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Thank you Madam President

Section 2.1 (Geographic scope), New Zealand is comfortable with paragraphs 1 and 2 for the time being and would need to consider the exact drafting in due course.

On section 2.2 (Material scope), paragraph 1, we agree that the wording reflects the agreed mandate for our discussions, however, like the EU and Norway, we question whether we actually need this paragraph in the instrument or just need to operationalise it through the instrument.

We have some very brief comments on this section. We support the language in paragraph 1, however for consistency, New Zealand would like to see the objective aligned, as appropriate, with the objective of the UNFSA. In particular, we would like to see the addition of the words "long term", before "conservation and sustainable use of marine

On a general level, we think it could be useful to elaborate in the Agreement on modalities for cooperation with existing relevant global, regional and sectoral bodies.

There are some additional points that we would like to see covered in a cross cutting section of the Agreement. They probably fit best in this section on international cooperation but we are flexible on this. We note that both of these points are mentioned or alluded to in more specific sections of the text.

Firstly, we would like to see an explicit obligation on States parties to cooperate to establish new global, regional or sectoral bodies, where necessary, to fill governance gaps.

Secondly, we would also like to see an explicit obligation on States parties to cooperate to strengthen existing global, regional and sectoral bodies, and adjust the mandates where possible and as appropriate, to support the objectives of the BBNJ Agreement.

Thank you Madam President