

Intervention by Israel on Item 4 - Area Based Management Tools

Thank you Madame Facilitator,

As this is the first time Israel is taking the floor at this meeting, so my delegation would first like to thank you and all the facilitators as well as the President and the members of the Secretariat, who have been guiding us through this important and complex process in a professional and efficient manner'

Israel is a coastal country with shorelines on both the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea, and this is one of the reasons why the State of Israel considers the conservation of the marine environment to be of great importance'

In addition, Israel views the high seas and the rich biodiversity therein as treasures that belong to everyone and that they should be conserved and sustainably managed for the good of all, under the guiding principle of the common heritage of mankind'

Israel, therefore, views positively the efforts to draft a new, international legally-binding instrument in order to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction'

* With regard to the subject of Area-Based Management Tools:

Regarding cluster 4, on objectives, my delegation believes that Area Based Management Tools wishes to echo those who have voiced the view that they should be based primarily on the designation of areas that are large and representative, and should be monitored to ensure that they fulfill their role of keeping the marine ecosystems in these specific areas at a favorable condition.

