

Second World Summit for Social Development 2025

Doha, Qatar, 4-6 November 2025

Malta National Statement

Mr President, Excellences, distinguished delegates,

It is an honour and a privilege to address this Second World Summit for Social Development.

I would like to first of all thank the State of Qatar for hosting this historic summit, and for its generous hospitality.

Malta aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States and would like to add the following national remarks.

Malta welcomes this Summit as a crucial opportunity to review and reinvigorate the commitments made in Copenhagen, as well as to accelerate progress on the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Social development, we believe, is central to sustainable development, bridging economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental resilience. These pillars are inseparable: without strong social policies, economic progress becomes exclusive, and environmental aims are unattainable.

As we convene at this pivotal moment in our shared journey towards social and sustainable development, Malta underscores its commitment to advancing the wellbeing of all States, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and, particularly so, small island developing states.

Malta's own journey as an island state has taught us the value of resilience, innovation, and solidarity, shaping our determination to proudly champion the interests of SIDS, advocating for their unique needs and forging partnerships that transform aspirations into action.

Malta's strategic foreign policy objectives place capacity-building for SIDS at their very heart, underscoring the need for global recognition of their special circumstances and tailored support for our island partners.

Malta's active participation as co-chair of the UN Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS and our recent tenure on the UN Security Council have given us the opportunity to elevate issues such as climate resilience, ocean preservation, and sustainable development, ensuring that the voices of SIDS are heard and acted upon.

Malta, continues to provide support especially in education and water security, two pillars essential for lasting development and social progress.

Education is the cornerstone of resilience and progress. We have expanded opportunities for SIDS nationals, particularly through our dedicated SIDS Scholarships Programme, distinguished with the SIDS Partnership Award by the United Nations, enabling students from ODA-eligible SIDS to advance their studies and contribute to their communities' growth.

Water security stands at the forefront of SIDS' development challenges. On this front, Malta has forged bilateral and multilateral collaborations to share expertise, foster innovation, and deliver practical solutions, leading to joint projects, capacity-building visits and knowledge exchange ensuring real progress.

Malta's work with international partners has led to the development of a Climate Vulnerability and Resilience Index, to better assess and inform SIDS' climate-related challenges and direct support where it is needed most.

In taking this work forward, we are committed in our drive to foster global partnerships and work with pertinent international partners, in our journey towards economic growth and social progress.

Mr President, distinguished delegates,

In concluding, Malta reaffirms its strong commitment to the Copenhagen Declaration and Agenda 2030. We are ready to collaborate, share our experiences, and help build a future where social development is a reality for all. The sustainable development of societies depends on our ability to work together, sharing knowledge, lessons learnt and good practices. We look forward to continue to work together to turn challenges into opportunities.

Thank you.