

DOSI Intervention regarding item 10: Draft Regulations on the President's text

Delivered 29 March 2023

Thank you, Mr President,

DOSI strongly supports the inclusion of fisheries in any final text of DR31, alongside submarine cables or pipelines, as another major other user of the Marine Environment. Fisheries in the High Seas contribute significantly to various countries' Regional Fisheries Management Organization catches. Tuna fisheries, for example, are known to occur in the High Seas, including in regions where ISA exploration contracts have been issued, such as the Clarion Clipperton Zone. Given the size of the contract areas in the CCZ, the overlap between fisheries and mining areas is substantial, with associated impacts potentially extending far beyond contract areas, including potentially affecting breeding grounds, spawning, nurseries and commercial stocks. This could result in impacts to food security, income, and livelihoods. As such, this warrants consideration and engagement of this industry as a key user and stakeholder, and should be captured in the Regulations, and also in Regional Environmental Management Plans. DOSI is pleased to see the proposed inclusion of fishing activities in one version of DR 31, and would like to ensure it's included in whichever version is taken forward.

Thank you, Mr President