



Assembly

Distr.: General
25 July 2011

Original: English

Seventeenth session

Kingston, Jamaica

11-22 July 2011

Decision of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority relating to the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

The Assembly of the International Seabed Authority,

Recognizing that 10 December 2012 will mark the thirtieth anniversary of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, opened for signature in Montego Bay, Jamaica, which entered into force on 16 November 1994,

Recalling the historic significance of the Convention as one of the most comprehensive legal instruments negotiated under the auspices of the United Nations, and emphasizing its importance as the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out,

Reaffirming the importance of the codification and designation by the Convention of the seabed and ocean floor and subsoil beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, as well as the resources of the Area, as the common heritage of mankind,

Reaffirming also the importance of the work of the International Seabed Authority as the organization through which States parties shall organize and control activities in the Area, particularly with a view to administering the resources of the Area in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention and the 1994 Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the Convention, on behalf of mankind as a whole,

Expressing support for the convening of a commemorative meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on Monday, 10 December 2012, to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention,

1. *Agrees* to convene a special meeting during its eighteenth session to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority to undertake activities in observance of the anniversary;
3. *Encourages* members of the International Seabed Authority and the wider international community to commemorate this important milestone.