OSPAR is committed to prevent/eliminate pollution and to protect the NEA against the adverse effects of a
huge range of human activities, like cable-laying, dumping, dredging, scientific research, as it mandate
comprises the conservation of marine biodiversity and the restoration of marine areas adversely affected.
When and where human activities impacting on OSPAR maritime area fall outside its mandate, OSPAR
consult competent organisations, through bilateral MoUs, but also through a multilateral dialogue platform
which has been established together with NEAFC in 2014.
The objective of the collective arrangement is to promote the sharing of knowledge, in full consideration
for respective competences of different bodies, and to enlarge the dialogue to as many competent
authorities as possible. As mandates are specific to regions and sectors, OSPAR believes cross-sectoral and
interregional communication is fundamental towards the implementation of the ecosystem approach, its
main guiding principle.
With regard to ABMT, OSPAR has so far designated MPAs amounting to 6% of its maritime area, of which
almost 9% are located in ABNJ. Currently OSPAR is working on a new MPA in ABNJ, aiming at protecting
seabirds populations (in a vast area in the mid-Atlantic). Alongside with the internal development of its
scientific foundatiŽŶ͕ĂƉƵďůŝĐƉƌŽĐĞƐƐŽĨ͞ƐĞĞŬŝŶŐƚŚĞǀŝĞǁƐ͟ǁĂƐůĂƵŶĐŚĞĚďǇK^WZůĂƐƚǇĞĂƌ͘
International and sectoral organisations competent for activities outside the scope of OSPAR (like fishing,
shipping and deep-sea mining) were invited to provide information on current or potential activities having
impact on the specific features in need of protection (seabird populations) and on possible management
measures they may consider in the future under their respective mandates. Their input will contribute to
reinforce the conservation objectives that OSPAR will determine for the MPA in question.
Finally, Madam President, OSPAR is currently assessing achievements of its decadal Environmental
Strategy, whilst defining future directions for a new Strategy after 2020. The discussions under the
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Thank you
Susana Salvador
Executive Secretary OSPAR Commission

OSPAR STATEMENT, BBNJ, 4 April 2019
Thank you Madam President,
/͛ŵǀĞƌǇŐƌĂƚĞĨƵůfor the opportunity to recall the example of OSPAR as a regional cooperation mechanism
for the NEA which provides knowledge on its state and on impacts from human pressures, playing