



**Address of the Federated States of Micronesia
At Second World Summit for Social Development
At Doha, Qatar, November 4-6, 2025**

Chair, Your Highness Royal Prince of Qatar, Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates, **Kamorale and good afternoon.**

It is an **honor for Micronesia** to address the Commission for Social Development at this pivotal time.

As a geographically remote and climate-vulnerable Small Island Developing State, Micronesia's development trajectory **is uniquely challenging**. Our nation's economy relies extensively on the support of the Compact of Free Association with the United States. Our annual economic growth is under 0.3% from 2004 to 2023, and over 41 percent of our people continue to live below the basic-needs poverty line. This reality is not merely statistical—it speaks to hardship and a compelling need for urgent action.

As a relatively young and small island economy, we are vulnerable to external shocks. Any instability in the global and regional trade and supply chain markets greatly creates an imbalance to our day-to-day lives, even though we live in a subsistent environment.

Private sector activity comprises only one-fifth of GDP. Regional Disparities in wages and access to essential services persist across our



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states, where those who live in the rural areas tend to have less access to government services and are more disadvantageous.

Poverty in Micronesia, however, is multidimensional. It is more than income—it concerns access to education, healthcare, clean water, food, social participation, and social kinship and relation with families, communities, environment, and culture.

The COVID-19 pandemic coupled with frequent natural disasters and climate change have impacts on our resilience, threatening to widen the gap between Micronesia, the Pacific, and more developed regions.

Micronesia's priorities are aligned with the 2030 Agenda and the Copenhagen Declaration in:

- Creating regulatory and policy environment that supports private investment and economic diversification.
- Expanding renewable energy and climate-resilient infrastructure.
- Maximizing the value of marine resources for sustainable development.
- Promoting food security and healthy living.



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On social protection, our system is robust but must extend to the informal sector and the most vulnerable. Our Social Protection Strategic Plan emphasizes inclusivity, addressing gender, disability, ageing, and child protection. We are expanding access to healthcare and quality education, livelihoods support, and disaster preparedness.

Social integration remains a major focus. Outward migration continues to affect our population and workforce. Remittances help mitigate family poverty but underscore the need to create opportunities at home. Gender equality is improving, supported by our new National Gender Equality Policy and integration within our Strategic Development Plan

Micronesia's commitment to implementing the Copenhagen Declaration is evidenced in our recently endorsed 20-year Strategic Development Plan and our new Health Strategic Development Plan and Education. We have prioritized data collection, monitoring, and alignment of policy across sectors so that progress is measurable and accountable. We have increased investments in these areas.

But, as a small island nation, our capacity to address these challenges independently is limited. International cooperation remains essential. We call for intensified partnership, investment, and technical support to



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achieve inclusive and resilient development. We urge the private sector to foster sustainable growth and civil society to ensure accountability and advocate for marginalized populations.

In closing, the commitments made in Copenhagen are a promise to our people and are still relevant today. These commitments are a journey towards social justice, dignity, equity, and development and prosperity for all. Micronesia stands ready to work with all partners to translate these aspirations into tangible outcomes, so no one is left behind.

Thank you.