

Italy – Statement 6th December 2021
26th Session of the International Seabed Authority

Item 11
ISBA/26/C/3

Italy would like to thank the Secretary-General for his report on the implementation of the decision of the Council in 2019. With respect to DR, Italy appreciates the effort of Ms Taga to make available to delegations a document to assist discussion on part IV of the DR. It is an important tool to effectively advance negotiations on a such a sensitive topic. However, it is our understanding that the document should be made available well in advance for delegations to prepare for the negotiations in February 2022. This would be of course extremely useful especially in case we agree on having informal intersessional meetings, a decision we would support.

It is our knowledge that a facilitator for the informal working group on institutional matters has not been nominated yet. We encourage such nomination that will represent an important step on a crucial topic of the DR. We look forward to start working and we are ready to provide all our support to the facilitators.

Italy also appreciates the work to advance increased transparency of explorations contracts and the availability of information in this matter on the ISA website. We also encourage those who have not submitted completed templates to make data available as we consider transparency a key element in the regime of exploration and exploitation of the Area.