



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

Statement to the International Seabed Authority on the issue of deep sea mining

The Republic of Cyprus acknowledges the vital role of the International Seabed Authority (ISA) in regulating activities in the Area, in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the principle of the common heritage of humankind.

However, in light of the limited scientific knowledge and the current lack of sufficient, documented, and reliable data concerning the environmental impacts of deep sea mining activities, the Republic of Cyprus expresses its serious concern.

Cyprus considers the protection of ocean health and deep-sea ecosystems to be of paramount importance and therefore supports the application of the precautionary principle.

Accordingly, the Republic of Cyprus joins the call for a precautionary pause on any deep sea mining activities under the remit of the ISA, until such time as a robust regulatory framework is in place to protect the marine environment and until such time as sufficient scientific evidence is available to clearly demonstrate that such operations will not result in adverse impact to the marine environment.

Cyprus remains committed to actively participating in the relevant scientific and intergovernmental processes to ensure the responsible, sustainable, and equitable management of the resources of the Area for the benefit of all humankind.