



Kingdom of Morocco

« 23rd Session of the International Seabed Authority »

*Statement by Mr. Mohammed Atlassi
Jamaica 11 August 2017*

-Agenda Item 12: Report of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission of the work of the Commission at its session in 2017

Mr. President ;

Since this is the first time that my delegation takes the floor, I would like to congratulate you and the Members of the Bureau for your election and assure you of the support of my delegation.

I would like also to thank the President of the Legal and Technical Commission for his briefing presenting the report of the Commission. My thanks go to the Members of the Commission for their hard work exerted during this year.

My delegation aligns itself with the declaration made on behalf of the African group and would like to add the following remarks:

- My delegation welcomes the report of the Chair, which we believe is exhaustive, informative and of good quality.
- My delegation learnt with satisfaction that some contractors have abided by their engagements, mainly an adequate well-structured report.
- However, it is with great concern that it learnt that some others have failed to do so. Therefore, my delegation would like to know the measures to be taken by the Council against those contractors who do not comply by their obligations. My delegation joins the remarks by Brazil that we are close to the exploitation phase and this should not be tolerated in the future.
- My delegation appreciates the fact that some training was offered to developing countries and look forward that some more others be programmed for capacity building of developing countries.
- We welcome the road map mentioned in the Annex regarding the adoption and approval of the regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the area. This confirms that we are heading towards more transparency. Hence, we welcome this approach.

Thank you