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## **Interactive Dialogue 8**

### **Leveraging interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goal 14 and other Goals towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda**

**Lisbon, Portugal**

**1 July 2022**

STATEMENT

by

Mr. Michael W. Lodge

Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority

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Leveraging the interlinkages between all the Sustainable Development Goals requires us to adopt an integrated approach to complex and interconnected processes and issues. This is the only viable way to preserve a balance amongst all interests involved and the rights recognized to all relevant stakeholders.

This is the approach followed by the International Seabed Authority within the remits of the exclusive mandate assigned to it by UNCLOS.

In 2021, I commissioned a report to assess how ISA contributes to the 2030 Agenda. This independent report found that, through implementing its mandate under UNCLOS and progressing the voluntary commitments registered at the 2017 UN Ocean Conference, ISA already contributes in a meaningful way to 12 of the 17 SDGs, including, of course, SDG 14.

This contribution is of particular relevance as it relates to:

- Strengthening the rule of law in ocean governance.
- Developing deep-sea mineral resources to benefit humanity as a whole.
- Ensuring a rapid and safe transition to a low-carbon economy.
- Preventing environmental harm through the development of a global regulatory framework for deep-seabed mining based on the best available scientific evidence and a precautionary approach.
- Developing capacity and strengthening institutions of developing States.

- Contributing to marine science by advancing and sharing global knowledge of the deep sea.
- All reflect the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental.

Amongst the reasons ISA has been successful in implementing its mandate are the numerous global strategic partnerships established with a wide range of stakeholders.

Although they have different views on many issues, all share a strong sense of commitment to the legal regime set out in UNCLOS for the sustainable management of the global commons and therefore, the underlying mission of the Authority.

I trust that going forward, more will join us so that we can progress collectively to implement the mandate assigned by UNCLOS which, as we all agreed this week, is central to the achievement of the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda.

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