

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Pham Hai Anh,
Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative
of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations,
Head of Viet Nam's Delegation to 25th Session of the Assembly
of the International Seabed Authority
(Kingston, Jamaica, 23 July 2019)**

***Agenda item 11: Commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the
International Seabed Authority.***

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Hon. Kamina Johnson-Smith, President of 25th Session of the ISA Assembly,
H.E. Mr. Michael Lodge, Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

My Delegation associates itself with the statement made earlier by the Republic of Korea on behalf of the APG group.

Madam President,

This year marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Over the past 25 years, UNCLOS has established an overarching normative framework for oceans and seas governance to ensure sustainable and peaceful use of the oceans, seas and marine resources in the interests of all states parties, be they archipelagic, coastal or landlocked. In this regard, my Delegation wishes to express our high appreciation of the role played and the contributions made by the bodies established under the Convention.

Over the same 25 years, the Authority has significantly matured in many aspects, in substance, in procedures and especially in a circle of friendly colleagues from member states, observers, the Secretariat and, of course, the most gracious and hospitable host country. It is the people who really have made it happen.

We would like to congratulate the Authority for its important contributions to the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources in the Area, the common heritage of mankind, in accordance with the UNCLOS and the 1994 Agreement [relating to the implementation of Part XI of UNCLOS] and in line with SDG 14. Our special congratulations go to the Secretary-Generals and members of the Secretariat through the years for their great efforts and dedication exercised for the cause of the Authority.

Madam President,

On this momentous occasion, let us together reinforce our commitment to respect and implement the principles and provisions of UNCLOS and related instruments, with a view to maintaining peace and stability for the development, conservation and sustainable use of the Area and its resources, based on the principle of equitable benefit sharing, environment protection, with strengthened capacity-building and participation of developing countries.

Viet Nam is ready together with other countries to actively contribute to the work of the Authority, for peace, stability, cooperation and development for all.

I thank you for your attention.