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**Subject: Second Part of the 30th Session of the International Seabed Authority**

Berlin, 01 July 2025

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to reiterate Germany's full support for your presidency and to express our sincere appreciation for your diligent leadership in guiding the Council's work throughout its 30th session.

We thank you for your Briefing Paper of 4 June 2025 and submit the following general observations following and in the spirit of the letter you received by Costa Rica, Chile, France and Panama.

Germany remains steadfast in its commitment in working towards the timely adoption of the exploitation regulations, provided that the final text conforms fully to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the 1994 Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, including that the safeguards to protect the marine environment from harmful effects are fully developed and included.

We have taken note of the proposals outlined in your briefing paper and acknowledge their intent to advance deliberations. In this regard, we wish to emphasize that the decision adopted by the Council in 2023, together with the revised roadmap of 2024, reflects Council Members' dedication to furthering the development of the exploitation regulations. However, these decisions do not impose a legal obligation nor create an expectation that Council Members are bound to adopt the regulations by the end of this year.



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Their adoption should only be contemplated when the regulations are demonstrably ready for implementation.

Furthermore, we stress the necessity of maintaining a transparent and inclusive negotiation process. A shift toward “informal informals” would restrict the participation of observers and depart from the inclusive format agreed upon by Member States, which has proven to be effective and constructive. An alteration in the modalities of work should not be taken forward in the middle of the second reading of the regulations and should be subject to the prior approval by the Council.

Finally, we have noted your proposal to submit final written proposals by 11 July 2025. However, we anticipate that the negotiation process will necessitate additional rounds, including further written submissions.

We remain committed to the full implementation of the Convention and to our shared objective of achieving a comprehensive and effective regulatory framework for the benefit of humankind as a whole.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Clemens Wackernagel