

Statement of Republic of Indonesia
In the Occasion of Commemoration of ISA's 25th Anniversary
on Thursday, 25 July 2016

Madame President, Honourable Secretary General, Distinguished Delegates and Observers

1. At the outset, allow me to join other distinguished delegates to once again express our sincere appreciation to your admirable leadership as the President of the Assembly. We are pleased to note that the 25th assembly meeting has provided significant contribution to the betterment of the work of the Authority and further our discussion in a positive manner for the indulgence of all member states and stakeholders.
2. This delegation also wishes to extend its sincere appreciation and gratitude for the hospitality and warm welcome offered by the Government and the people of Jamaica to all delegations. Ambassador Hashim Djalal of Indonesia, the first President of the Assembly, often shared beautiful stories of his time in Jamaica during the deliberation of Montego Bay Convention and the earlier years of the Authority. His stories continue capture the imagination of many young Indonesian who enthusiast with ocean policy and law of the sea. Today, allow me, I can stand witness to his account that the tranquillity of the nature and dynamic vibes of the people of Jamaica will make any Indonesian felt like they are at home.

Madame President,

3. Indonesia attaches great importance on the matters regarding Ocean and utilisation of marine resources for the benefit of mankind. Our campaign for the recognition of Archipelagic state status and our involvement since the earliest years of this distinguished organisation speak volumes on the significance meaning of ocean as a unifying element that would bring us together toward equity and prosperity. The nation was founded upon the view that our land “ tanah” and ocean “ air” is one and that the ocean should be protected and preserve for the benefit of all people in the present and in the future. Today, as we convene to commemorate the 25 years of the organisation mandated to be the guardian of seabed resources for the benefit of all mankind, this delegation believes that all of us share the same standpoints.
4. As the Authority transforms toward maturity phase in a very crucial moment that will, to borrow the phrase of the distinguished President of the 24th Assembly, change the landscape of the future, Indonesia pleases to note that through the adoption of high-level action plan, its implementation plan and indicators the transformation of the Authority is transpiring toward a well-planned direction.
5. In connection to this, Indonesia wishes to express its highly appreciation to the leadership of the Secretary General and the organ of the Secretariat for the extensive laborious effort in providing us with documents that reflect the dynamic needs and aspirations of all member states and stakeholders. To this end, we are resolute that the Authority and member states will have a clear guidance on how the ISA will execute its mandate in the years to come, particularly in connection with the interest and needs of developing states.

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6. Having said that, Indonesia would also register some of its observations on issues which in our view will require attentive work of Secretary General and organ of the Secretariat as well as all member states as follows.
- Firstly, pursuant to articles 148 and 150 (g) of the Convention, Indonesia is of the view that the issue of enhancing opportunities of a developing states for activities in the Area should be continue be conducted through capacity building and outreach to those states who are not yet party of the Convention or 1994 Agreement and discussion at the ISA. Only by that the participation and decision-making process will be fully inclusive and truly reflect the governing principles and mandate of ISA. In this context, Indonesia is ready and welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the authority and other member states to this end. We had submitted our official request to Secretary General and look forward with hope for positive response.
 - The second issue is regarding the protection of marine environment. We hold the view that discussion on the REMP should always be interrelated with the protection of the rights and legitimate interest of coastal states in a region across or adjacent to the site of activities in the Area. Thus, the view of coastal states and regional groups on provision regarding consultation, exchange of information, and inspection and review mechanism in the mining code is crucial and should be promoted.
 - The third is regarding protection of developing countries whose economy will potentially be negatively affected by mineral exploitation in the Area, in so far, we envisage that the effects may not only be economical but also sociopolitical.
 - Indonesia understands that many provisions in the Convention which provides sufficient policy space for the organ of the Authority to amend such effects had been altered by the 1994 Agreement. Therefore, we request the Authority and its organ to further cautiously study and calculate effects as well as the ways and means to mitigate and minimize the effects, particularly through development of benefit sharing mechanism in conformity with section 7 of the annex of 1994 Agreement.

Finally, to conclude and to strengthen the bridge between the past and the present to the future. Allow this delegation to read the statement of Ambassador Hashim Djalal, the 1st President of the Assembly on behalf of the Government of Indonesia for the commemoration of the 25 years of ISA:

“As a former member of Indonesian delegation to the International Seabed Authority, particularly during its formative years, and former President of the International Seabed Authority, its Council and its Finance Committee, I wish to extend my congratulation to the 25th Anniversary of the ISA this month of July 2019. I continue to hope that ISA will continue to develop the management of the International Seabed Area around the world for the benefit of mankind and international peace and cooperation, particularly in promoting the interest of the developing countries in the utilization of the resources of the international seabed area “

With my best wishes,
Prof. DR. Hasjim Djalal, M.A,

Thank you Madame President.