

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Virtual Meetings of National Focal Points (NFPs) of Small Island
Developing States (SIDS)

“Enhancing coherence - A focus on the COVID-19 response”

During the meetings, it was noted that the unique vulnerabilities found within SIDS have been magnified due to COVID-19. SIDS across all three regional groups will have severe economic contractions. The AIS, Caribbean, and Pacific regions each will experience GDP reductions at levels of 4.7%, 9%, and 2.7% respectively. These reductions can largely be attributed to the collapse of the tourism sector, which is a key component of many SIDS economies. While border closures have hindered international trade, which is also vital to the small open economies

it was suggested that national supply purchases could be substituted for regional purchases to make the venture more appealing to PPE and medical equipment suppliers. It was also noted that disrupted global supply chains would impact the availability of a potential vaccine for SIDS.

The need to use the health crisis as an opportunity to build back better was a common theme across the meetings. Meetings

concessional financing. Participants also pointed out the inherent flaws in the international financial systems that prevent SIDS from accessing the funds needed t