



TONGA INTERVENTIONS TO PART 1 OF THE 25TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE ISA

Intervention 3: Decision Making

In our latest written submission last year, we had highlighted the need to identify a clear asymmetry of decision making that can be delegated as permitted under UNCLOS, to whom and when, and the conditions and guidance necessary to guide the Secretary-General in the decisions made.

In this regard, we thank the Secretariat for the Annex provided in identifying the specific regulations in the draft exploitation. There is a need to ensure the partnership between the Secretary-General and the Council in ensuring the objectives under UNCLOS are achieved.

We wish to offer the following brief comments at this stage:

- (a) Firstly, we share the view that decisions relating to the day to day operations of the Authority should be left to the Secretary-General;
- (b) Secondly, policy decisions will need written guidance as approved by the Council, and we agree with the suggestion set out in the note;
- (c) Thirdly, in order to achieve transparency, the Secretary-General may report the results of the delegated authority over the past year at the annual sessions of the Council and indicate the outcomes achieved to date and potential challenges encountered in its implementation; and
- (d) Furthermore, a review of delegated authority over, perhaps a period of 5 years, would be useful at this stage.