

Staff Reporter

State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam on Tuesday said Bangladesh is committed to work together with the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) for ensuring a pro-people and pro-planet sustainable world for all.

He made the remarks while addressing the four-day '3rd International Conference on Small Island Developing States' that began in Apia, the capital of Samoa, on Monday, according to a message received in Dhaka yesterday.

With the theme of 'Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States through Genuine and Durable Partnerships' and the slogan 'Island Voices, Global Choices,' the conference generated great interest among member states.

A large number of high-level delegations from over 100 countries, including Heads of States, Heads of Governments, Ministers, senior officials, and representatives of international agencies and non-governmental organizations attended the conference.

Samoa Prime Minister Tuilaepa Aiono Sailele Malielegaoi inaugurated the session. The opening session featured statements by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and President of the General Assembly John Ashe.

The State Minister urged all countries to respond to 2 degree Celsius stabilization target and for a broad-based support to the climate vulnerable countries, especially LDCs, through predictable finance and development of and access to adaptive, life-saving technology.

On the sidelines of the conference, the Minister held a number of bilateral meetings with Head of Delegation of other countries.

These include Prime Minister of Timor-Leste, Tonga; Deputy Prime Minister of Solomon Islands; Foreign Ministers of Tuvalu, São Tomé and Príncipe, Seychelles, Grenada, Vanuatu, Saint Lucia, Nauru, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Energy Minister of Comoros and Environment Minister of Palau.

He also sought their support for Bangladesh's candidacy to the Human Rights Council, ITU (International Telecommunication Union), CPA (Commonwealth Parliamentary Association) and IPU (Inter-Parliamentary Union).