



**CVF
V20** CLIMATE
VULNERABLE
FORUM
VULNERABLE
TWENTY
GROUP



16TH V20 MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE PROSPERITY, STABILITY, AND SECURITY IN AN ERA OF PLANETARY INSTABILITY

*14 April 2026 (Tuesday) | 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM (ET)
MC 13-301, World Bank Headquarters, Washington, D.C.*

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, this high-level ministerial dialogue is convened in a critical tundra, as far-flying small island economies in the Pacific, such as Tonga, are confronted with an elevated climate crisis, coupled with geopolitical instability.

I wish to thank Prime Minister Mia Mottley and Minister Ryan for their astute leadership of this esteemed forum to amplify the unique challenges faced by climate-vulnerable nations, the innovative, and well-engineered solutions needed.

The fiscal outlook for small island economies is in a fragile state. And the need for scaled-up climate finance is far greater than ever before, particularly with the current situations of the fuel crisis that is immensely affecting our small economy.

With the plethora of risk-gripping island nations, financial stability is also uncertain. Therefore, we welcome the V20 Lifeline Initiative that aims to provide liquidity support to stabilize pressures on a country's balance-of-payment following disasters. Shock-responsive instruments are foundational to sustaining resilience against this crisis. Otherwise, the development fabric will be drastically eroded, and the socioeconomic implications would be profound.

Tonga is pleased to note the proposed V20-DFI Compact, which will provide a solid window to access concessional financing as well as support the financing needs of the private sector. We look forward to the operationalization of the Compact, and receiving more information on how to access support from the proposed OPEC Fund.

Furthermore, we are deeply grateful for the CVF-V20 for launching the Pacific Loss and Damage Support Program, of which Tonga is a key beneficiary. I would also like to thank the Government of Wallonia for their funding. Building resilience, and adaptation is crucial for the survival of Tonga, a disaster-prone island nation.

Chair, Tonga is committed to providing political support for scaling such programs for the benefit of other Pacific countries, and by extension, other seats in LDCs.

Thank you.

MS. ILAISAANE LOLO

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