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Climate Summit 2014
National Action and Ambition Announcements

Statement by H.E. Emanuel Mori President

New York, 23 September 2014

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Mr. Chairman, Excellencies and distinguished colleagues,

I am honored to be given the opportunity to speak at this important event. It is imperative that this Climate Summit catalyze the ambitious and fast action needed to address the devastating impacts of climate change.

I believe we can still prevent the worst impacts of climate change with fast and ambitious actions, such as using the Montreal Protocol to reduce the powerful greenhouse gases hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change confirms that human activity is damaging our climate, leading to sea-level rise, more frequent and intense typhoons, and severe droughts, among others.

The UNEP Gap Report tells us that we are currently on track for 3 to 5 degrees Celsius of warming this century.

This year was declared the International Year of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to bring awareness to our extreme vulnerabilities and unique challenges. As highlighted in Samoa, SIDS have undertaken many important initiatives to combat climate change and achieve sustainable development.

Although SIDS contribute very little to climate change, we nevertheless are taking the steps to address it at the national, regional and international levels. Our key national actions and commitments are reflected in the Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership and the Palau Declaration on "The Ocean: Life and Future".