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UNITED NATIONS

REFERENCE: 20201123UnNvStatesParties

The Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations presents its compliments to Representatives of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and has the honour to refer to the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

The Office of Legal Affairs is pleased to transmit attached herewith a letter dated 23 November 2020 from the President of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties addressed to Representatives of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, concerning agenda item 8 (*Report of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea to the Meeting of States Parties*); agenda item 9 (*Information reported by the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority*); agenda item 10(a) (*Information reported by the Chair of the Commission*); and agenda item 15 (*Other matters – Practice of the Secretary-General in respect of the deposit of charts and/or lists of geographical coordinates of points under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; and trust funds and fellowships*).

The Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to Representatives of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea the assurances of its highest consideration.

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Le Bureau des affaires juridiques de l'Organisation des Nations Unies présente ses compliments aux représentantes et représentants des États parties à la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer et a l'honneur de se référer à la trentième Réunion des États parties à la Convention.

Le Bureau des affaires juridiques a le plaisir de transmettre ci-joint une lettre datée du 23 novembre 2020, qui est adressée aux représentantes et représentants des États parties à la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer par le Président de la trentième Réunion des États parties, concernant le point 8) de l'ordre du jour (*Rapport du Tribunal international du droit de la mer à la Réunion des États parties*) ; point 9 de l'ordre du jour (*Informations communiquées par le Secrétaire général de l'Autorité internationale des fonds marins*) ; point 10 a) de l'ordre du jour (*Informations communiquées par le Président de la Commission*) ; et point 15 de l'ordre du jour (*Questions diverses – Pratique du Secrétaire général en ce qui concerne le dépôt des cartes ou des listes de coordonnées géographiques de points prévu par la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer ; et fonds de contributions volontaires et bourses*).

Le Bureau des affaires juridiques de l'Organisation des Nations Unies saisit cette occasion pour renouveler aux représentantes et représentants des États parties à la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer les assurances de sa très haute considération.

ovembre 2020



PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE UNITED NATIONS | NEW YORK

23 November 2020

Excellencies,

I wish to refer to my letters dated 27 and 30 October 2020, regarding the timetable and modalities for the consideration of the pending items on the agenda of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, as outlined in the annex to my letter dated 27 October 2020 (www.un.org/Depts/los/meeting_states_parties/documents/20201027NvLetEF.pdf).

In accordance with the timetable and modalities in the annex, from 12 to 23 November 2020, States Parties considered the following agenda items under "Cluster II" through an exchange of written statements: agenda item 8 (*Report of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea to the Meeting of States Parties*); agenda item 9 (*Information reported by the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority*); agenda item 10(a) (*Information reported by the Chair of the Commission*); and agenda item 15 (*Other matters*).

Under agenda item 8, statements were received from the President of the Tribunal and some delegations. An additional statement by the President of the Tribunal in response to delegations' statements was also received.

Under agenda item 9, statements were received from the Secretary-General of the Authority and some delegations.

Under agenda item 10(a), statements were received from the Chair of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and some delegations. An additional statement by the Chair in response to delegations' statements was also received.

Under agenda item 15, statements were received from the Deputy-Director in charge of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea and some delegations. An additional statement by the Deputy-Director in response to delegations' statements was also received.

All statements were made available via a dedicated SharePoint site for the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties (access to which was provided to delegations, as well as on the website of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties at <u>www.un.org/Depts/los/meeting_states_parties/thirtiethmeetingstatesparties.htm</u>).

I propose that the Meeting take note of the statements related to the above-mentioned agenda items that were received.

In addition, I wish to propose the following actions based on the exchange of statements, for adoption at the in-person plenary meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for 9 December 2020:

- (a) For agenda item 8: I propose that the Meeting take note of the annual report of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2019 (<u>SPLOS/30/2</u>).
- (b) For agenda item 9: I propose that the Meeting take note of the information reported by the Secretary-General of the Authority.
- (c) For agenda item 10(a): I propose that the Meeting take note of the information reported by the Chair of the Commission.
- (d) For agenda item 15: I propose that the Meeting take note of the note prepared by the Secretariat entitled "Practice of the Secretary-General in respect of the deposit of charts and/or lists of geographical coordinates of points under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea" (SPLOS/30/12) and of the information on trust funds and fellowships provided by the Secretariat.

I would welcome your written comments, if any, on the proposed actions. Please convey your comments by 5 p.m. on Friday, 27 November 2020. Such comments should be sent by email to <u>doalos@un.org</u> (copying <u>santosuosso@un.org</u>). I propose to proceed, as outlined, on the understanding that the proposed actions would need to be formally adopted at the in-person plenary meeting in December.

Finally, I would like to highlight that in accordance with the annex to my letter dated 27 October 2020, the consideration of the agenda items under "Cluster III" through virtual informal consultations of working groups and an exchange of written statements commenced on 19 November and will continue until 30 November 2020.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.

H.E. Burhan Gafoor President of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Representatives of States Parties to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea