



**Ministry of Tourism and Environment**  
Male', Republic of Maldives



## **Press Release**

### **Ministry of Tourism and Environment organizes “Decade of Paris Agreement: Maldives’ Climate Action and Partnerships for Resilience” side event on UNGA margins**

On Tuesday, September 23, 2025, the Ministry of Tourism and Environment organized a side event entitled “Decade of Paris Agreement: Maldives’ Climate Action and Partnerships for Resilience” on the side-lines of the 80<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The side event was held at the United Nations Headquarters.

During his opening remarks at the side event, Minister of Tourism and Environment H.E. Mr. Thoriq Ibrahim, reflected on the Maldives’ role as Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States during the Paris Agreement negotiations. Minister further highlighted Maldives commitment to turning climate ambition into climate action and thanked bilateral and multilateral partners for their support towards addressing climate change impacts in Maldives.

Minister’s remarks were followed by a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Pablo Vieira, Global Director of NDC Partnership Support Unit. The panel included H.E. Mr. Nakamura Ryo, Assistant Minister, Director-General for Global Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Ms. Rabab Fatima, Under Secretary-General and High Representative, Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, Ms. Kanni Wignaraja, Assistant Secretary-General, UNDP Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, Mr. Alessandro Guerri, Director General, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security of Italy, Dr. Charles Ehrhart, Chief Strategy and Impact Officer, Green Climate Fund and Mr. Jamil Ahmad, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, United Nations Environment Programme.

The panel discussion explored key themes central to advancing climate resilience in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), with a focus on the Maldives. Speakers highlighted the



importance of data and strengthened early warning systems for disaster preparedness and adaptation, shared lessons from community-based resilience projects and underscored the critical role of partnerships in accelerating climate action. The discussion also explored the challenges and opportunities of accessing climate finance, the UN's evolving priorities and support for SIDS, and the need for country-driven approaches within multilateral institutions to help nations like Maldives achieve their ambitious climate goals.

Following the panel discussion Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E. Dr. Abdulla Khaleel delivered the concluding remarks. In his remarks, Minister Khaleel noted the importance of collaboration and partnerships to deliver on both the national and global climate goals.