



**Pacific Island Forum SIDS**

## **JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ**

The Government of Italy and the Governments of the Pacific Small Island States: the Republic of the Fiji Islands, the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Nauru, the Republic of Palau, the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, the Independent State of Samoa, the Solomon Islands, the Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu, and the Republic of Vanuatu are pleased to announce that they have launched a cooperation programme to address one of the key global challenges of the next decades, namely, adaptation to climate change, protection from vulnerability to extreme climate variability and mitigation of harmful emissions generated by energy utilization.

The main components of the programme will include the development in the Pacific Small Island States of adaptation measures as well as the development and dissemination of the use of local renewable energies sources and biofuels to meet the energy security of the Pacific Small Island countries, reduce emission of greenhouse gases, and strive for sustainable transport. Moreover, the programme intends to strengthen national capacities for the establishment of national energy policies and strategies, as well as markets, develop specialized human resources and work closely with communities, so as to ensure sustainability.

The programme, of the overall value of 10 million dollars, will have a minimum duration of 3 years and will be designed to serve as a catalyst for attracting investments in the energy sector from the International Financial Institutions and wherever possible from the private sector.

**New York, May 10<sup>th</sup> 2007**