United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS)

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&

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at the Side Event "Blue Resilience: Navigating Water

Since 2007, Cabo Verde has adapted to its dire water situation by capturing fog on the side of its mountains as a major source of fresh water for the rural communities .

The Bahamas has resorted to desalination of ocean waters to provide potable water for the communities.

Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands have adopted water safety planning based on the "Pacific WASH Resilience guidelines" in collaboration with UNICEF.

Still, there is much more that needs to be done.

Excellencies,

Our deliberations today must

Community engagement, technological solutions, and policy frameworks must all play a role in meeting the specific needs and capacities of small island nations.

It is critical that today's insights reinforce the Water Action Agenda and support the development of a blue economy strategy that ensures water and food security for all.

ensure the broader goal of achieving the ABAS and the 2030 Agenda.

By working together, we can chart a course toward s a more resilient and water- secure future.

I thank you