

Fiji, Jamaica, Malta and Singapore: Draft Decision

Draft Decision of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority on the designation of 1 November as the International Day of the Deep Seabed

*The Assembly,*

*Celebrating* the thirtieth anniversary of the International Seabed Authority which has been established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (the Convention),<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling* the inspirational speech by the Ambassador Arvid Pardo on 1 November 1967 to the United Nations General Assembly for the legal regime applicable to the common heritage of mankind,

*Acknowledging* the importance of the mandate entrusted to the International Seabed Authority by the Convention and the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982,<sup>2</sup> as the organization through which States Parties shall organize and control activities in the Area,

*Highlighting* the importance of building deep sea literacy to raise awareness of the legal regime to govern all activities regarding exploration for and exploitation of the resources of the Area, which are the common heritage of mankind, as well as the role of the Authority in advancing deep-sea research and in leveraging the capacity-building of the Authority,

*Noting* the need to accelerate investment in science and technology to advance global knowledge and understanding of the Area for the benefit of mankind,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 1 November as the International Day of the Deep Seabed, to be observed annually;
2. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present decision should be met by voluntary contributions and that such activities would be subject to the availability and provision of voluntary contributions; and
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present decision to the attention of all members, observers, contractors with the International Seabed Authority, the scientific community, relevant international organizations, academic, scientific and technical institutions, philanthropic organizations and private persons for appropriate observance.

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1836, No. 31364.