

Statement by the Kenya Delegation to the 23rd Session of the ISA Assembly 7th - 18th
August 2017

Thank you Mr. president.

My delegation joins delegations who have taken the floor before in congratulating you upon your election. My delegation is confident that you will steer this Assembly successfully and assure you of our cooperation.

We take this opportunity to also congratulate the Secretary General for his appointment at the helm of the authority and wish him well in the work that lies ahead of him.

We thank the Secretary General for a well detailed report, being his first one, and acknowledge the Secretariat's significant efforts in carrying forward the Authority's mandate.

Mr. President,

While we align ourselves with the statement made on behalf of the African Group, We specifically laud the work that has gone into the submission of the final report of the review of the Authority pursuant to Article 154 of UNCLOS, details which will be delved into substantially under agenda item 9. My delegation recalls that it reminded on the need for this particular review and remains keen on this Assembly's consideration of its recommendations.

Mr. president,

We appreciate the efforts and resources put into capacity building and training. This is the most certain means of ensuring seamless continuity of competences and certain sustainability of the work of this Authority and related agencies. This also assures of the protection of the common heritage of mankind which is of importance to us.

In the same vein, we acknowledge the opportunities offered to young government officials and students for internships. Through the internship programme, we can look forward to continued quality representation in meetings of the Authority and effective outcomes. Noting that it is not only the interns that benefit from the programme, but also the Authority from the assistance provided by the interns, we note the Secretary General's invitation to any possible budgetary support for an internship programme that would benefit individuals from developing countries. Besides this invitation, we hope that there may be further exploration of possibilities in making the internship programme all inclusive.

Finally, we thank the Government of Jamaica for their continued hospitality and efforts to make the Authority's activities in Jamaica as seamless as possible.

Thank you Mr. President