

Italy

Statement on ISBA/25/A/2

Speaker: Marzia Rovere

Thank you Madam President, Italy is taking the floor to align with preceding distinguished Ambassadors and delegates who have expressed their gratitude and satisfaction for the report of the Secretary General, and in general for how the works of the Assembly are progressing well under your authoritative guidance, and with the aid of the Vice Presidents. We wish also to extend our gratitude to our wonderful host and neighbour of seat, Jamaica, of which we have the honour to enjoy the beauty of people and land and waters, too.

Turning to the annual report of the Secretary General, it contains extensive information on all the activities carried out by the Authority in the reporting period and gives credit to the efficiency of the small but very active Secretariat and all other organs of the Authority. This delegation is particularly delighted to hear that gender balance has been achieved and surpassed in the staff of the Secretariat, an event which incidentally and beautifully coincide with this year's presidencies of the Council and Assembly and the chairpersonship of the Legal and Technical Commission.

We will highlight in this remark only a few items of the Report that we consider of relevance. Italy is particularly impressed by the continued promotion and encouragement of marine scientific research in the Area, also through the various capacity-building initiatives undertaken under the umbrella of the Endowment Fund. Italy welcomes the implementation of a strategy and standardized approach for the development of the regional environmental management plans in the Area, through the many workshops that will take place in the coming months, and Italy is pleased by the completion of the data management strategy's steps. In this regard, we look very much forward to the online database of environmental data, that will be soon released and that, in our opinion, will strengthen the transparency of the Authority and will serve as a tool for establishing the REMPs in all the mineral provinces of the Area. We are also pleased by the liaison that the Authority created with the GEBCO-Nippon Foundation Seabed2030 project during the first IOC Global Planning Meeting held last May in Copenhagen. The shared objectives of the project are to improve the global mapping of the seabed by 2030 and Italy is fully supportive of the actions necessary to achieve this goal.

There are many other activities that Italy would like to address, but we are aware of the time constraints and we do not want to take opportunities to speak away from other delegations, so I here conclude. Thank you Madam President.