



Oral Statement of the 31st Session of the UN Human Rights Council
Item 6 of the agenda: Consideration of the UPR report for Nauru
16 March 2016
Delivered by Madelaine Clough – Franciscans International

Mr. President,

Franciscans International (FI) welcomes the adoption of the outcomes of the UPR Nauru. We commend the acceptance of recommendation with regard to human rights based approach in addressing climate change, and other climate change related recommendations (Rec 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58).

We understand that due to its geographic position, Nauru is a climate change vulnerable state. It is clear that the existence of Nauru as a state is at risk due to adverse impact of climate Change. There is an urgent need for the Government of Nauru to take concrete action to protect the human rights of its citizens. However, this responsibility does not lay only on the government but at the international community.

The Paris Agreement on Climate Change 2015 has given a clear legal framework to use human rights based approach on climate action. The latest report of the UN Special Rapporteur on Environment and Human Rights underlines, among others, the notion that a strong climate action is necessary to safeguard human rights and aspect of extraterritorial human rights obligations of every State in relation to climate change and the duty of states to cooperate.

Therefore, recommend the Government of Nauru the following:

1. Adopt a participatory approach different communities in the discussion on the mitigation policy, by providing a platform for community level involvement, especially those who are most vulnerable to the adverse impact of climate change, especially women.
2. Support the call for the establishment of the UN Special Procedure on Climate Change and Human Rights, who will be able to do country visit, to receive communication from the victims and affected communities, and the intake of information regarding good practices in the field of combatting climate change;
3. Enhance the international cooperation in addressing the adverse impact of climate change.

I thank you.