Background of the Solomon Islands Government Data and Digital Transformation Strategy

- The **Solomon Islands government** has recognized the importance of digital transformation in modernizing public service delivery and fostering sustainable development. However, efforts to implement comprehensive **data and digital governance strategies** have been **incremental and fragmented**, reflecting the country's resource constraints, infrastructure challenges, and evolving policy framework

- **E-Government Initiatives**:

- ✓ Some government services have begun shifting to digital platforms. For instance, the introduction of the making payment online for all Ministries has enabled electronic payments and financial inclusion

- ✓ Digital services like online business registration, tax filing have also been initiated and Online application for scholarships scheme

- ✓ SI Inclusive Digital Economy Scores (IDES) 39% in 2020, 41% in 2021 to 43% in 2022.

1. What are two critical lessons learned in implementing data/digital transformation strategy in your country: what works and what doesn't?

i) **The absence of a unified e-government strategy creates inefficiencies, with ministries pursuing isolated digital projects that do not align with each other**
- While some digital initiatives exist there is no coordinated framework guiding how ministries should integrate and standardize these technologies
- Fragmented efforts lead to duplication, interoperability issues, and wasted resources. Without a clear governance framework and inter-ministerial collaboration, projects face challenges in scaling up and delivering sustainable value across the public service

i) **Limited Infrastructure and Connectivity**
- Internet access is **inconsistent**, particularly in remote islands, posing a challenge for equitable delivery of digital services. Poor infrastructure limits the reach and impact of digital initiatives.

2. What are two challenges that you face, and would like to learn from other countries?

I)Building Digital Infrastructure in Remote and Rural Areas

- In the Solomon Islands, many areas still lack reliable internet or mobile coverage, creating disparities in access to e-government services.

- Ensuring equitable access to digital services across all regions, especially in remote and rural communities with limited connectivity.

- Learn Strategies other countries have used to deploy affordable infrastructure

II) Strengthening Digital Literacy and Change Management in the Public Sector

- Ensuring public servants and citizens are ready to adopt digital services by building digital literacy and managing resistance to change

3. Suggest one recommendation for further discussion in UN forums; how can the UN and the global community better support countries in advancing effective data/digital governance strategies?

Establish a Global Digital Governance Support Hub for Developing Countries

- The UN and the global community should establish a **Global Digital Governance Support Hub**, specifically designed to provide technical, financial, and policy assistance to developing countries

Solomon Islands
Government

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Thank You

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