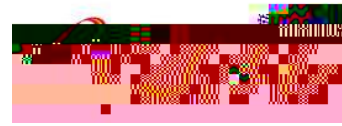




Delegation of the European Union



**Permanent Mission of Spain
to the United Nations**

CSD18 - 18th session of the COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SIDS day – afternoon session on CSD thematic issues

I have the honor to take the floor on behalf of the European Union.

1. The EU highly welcomes the opportunity of addressing the specific difficulties of Small Island Developing States in the context of this year thematic discussions in CSD and in the context of the 5 year review of the Mauritius Strategy. The EU and its Member States have

prevent us from making further progress as well as to use the opportunity to renew our commitment with these countries. The EU is ready to work with SIDS in identifying the main implementation gaps.

4. Climate Change is undoubtedly one of the major challenges that SIDS face. Extreme weather conditions and rising sea levels threaten the very existence of some island and their livelihoods, posing additional development challenges and may have significant security implications for this group of countries. We are well aware that the climate change challenge has not diminished and further work should follow a tight time schedule with clear deadlines considering SIDS' needs. In this regard, the EU and its Member States will work to reach a

efficient transportation is key, required transport will need to be developed in a sustainable manner. Consequently, regionalism and regionalization in transport may prove to be important instruments for effectively addressing the challenges of SIDS's geographic remoteness, small size and lower transport volumes.

8. The issue of **Sustainable Production and Consumption** (SCP) should also raise interest in Small Island States as it looks for ways of "*minimising the use of natural resources and toxic materials as well as the emissions of waste and pollutants over the life-cycle so as not to jeopardize the needs of future generations.*" The green growth focus on improving eco-efficiency promotes environmental sustainability, will lower SIDS exposure to environmental degradation and help therefore reduce th

regarding **capacity building, technology transfer and the financial resources mobilisation**. The UE and its Member States supports SIDS in addressing these challenges.