Roundtable on the European Island’s Challenges

European Parliament Intergroup «Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development»,

Olivier GASTON, Representative of OCTA Chairman

Brussels, 7th May 2013
The 26 OCTs are linked to the EU with four MS – Denmark, France, The Netherlands and The United Kingdom through the Overseas Association Decision (OAD) of 2001.

The OCT Association supports and represents the collective interests of 22 inhabited Overseas Countries and Territories’ governments, it is structured around:

1. The Ministerial Conference gathering (yearly) the Members of OCTs governments to define strategies and roadmaps.

2. The Executive Committee of OCTA comprises 8 OCTs representatives (monthly meetings) to implement decisions.

3. The OCTA experts who are based in Brussels and work (full time) for OCTA since early 2013.
The main Environmental OAD’s Articles

• Art 15: Sustainable Mngt and Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
• Art 16: Sustainable forest management
• Art 17: Integrated Coastal Zone Management
• Art 20: Sustainable water management
EU-OCTs OAD: Overseas Association Decision

The main Environmental OAD’s Articles

• Art 21: Waste management
• Art 22: Sustainable energy
• Art 23: Climate Change
• Art 24: Disaster risk reduction
EU-OCTs OAD : OCTA past and ongoing actions

> Sustainable development seminars since 2008
> Ongoing renewable Energies study in the OCTs
Projects and expectations

1. December OCTA’s Ministerial Conference (Innovation in economic and environmental policies) and **OCT-EU Forum**

2. **Increase Access to Funding Instruments**
   - EU Horizontal programmes such as Development Cooperation Instrument
   - An increase in Regional European Development Fund should benefit the environmental projects as well as innovative projects
THANK YOU

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