

## T&T statement

Thank you Mr. President for giving my delegation the floor.

My delegation thanks Canada and the delegations who worked constructively and in good faith towards reaching a consensus on this contentious matter. And special thanks to Ambassador Hugo Verbist Belgium and Mr. Tan Soo Tet co facilitators for their contributions towards the advancement of these deliberations.

Mr. President, as the work of the Authority advances we will undoubtedly encounter challenges but we should be guided by the Convention and the 1994 Agreement in all our decisions regarding the unique mandate of the Authority.

Accordingly, my delegation is hopeful that as we work towards finalising the regulations (for seabed mining) our decisions will be consistent with the aforementioned instruments which recognise the role of the ISA in developing a mining code while at the same time discharging its dual mandate under Article 145 of the Convention, to protection of the marine environment.

We look forward to the intersessional work to further advance this process.

Thank you.....