

*The Permanent Mission
of the Kingdom of Morocco
to the United Nations
New York*



البعثة الدائمة للمملكة المغربية
لدى الأمم المتحدة
نيويورك

7 September 2018

Measures such as area based management tools, including marine protected areas

Thank You Mme Chair,

First of all, I would like to congratulate you for your reconduction to facilitate this working group. We are confident in your ability to lead us to fruitful conclusions.

My congratulations go too to the UN staff for celebrating their day today. We look forward to celebrate the Day of the Diplomat too.

As to the subject at hand, Morocco believes that **the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction** is the main purpose of the Instrument.

Indeed, Resolutions 69/292 and 72/249 are the reference and the guidance for our work in this process and in responding to the question on the relation with other instruments. During our intervention yesterday on capacity building and the transfer of technology, my delgation underlined that for the new instrument to be effective, we should not start from scrtach. We have the Convention, UNCLOS, which should be respected, the 1995 Agreement and other relevant instruments which should be respected too. There should be no duplication. The new instrument should fill the gaps and have complementary role.

As to the relation with Adjacent Costal States, the rights of Costal States and their sovereignty and territorial integrity should be respected. Their sovreignty on their continental shelf within and beyond 200 nautical miles and the exclusive economic zone should be respected. So I agree with those who insisted that there must be respect for the rights of costal states as garanted in UNCLOS and in this regard I

associates my self with what was said by the European Union in this regard.

We believe there should be a mechanism of consultations and coordination with coastal States as regard ABMTs and MPAs in order to prevent any sideeffects. And if there is any negative impact on coastal states, the MPA should cease. A clear house mechanism is needed to share informations.

Thank you

Mohammed Atlassi

Minister Plenipotentiary