



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

351 EAST 52nd STREET· NEW YORK, NY 10022

TEL (212) 754-2230 FAX (212) 688-3029

Statement

By

**His Excellency Mr. Supark Prongthura
Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires *ad interim*,**

Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations, New York

**at the Third Session
of the Intergovernmental Conference on an International Legally Binding
Instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of
Areas beyond National Jurisdiction**

**United Nations Headquarters, New York
19 August 2019**

Madam President,

1. At the outset, my delegation would like to align itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the State of Palestine on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

2. I would like to take this opportunity to express how pleased we are to see you presiding over this third substantive session of the intergovernmental conference on the BBNJ. We also wish to commend the work of Madame President and your team for preparing the draft text of an agreement, which is the first step towards

5. Secondly, on the topic of **areas-based management tools, including marine protected areas**, we should attach great importance on the establishment of such marine protected areas in order to ensure the effective protection of BBNJ, as also in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. In this regard, we are pleased to see that the scientific criteria for identifying Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) appear, as a good reference, in the draft text as the criteria for the identification of areas requiring protection. Additionally,