



Intervention by Ms. Saheli Ghosh Roy, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, during the Thematic Discussion on "Small Island Developing States" during IPM to CSD-17, 23 February 2009

- SIDS, like many developing countries, have been particularly affected by the current financial crisis. This needs need to be given particular attention.
- SIDS must also be supported in their efforts to prepare National Adaptation Plans of Action, and implement projects identified by such Plans.
- In the spirit of solidarity that governs South-South cooperation, India has been honoured to contribute to the development efforts of SIDS by sharing its experience and expertise, as well as intellectual and technological resources.
- In its cooperation efforts with SIDS, India has shared the experience gained from addressing similar concerns in the large number of small islands within its territory.
- Overall, India has committed project aid of US\$ 70 million to SIDS, in addition to US\$ 350 million in concessional loans and credit lines.
- However, efforts by fellow developing countries like India can only supplement the efforts required from the international community. Developed countries must, with a sense of urgency, fulfil their obligations of adequate financial resources, technology transfer and capacity building.
- International support must be in line with national priorities identified by the SIDS themselves.
- The most important element is implementation, rather than new commitments.

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