Meeting of the Executive Council Meeting in New York, USA, in June 2016; preparation and convening of the virtual second and third Meetings of the Executive Council in August and November 2016; and travel for the SIDS DOCK Coordinator. Contributions to financing these events came from UNIDO, the Earth Council and the Carbon Works.
3. It is to be noted that the CCCCC continues to provide significant administrative support.

**VIII. PROGRAMMES**

1. SIDS DOCK works extends across three regions, impacting over 30 countries, and oftentimes, the work extends beyond the community. The Secretariat provides essential administrative and logistic support for the Assembly, Executive Council, and National and Regional Coordinators, both in the Policy Level and in the Operational Level, and different Technical Working Groups of the SIDS DOCK, in order to facilitate the achievement of their objectives and specific tasks in close collaboration between the energy and other sectors, and its development partners. The SIDS DOCK Secretariat also serves as a hub for information sharing for the various levels of the SIDS DOCK.
2. Currently, the Secretariat supports three programmes, launched at the Third SIDS Conference in Samoa, in 2014, in pursuit of the S.A.M.O.A. Pathway: (i) the SIDS Regional Centres (ii) the SIDS DOCK Island Women Open Network (IWON) and (iii) the SIDS DOCK Institutional & Public-Private Partnerships.
3. After strengthening its field presence through the establishment of the SIDS Regional Centres, SIDS DOCK intends to strengthen its ties at the international level, to be hosted at an international energy hub. An additional programme, to be added, and subject to negotiations, is the proposal for a Vienna-based *SIDS DOCK Diplomatic Office on Knowledge Management and Information* – discussions are in the premature stage and all indications are pointing to a positive outcome, with plans for final discussions in 2017, at the Vienna Energy Forum, in Austria.

**SIDS REGIONAL CENTRES**

1. In 2012, SIDS DOCK committed to actively support the Sustainable Energy For All Initiative (SE4ALL) by way of a United Nations Decisions adopted by SIDS, at the UN High-level Conference of the Small Island Developing States: achieving sustainable energy for all in SIDS and the Rio+20 Informal Ministerial Meeting and the Second Meeting of the SIDS DOCK National Coordinators, 9 May 2012, Barbados.
2. In March 2014, SIDS DOCK, Austria and UNIDO, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishing a network of regional sustainable energy centres for SIDS in Africa, the Caribbean, Pacific and Indian Ocean regions - *Centres of Excellence to Promote Inclusive and Sustainable Energy Industries and the SE4ALL* – and to act as technical implementation hubs for activities of SIDS DOCK and respective regional organisations.
3. With support of UNIDO, the Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE) was established in Bridgetown, Barbados in 2016, and the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency is scheduled to be inaugurated in 2017, in Nuku’alofa, Tonga. The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), based in Cabo Verde, acts as the SIDS DOCK hub for African SIDS.

**SIDS DOCK ISLAND WOMEN OPEN NETWORK**

1. Establishment of the IWON, a SIDS DOCK Women’s Sustainable Energy and Climate Resilience Network, is intended to help build the capacity of women at the community and grassroots levels in small islands and low lying developing states to participate in the transformation of the SIDS energy sector to achieve the SIDS DOCK goal of 25-50-25 by 2033. The objective is to ensure that gender equality issues are integrated in the concept, design, implementation and evaluation of sustainable energy and climate change-related projects in the SIDS DOCK Indicative Project Pipeline, by establishing a SIDS association that provides networking opportunities that promote empowerment of women to help build community resilience to a changing climate and sea level rise through capacity building, education and awareness, demonstration of SIDS-Appropriate Technologies, and financing for sustainable energy projects.
2. On 21 January 2016, the SIDS DOCK Island Women Open Network (SIDS DOCK IWON) convened its first meeting, held on the margins of the First Caribbean Regional Waste-to-Energy Technology Expo and Conference, at the Grenada Trade Centre, in St. George’s, Grenada, 20-23 January 2016. This meeting was in follow up to the launch of the SIDS DOCK IWON at the United Nations Third International Meeting on Small Island Developing States, in Apia, Samoa, in September 2014, where St. Vincent and the Grenadines was nominated to serve as the Interim Chair for the SIDS DOCK IWON.
3. Currently, plans include continuing to identify areas of support in the SIDS DOCK Indicative Project Pipeline, and already, two areas for promotion have emerged: (i) Waste-to-Energy and (ii) Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC). The Interim Secretariat will also support the IWON to develop its website and to create a bi-annual e-newsletter. A Capacity Building programme in waste management is being supported by UNIDO, the ISWA, Austria, and the GIZ/REETA Programme, Germany.
4. The IWON will coordinate project implementation with the SIDS Regional Centre – the Caribbean IWON projects are coordinated with the CCREEE and the CARICOM Secretariat Energy Unit, and once the PCREEE is launched, the Pacific IWON projects will be coordinated through that office; a similar situation pertains to the ECREEE. There are long-term plans to have each regional IWON headed by a Regional Network Coordinator (RNC), working jointly with the SIDS Regional Centres, to facilitate the process of needs assessment at the national and regional levels, and translate these into concrete network activities. Each regional network could consist of a number national networks, which are managed and coordinated by the SIDS DOCK National Coordinators.
5. The SIDS DOCK IWON is being supported by the UNIDO, under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The UNIDO Energy Branch is providing technical support to facilitate the start-up activities of the SIDS DOCK IWON and to develop a Caribbean regional waste-to-energy project for scaling up to other regions.

**IX. INSTITUTIONAL & PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS**

1. For the Third Conference on SIDS, leaders aimed to have **Partnerships** as the cornerstone of the conference, and called for the “strengthening of collaborative partnerships between SIDS and the international community” as one of the important ways and means to address new and emerging challenges and opportunities for the sustainable development of Small Island Developing States.

***Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC/5Cs)***

1. As one of the two, regional organisations credited with the idea and creation of SIDS DOCK, the other being the Secretariat of the Pacific Environment Programme (SPREP), the CCCCC has been exemplary in managing the start-up affairs and activities of SIDS DOCK, exercising flawless administrative duties, and has been an outstanding example of first class service and staff support.
2. The CCCCC has been responsible for the accounting of grants and income earned by the Interim Secretariat, has signed contracts on SIDS DOCK’s behalf and facilitated meetings. The Interim Secretariat has also benefited from the decision-making inputs of the 5Cs, in particular, advice from the Executive Director and other professionals at the Centre, who have contributed to helping to draft proposals, provide reviews and assist with negotiations.

***Permanent Missions of Belize and the Commonwealth of Dominica to the United Nations***

1. The Permanent Mission of Belize, acting in its capacity as the Depositary ensured that Member States were informed of the progress in the Status of the Statute through circulation of updates and communication with members and stakeholders. The Permanent Mission of Dominica, in its capacity as President of the Assembly and Chair of the Executive Council, acted as the *de facto* SIDS DOCK UN-based Office, providing the Interim Secretariat staff with a desk/working area, when required, providing diplomatic, administrative and secretarial support. The Dominican Mission also acted as host for SIDS DOCK meetings, luncheons and dinners, and other events.

***United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)***

1. On 14 March 2014, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the SIDS DOCK Steering Committee and UNIDO, for the development of regional centers to support island states in the various regions to implement sustainable energy activities in pursuit of energy goals. Through an MOU with the ECREEE, all member states of the SIDS DOCK will be covered and though the partnerships with the SPREP and CCCCC, climate change focal organizations will be in place in all regions. It is expected to soon sign an agreement with the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) to facilitate the Indian Ocean SIDS.

***Luvdik Energy, Government of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas***

1. ***Bahamas PV Project Pipeline***: Developed in partnership with Ludvik Energy from Denver, Colorado, USA, a pipeline of PV projects has been proposed for the Bahamas, at the request of the Ministry of Housing and Environment. The pipeline includes projects for the University, National Stadium, and the Airports; we are now awaiting guidance from the Government as to next steps.

***Governments of: Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (Caribbean); Republic of Cabo Verde, Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe, Republic of the Seychelles (AIMS); Cook Islands, the Kingdom of Tonga and Tuvalu (Pacific); World Bank ESMAP, Clinton Foundation, and Luvdik Energy***

1. ***Health Facilities Greening Pilot Project Pilot Project for the Installation of Photovoltaic Systems to Contribute to Increased Energy Independence in Healthcare Facilities in SIDS DOCK Countries:*** Proposal drafted for a pilot project to demonstrate a self-financing system for the provision of un-interrupted power to health facilities in the SIDS, as a climate change adaptation measure. In the vast majority of SIDS, power generation is centralized with a system of transmission and distribution lines located above ground taking electricity to users. Tropical cyclones have devastating impacts on power lines necessitating major repairs, which at times require weeks before power is returned. Ironically, it is during these periods that health facilities have the highest demand. The pilot project plans to implement in each SIDS country, one RE project to provide un-interrupted power to the health facility. The pilot projects will be monitored to determine if the savings realized could be used as a means of financing this intervention across the entire sector. Pilot Project estimated budget US$2.5 million.

**X. CONCLUSION**

1. The period December 2015 to December 2016, was important for SIDS DOCK in terms of putting a strong governance structure in place, convening the first Assembly and Executive Council meetings, and identifying the first Secretary-General. The signing of the Host Country Agreement and the full operationalization of the Secretariat in Belize, in 2017, is one of the main goals going forward, and which would act as the catalyst for the registration of documentation to facilitate administration and fundraising.
2. Our dependence on partnership instead of debt is a magnate for investors. Serious partnerships are being developed with private sector companies interested in partnering with countries to not only maximise investments but to contribute to the development of SIDS society. SIDS represent new markets where these partners understand the importance of proposals designed to scale, built to scale, and implemented at scale. In addition to our traditional partners, new partners like Denmark, Austria and Sweden have competitive edges in technology and resource management relevant to SIDS, e.g., Denmark – geothermal; and Austria and Sweden – waste-to-energy.