



## **MEDIA PACK**

### **FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPMENT STATES (SIDS4)**

**27–30 May 2024**

**St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda**

At the [Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States \(SIDS4\)](#), world leaders will assess the ability of SIDS to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs, and discuss a new program of action for SIDS over the next decade. The Conference will convene under the theme 'Charting the Course Toward Resilient Prosperity'.

SIDS - which comprise 37 UN member nations and 20 associate members of regional commissions - find themselves on the frontline of escalating global crises, including climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, testing their resilience and ability to sustain their communities and economies. Maintaining ocean health is essential for wellbeing, food and job security, and for enhancing livelihoods.

By protecting biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ), the new High Seas Treaty presents significant opportunities and benefits for SIDS from economic, capacity-building, science, and conservation perspectives. Governments [formally adopted the High Seas Treaty](#) in June 2023. Once it has been ratified by at least 60 countries, the new Treaty will provide the legal framework to address many of the governance gaps that have plagued the ocean and provide a roadmap to conserve biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The High Seas Alliance will be present in St. John's throughout the Conference, collaborating and working with governments to encourage the Treaty's swift ratification and entry into force so that we can ramp up international action to protect our shared ocean, mitigate climate breakdown and safeguard the lives and livelihoods of billions of people worldwide.

## MEDIA RESOURCES:

- **Factsheet: What is the High Seas Treaty?** Download: [English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)
- **Factsheet: SIDS and BBNJ** Download: [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
- **The High Seas Treaty: Frequently Asked Questions.** Download: [English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)
- **The High Seas Treaty and Climate Change.** Download: [English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)
- **High Seas Marine Protected Areas.** Download: [English](#)
- **Eight potential High Seas Marine Protected Areas.** [English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)
- **Deep Dives: A series of briefings that explain the High Seas Treaty provisions.** [English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Arabic](#)
- **High Seas Treaty video - [Watch here.](#)** Copies are available on request (English, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Korean and Arabic)

## Media are invited to attend:

- **High Seas Alliance virtual press briefing ‘SIDS4: How the High Seas Treaty can benefit Small Island Developing States’, Date: Tuesday, 28 May 2024**  
**Time: 08:00 - 09:00 AST | 14:00 - 15:00 CET | 08:00-09:00 EDT**  
**VIRTUAL: [REGISTER HERE](#)**
- **Our High Level event, co-sponsored by the governments of Antigua and Barbuda, Maldives, and Vanuatu, on Thursday 30 May at 08:00-09:30 AST in the overflow room at the conference venue, the American University of Antigua (for accredited media).**

## Contact:

For media inquiries, please contact: [patricia@communicationsinc.co.uk](mailto:patricia@communicationsinc.co.uk)



The High Seas Alliance is a group of 50+ non-governmental members who work together to inspire, inform and engage the public, decision-makers and experts to support and strengthen High Seas governance and conservation.