



Republic of Nauru

Statement delivered by Her Excellency Margo Deiyé

Permanent Representative of the Republic of Nauru to the International Seabed Authority

Council meeting of the ISA's 29th Session in March 2024

Agenda Item 14: Report of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission on the work of the Commission at the first part of its twenty-ninth session

Mr President,

Nauru thanks the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Commission for the preparation and delivery of the report on the work of the Commission following its recent meetings. We recognize and highly value the work and role of the Commission and express our appreciation to all the members for their hard work and dedication in fulfilling their mandate under the Convention.

We note with particular appreciation the role of the Commission in implementing training programmes and the selection of candidates. This is an area of great importance to us, and to our sponsored entity, NORI. The exponential increase in the number of programmes and applications is testament to the interest in the important work of this Authority. We welcome the ISA Capacity Development Alumni Network and the constructive feedback this will deliver on training programme development and sharing of knowledge and experiences. We also welcome the Commission revising the recommendations for the guidance of contractors and sponsoring States relating to training programmes to keep pace with changing needs and requirements as activities in the Area progress.

Mr President,

My delegation takes note of the Commission's adoption of criteria for identifying contractors at risk of non-compliance and welcome the adoption of a clear process. One area we would highlight is the important interface with sponsoring States in assisting the Authority secure compliance of contractors. This should be factored into the process.

We encourage communication and exchanges between the Commission and contractors as we see this as an opportunity to assist the Commission in fulfilling its functions and a better understanding of

contractor programmes during the period. We support the modalities for facilitating such exchanges adopted by the Commission and an overview of these exchanges in the reports of the Chair for transparency purposes.

Finally, we note the progress made on the development of environmental threshold values and look forward to reviewing the substantive output of the intersessional expert groups at the July meetings. This is a key development area, and we are appreciative of the Commission prioritizing this matter. Equally, we would appreciate feedback from the Commission on the status of updating the Phase 1 and progressing the development of the Phase 2 standards and guidelines and whether the Commission has given consideration to the necessary process and timeline for this.

I thank you.