Statement by Turkey

III. 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 (19 August 2019, New York)

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Madam President,

The health of our oceans and seas is critical to the economic, social, and environmental well being of the planet. As a peninsula country, Turkey attachesstutimportance to efforts for efficient, environmentally conscious and sustainable use of marine environment, in accordance with international law.

Turkey will host the COP16 of Convention of Biological Diversity in 2022. In addition, in November this yær, we will host the 7th Meeting of the Parties to ACCOBAMS, which is a legal conservation tool aiming to reduce threats to cetaceans, namely whales and dolphins.

Our position with regard to the UNCLOS has already been reaffirmed within the joint statemen

coastal States have not yet proclaimed EEZs or similar jurisdictional zonesdbtetyeoin territorial waters in accordance with international law. But this does not mean that such maritime areas should be considered as areas beyond national jurisdiction as far as the purpose of this instrument is concerned. There already exist intermatiinstruments at regional or international level constituting a regime on conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity with regard to such maritime areas, as well.

This proposal is fully compatible with the general objective of this agree mass well as with the specific safeguard clause added to Article 4 sub paragraph 2.

Moreover, in line with this proposal, with regard to the article 15 sub paragraph 6 we believe that a clarification is necessary. In this paragraph, it should be constant of a coastal state we protected area could subsequently fall under the national jurisdiction of a coastal state. We believe, this could be only possible as regards the continental shelf beyond 200 nm in accordance with international law. As was indicated be X U G H O H J D W L R Q W K L V geographical scope should not involve the maritime areas within 200 nm from the baselines under any circumstances. Thus, our delegation proposes the following wording for the E H J L Q Q L Q J R I W K L V V X E ISHDUID J O SWK H³, FOR E DWLHOVH OF ROD V K same '

As for the Settlement of Disputes, we propose the deletion of the article 54, and a general reference should be made to the Article 33 of the UN Charter. As far as the State Parties to this Agreement that are not Parties to the Convention are concerneedArtible 287 of the MorebeAgd 4 sub paragraph 2.