

Mr President, Mr Secretary General, Distinguish Delegates,

On behalf of the Polish delegation to the 26th session of the Assembly let me first congratulate to Mr President for his election and Secretary General for reelection. We would like to express gratitude for your hard work put into the proper and uninterrupted functioning of the Authority in these difficult times. We are convinced that the attitude and commitment of the Secretary General positively influences the determination of the member states to diligently implement the set goals and support the work of the ISA.

We join the community and remember the late Satya N Nandan and his excellent contribution to the work of Authority. We cannot underestimate his great leadership and we remember well his lessons.

Poland would like to congratulate Bosnia and Herzegovina on becoming a party to the 1994 Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the UNCLOS and to all Member States which established their new permanent missions to ISA.

Taking this opportunity, we would also like to congratulate Dr. Kirsty McQuaid - From South Africa on winning this prestigious award of the Secretary General and wish further professional success and determination in achieving goals.

Poland appreciates the possibility of remote participation in the ISA Session. We support the organization of the Assembly in a hybrid mode. Thanks to this format, we claim that the Council meeting in which we participated last week was successful and fruitful. Regarding the significant issues we will face during 27th session of the Authority, we hope that there will be no pandemic restrictions and all delegates will have a possibility to participate in person.

We are glad that despite the difficult situation, the contractors are implementing plans of work and training programs. We believe that those actions significantly contribute to the adoption of the mining code and a better understanding of the deep-sea environment. We will make our best effort to positively contribute to the sustainable development of the Deep Sea Mining.

Mr President,

Poland appreciates the work of the Authority as described in the Annual report of the Secretary-General . In our opinion, a great commitment of all Member States is needed to achieve the highest quality of exploitation regulations, with due care for the environment protection, as well as an equitable distribution. Poland also supports further work of independent experts on crucial environmental issues, such as Regional Environmental Management Plans and welcomes establishment of four additional areas of particular environmental interest in the Clarion-Clipperton Zone.

We would also like to thank to the Secretary General for the Report on the implementation of the Strategic Plan of the Authority for the period 2019-2023. We note with satisfaction actions aimed make aware the role of the Authority, strengthen the regulatory framework for activities in the Area, promote and encourage marine scientific research and providing the transparency of the Authority.

Polish delegation wishes for all a successful outcome to the current session of the Assembly.