



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
UNITED NATIONS | NEW YORK

**STATEMENT BY MR NATHANIEL KHNG,
MINISTER-COUNSELLOR (LEGAL), PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE TO THE UNITED NATIONS,
ON THE DRAFT DECISION TO DESIGNATE 1 NOVEMBER AS
THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE DEEP SEABED, UNDER
AGENDA ITEM 11, ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED
AUTHORITY, THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY,
KINGSTON, JAMAICA, 23 JULY 2025**

1 Thank you very much, Mr President. I would like to thank members of the International Seabed Authority for your support and flexibility on the initiative, and thank the Secretary-General and Secretariat staff for your support and assistance.

2 It has been an immense honour for Singapore to join Fiji, Malta and Jamaica to be a part of this initiative. Singapore, which has a rich heritage in leadership in matters of the ocean and the law of the sea, is a strong supporter of the International Seabed Authority, a body that is and continues to be a key pillar of the legal order for the ocean that is founded on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Convention, as described by Ambassador Tommy Koh, is a post-colonial treaty developed by over 150 countries the majority of which were developing countries, and is the constitution for the oceans. The Authority, which was established by the Convention, remains critical for the maintenance of order in the conduct of deep-seabed mineral resource-related activities in the Area—including with respect to the effective protection of the marine environment from harmful effects from such activities.

3 I will conclude by echoing what was said by Ambassador Frazier earlier. Let this initiative be taken as a small gift to the Authority on the occasion that it celebrates its 30th anniversary. With it, we will have a dedicated space for efforts to promote a better understanding and appreciation of the legal regime for the

Area, the role of the Authority and its work, and the importance of the Area and its resources, which are the common heritage of humankind.

4 Thank you very much Mr President.

.....