



**PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE KINGDOM OF TONGA TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS**

**Intervention by Ms. Jeanett Vea  
Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Tonga to the United Nations  
Part 2 of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the ISA Council Meeting**

**Agenda Item 10**

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**ISA Headquarters, Kingston, Jamaica**

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Thank you, Mr. President,

Please allow me to acknowledge our gratitude to Belgium and Singapore for their leadership on this intersessional dialogue and for providing a comprehensive briefing note to help the Council. We note the discussions which have taken place and wish to highlight and reiterate that the work of this Council is essential in delivering on the mandate of the Authority as set out under Part XI of UNCLOS and most importantly delivering on the principle of the common heritage of mankind under Article 136.

The Council is tasked with issuing regulations, rules and procedures to administer and regulate activities in the Area, including Article 145 and acting in good faith to deliver on these. Tonga is hopeful that we will work towards concluding the Exploitation Regulations expediently, with clear timelines and commitment to its completion.

For us to work on ensuring the various Standards and Guidelines developed thereunder are aligned with the objectives of the Exploitation Regulations and the intention of Part XI for the benefit of all States, in particular developing countries, the Exploitation Regulations must be in place.

We look forward to working with colleagues on the intersessional dialogue that will take place next week and reaffirm our commitment to the Convention and the Part XI Agreement. We must be committed to delivering on its overarching objectives for the benefit of all mankind.

I thank you Mr. President.