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le se référer à la trentième Réunion des

Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer et la Phosphore

États parties à la Convention,

27 November 2020

Excellencies,

I wish to refer to my letters dated 27 and 30 October 2020, regarding the timetable and modalities for the consideration of the pending items on the agenda of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, as outlined in the annex to my letter dated 27 October 2020 (available at www.un.org/Depts/los/meeting_states_parties/thirtiethmeetingstatesparties.htm).

I also wish to refer to my letter dated 23 November 2020, concerning the proposed actions for agenda item 8 (*Report of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea to the Meeting of States Parties*); agenda item 9 (*Information reported by the International*

The report of the Vice-President on the outcome of the consultations of the Working Group included a recommendation that the *Draft Decisions on budgetary matters of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2021-2022*, contained in his report, be circulated to States Parties with a view to adopting these decisions at the plenary meeting in December.

Consequently, I am pleased to circulate, in the annex to this letter, the *Draft Decisions on budgetary matters of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2021-2022*. I understand that States Parties had the opportunity to comment on the *Draft Decisions* and no comments were received, and that the *Draft Decisions* reflect an amendment based on a comment from the Registrar of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. I propose to table the *Draft Decisions* for adoption at the plenary meeting of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties in December 2020.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.

H.E. Burhan Gafoor
President of the thirtieth Meeting of States
Parties

Annex

Draft Decisions on budgetary matters of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2021-2022

The Meeting of States Parties,

Having considered the draft budget proposals of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2021-2022 (SPLOS/30/5) and the addendum to the draft budget proposals (SPLOS/30/5/Add. 1),

1. *Approves* the draft budget for 2021-2022, on the basis of annex I to document SPLOS/30/5 and in the light of the decrease of the draft budget for 2021-2022 (SPLOS/30/5/Add.1 and outlined by the Registrar in her report to the Open-Ended Working Group on Financial and Budgetary Matters;
2. *Decides that*, pursuant to regulation 5.3 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Tribunal (SPLOS/120), the contributions of States parties for each of the two years of the biennium 2021-2022 shall be determined on the basis of half of the appropriations adopted by the Meeting of States Parties for that budget period;
3. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report on budgetary matters for the financial periods 2017-2018 and 2019-2020 (SPLOS/30/3), *notes*, on the basis of that report, that the cash surplus for the financial period 2017-2018 amount would be surrendered and deducted from the contributions of States parties for 2021, in accordance with financial regulation 4, and *also notes* that it is no longer necessary to use parts of the 2017-2018 cash surplus to finance anticipated over-expenditures in the 2019-2020 budget period;
4. *Authorizes* the Tribunal to make transfers between appropriation sections pursuant to regulation 4.6, to the extent that that is necessary to cover over-expenditures, in the event that the Tribunal is unable to meet approved expenditures for 2019-2020 from appropriations made with respect to certain budget lines;
5. *Encourages* the Registrar to continue to manage the funds prudently and efficiently, seeking to achieve optimum utilization of the financial resources of the Tribunal;
6. *Decides that*, without prejudice to the application of the provisions of article 19 of annex VI to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in respect of future budgets of the Tribunal regarding the contribution to be made by the International Seabed Authority, the budget of the Tribunal for 2021-2022 would be financed by all States parties to the Convention taking into account that the European Union indicated that its agreed contribution to the budget of the Tribunal is 110,000 for each year; and
7. *Also decides that* a floor rate of 0.01 per cent and a ceiling rate of 22 per cent is to be used in establishing the rate of assessment of States parties for the budget of the Tribunal for 2021-2022.