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PROPOSAL ON CMS ASSESSMENTS OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES AND TERRITORIES

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Paper by FFA Members

FFA DELEGATION PAPER – PROPOSAL ON CMS ASSESSMENTS OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES AND TERRITORIES

The unique situation and assistance needs of SIDS and territories must be recognised and built into the Compliance Monitoring Scheme process, so that SIDS are fairly and appropriately dealt with in that process.

It is proposed that the Annual Reports provide a mechanism for SIDS to flag early a specific assistance need. Noting this assistance need, the Commission Secretariat and the SIDS start completing an implementation plan (which will require a template) elaborating very clearly what the assistance need entails and the realistic timeframes and steps required to meet that need.

This plan shall include a budget which identifies the funding sources for any necessary financial assistance. Such implementation plan is to be attached as part of the dCMR for each individual CCM, and is part of the documentation reviewed by TCC. The TCC will review and, as appropriate, amend the implementation plan, in discussion with the relevant SIDS or territory.

Where TCC accepts that this is a genuine assistance need, which has meant the SIDS cannot fulfil a particular obligation, the TCC shall not assess that obligation and instead recommend to the Commission to allow the implementation plan to run until the end of the timeframe and assistance delivery set out therein. Where TCC does not accept this, the SIDS or territory will be assessed.

Until the end of the agreed timeframe, the SIDS will not be assessed against that particular obligation. Therefore, it is intended that at the end of that timeframe, the SIDS need has been met and the SIDS can now be brought under the Scheme and assessed against that obligation.

It is intended that this process applies in the interim, whilst we allow the processes under CMM 2013-06 to be implemented and the impacts on SIDS are mainstreamed into the decision-making of the Commission.

Diagram depiction of the proposal

