



5 November 2020

[Check against delivery]

Mr Chair,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the 12 members of the Pacific Small Island Developing States, namely the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and my own country Fiji. In so doing, I would like to associate this statement with the statement delivered by Belize on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) and Tuvalu on behalf of the Pacific Island Forum (PIF).

As this is my first time taking the floor

Mr Chair,

The PSIDS joins others in thanking the International Law Commission especially the Study Group on Sea Level rise in relation to International Law for their work this year despite the challenging circumstances of COVID-19. Although there was no written report by the ILC, we appreciate the oral reports that have been given to Members and produced by two Co-chairs of the Study Group. The paper sets a strong foundation for more in-depth discussions between Members and we look forward to its formal consideration in the ILC next year.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reported that sea levels will continue to rise on average, over meter by 2100 and that certain regions of the world are more likely to experience sea level rise sooner