



REPUBLIC OF CUBA

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

Initial comments on the potential development of a multidimensional vulnerability index for SIDS, as per resolution A/RES/75/215.

- We appreciate the technical work shared by different agencies and entities on their respective views for the possible development of an MVI.
- We appreciate as well the coordination work done by the Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) and the UN Department of Social and Economic Affairs (UN DESA), on behalf of the UN Secretariat, to respond to the mandates given by resolution A/RES/75/215.
- We look forward to the upcoming recommendations to be included in the SG report on the implementation of the resolution A/RES/75/215, on the potential development of an MVI for SIDS, including its possible finalization and use, to be considered at the 76 UNGA. The deliberations on this mandate must continue to be advanced in an open, inclusive and transparent way.
- The development of an MVI for SIDS should respond to the mandates of resolution RES 75/215, in order to address the SIDS special case and distinctive characteristics.
- Our preference is for the MVI to be tailored for and according to SIDS characteristics. As a second step, it could be adapted to other group of countries in special situation or those who face specific challenges, if so requested.
- We consider that the focus of the MVI must be on the exogenous, intrinsic and structural elements that are characteristic only to SIDS.
- It could be considered among the components of the index the following: disaster risk, climate change, remoteness, economic vulnerability.
- Preliminarily, the RCO index seems to be the better structured to respond to the measurement of SIDS's special case and structural characteristics.
- The number of indicators of the MVI should be manageable, comparable, based on data that is available and collected by the National Statistics Offices.
- We consider that the Economic and Environmental dimensions of Sustainable Development are the most relevant for the design of the MVI, as they define and reflect the distinctive characteristics of SIDS, no such the social dimension, which is not and intrinsically distinctive feature of SIDS.

- We would not support incorporating in the index components that are related to political issues, which could be subject to manipulation, and do not define the structural, intrinsic distinctive nature that hampers the development of SIDS.