



Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale

29[^] Session of the International Seabed Authority

Meeting of the Council

Second part

Statement of Italy

Item 12 – Report of the Interim Director-General of the Enterprise

Thank you, Mr. President.

And thank you, Mr Charles, for the pioneering work you are carrying out and for the many important achievements you have already reached in the first few months of your tenure as Interim Director-General of the Enterprise.

As we hopefully approach the end of the negotiations on the exploitation regulations, we feel the time is come that the interim Director General of the Enterprise start looking into policy options that would ensure that the Enterprise will have a sound and effective managerial structure as Mr. Charles mentions in his report.

We also encourage the interim Director General to collect trends in deep-seabed mining as listed in paragraph c) of his report and invite him to inform member States accordingly in view of possible joint ventures with the future Enterprise.

We welcome the recent publication by the Secretariat on the availability of reserved areas as of 2024. In this context, we encourage the interim Director General to undergo a new assessment of their resource, as they will represent the main asset of the future Enterprise.

We also suggest the interim Director General to provide in the next reports an update on the possible interpretation of “commercial sound principles” with a view to ensure that possible future joint ventures can be construed in accordance with the relevant requirements under UNCLOS and 1994 Agreement.