Mr President, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates!

I present this statement on behalf of my country Tuvalu, and I wish to align myself with statements presented by the Federated State of Micronesia on behalf of the Pacific Small Island Developing States, and Tonga on behalf of the Pacific Islands Forum.

Mr. President today marks an extraordinary achievement in our joint effort to address climate change, which is undoubtedly the most challenging phenomenon of our time. We commend Vanuatu for its leadership and the Core Group of States for their constructive engagements in getting this momentous Resolution passed today. Acquiring legal means to address climate change through an advisory opinion by the International Court of Justice provides the moral punch we need to establish international consensus and responsibility by upholding the rule of international law and the obligation to respect human rights.

Mr. President, the adoption of this Resolution comes in no better time than now. The Synthesis Report of the Sixth Assessment Report of the IPCC released last week is crystal clear. The climate crisis is here. The widespread loss and damage is a reality today. Peaking global emissions in the next two years is essential to limit warming to 1.5 degree Celsius.
Therefore, it is critically important that we should do the right thing to facilitate the ICJ with the necessary information needed in its work to be able to provide the optimal advisory opinion on State obligations to address climate change.

Mr. President, with confidence and unbounded determination Tuvalu calls upon all States to take necessary steps to address the threat of climate change and to work together to build a sustainable future for all. Let us not only mark this day as a positive step forward but let us also commit ourselves to leave a positive legacy for future generations and work to ensure that no nation, no matter how small or vulnerable, is left behind.

I thank you!

Tuvalu mo te Atua!