



Statement on the passing of Professor Hasjim Djalal

Kingston, Jamaica

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STATEMENT

by

Ms. Leticia Carvalho

Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority

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I am deeply saddened to have received the news of the passing of Professor Hasjim Djalal.

Professor Djalal served his country, Indonesia and the international community with distinction over many years, in several areas. He was an outstanding diplomat, international lawyer, academic, highly respected negotiator, and one of the founding fathers of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention). Professor Djalal ardently championed the Convention as the constitution of our oceans and seas for many decades. He was also instrumental in the negotiation and adoption of the 1994 Agreement on the Implementation of Part XI of the Convention (the 1994 Agreement).

As a representative of Indonesia to the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, which resulted in the adoption of the Convention, Professor Djalal was very instrumental, along with others, in advocating for the development of the regime of the archipelagic state, the regime of islands, the regime of straits, among other key provisions that now form part of the *corpus* of the international law of the sea.

Professor Djalal was a luminary of the law of the sea. He served as member and Chair of ISA's Finance Committee for several years. He was the first President of the Assembly of ISA, helping to shape the governance structure of the organ through his influential contributions. Professor Djalal also contributed to the work of both the ISA Assembly and the ISA Council in the development of the regulations for exploration of mineral resources in the Area. He was also a staunch defender of the principle that the Area and its resources are the common heritage of humankind, a principle which is widely recognized as a norm of *jus cogens* by members of the international community. Professor Djalal was a notable figure during the formative years of ISA, leaving a lasting mark in the areas he served.

I convey my sincerest condolences to Professor Djalal's family, friends and members of the International Seabed Authority. ISA owes a debt of gratitude to Professor Djalal for his selfless work over several decades, which has significantly contributed to ISA's growth and development. ISA continues to build on the contributions of Professor Djalal as it celebrates thirty years since its establishment as the only entity with the exclusive mandate under the Convention and the 1994 Agreement to organize and control activities in the Area, and to administer the resources of the Area for the benefit of humanity.
