

Closing Remarks by H.E. Mr. Abshir Omar Jama Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Somalia delivered at a High-Level Side Event Co-organized by the International Seabed Authority during the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on the 5th of March 2023 in Doha Qatar

---

Your Excellencies,

Distinguished delegations and participants,

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to extend my gratitude to the speakers and panelists for their informative and constructive contributions to this high-level side event. I also would like to express our sincere appreciation to the organizers for the success of this event.

As addressed by the panelists , the timely theme of this event is “Leveraging the power of science, technology and innovation in the deep-seabed to build prosperous and resilient LDC economies through the Doha Programme of Action”.

This theme clearly captures the objectives of the Doha conference and in particular this high-level side event which include:

- 1) Calling attention to the rights and obligations of Least Developed Countries (LDC's) as per the provisions of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and identifying strategies to benefit from emerging ocean economies;
- 2) Considering the role of the International Seabed Authority in implementing the Doha Programme of Action and ensuring effective participation of LDC's in scientific research and capacity building activities and forums concerning the international seabed area;
- 3) Advancing women's empowerment and leadership from LDC's in areas concerning international maritime affairs.

In view of the importance of this events' theme, the deliberations have provided a unique opportunity to effectively address these objectives and provided useful proposals that will harmonize the activities of the International Seabed Authority and the Doha Programme of Action.

It is expected that moving forward, the interventions, deliberations and recommendations from the panel discussions within the framework of the Doha Programme of Action specifically (i) improved regional and international cooperation (ii) transfer of technology (iii) and strategic partnerships, can enhance and develop marine scientific research capacity and create enabling conditions for effective participation of LDC's in benefiting fully from emerging ocean sectors of the blue economy.

This in turn this will inform the design of future actions and measures that will support and ensure effective participation of LDCs in ISA activities and the Doha Programme of Action.

In closing, I would like to thank you all for your participation and anticipate the successful implementation of practical solutions to build prosperous and resilient LDC economies through the Doha Programme of Action

Thank you.