

## **New Zealand Intervention: Cross cutting issues**

Thank you Madam President

### **Part II Section 2: Scope of application**

Section 2.1 (Geographic scope), New Zealand is comfortable with paragraphs 1 and 2 for the time being and would need to consider the exact drafting in due course.

On section 2.2 (Material scope), paragraph 1, we agree that the wording reflects the agreed mandate for our discussions, however, like the EU and Norway, we question whether we actually need this paragraph in the instrument or just need to operationalise it through the instrument.

### **Section 3: Objectives**

We have some very brief comments on this section. We support the language in paragraph 1, however for consistency, New Zealand would like to see the objective aligned, as appropriate, with the objective of the UNFSA. In particular, we would like to see the addition of the words “long term”, before “conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity”. And secondly we suggest a reference to the “relevant provisions of the Convention”, in line with UNFSA Article 2, as suggested by the US.

On paragraph 2, we are flexible, but comfortable with the language in option I.

### **Section 4: Relationship to the Convention and other instruments and frameworks and relevant bodies.**

On paragraph 2, we support the intention of these options, however we note that the phrase “not undermine” will need further consideration and elaboration in the instrument. On paragraph 3, we prefer Option II – no text.

### **Part III, Section 1: Principles and approaches**

We have explained the principles and approaches that are important to New Zealand at previous meetings so we will not reiterate these now. We have some high level comments on this section.

We would like to see the list of principles and approaches consolidated and refined. We see the need for one list that applies to the entire Agreement. The list should contain genuinely important principles of international law and policy approaches. Other matters could be included in the preamble, and/or operationalised in the Agreement. We think there will be a need to further elaborate some principles and approaches in the Agreement, either in definitions or stand-alone articles similar to Articles 6 and 7 of UNFSA.

### **Part III, Section 2: International cooperation**

On a general level, we think it could be useful to elaborate in the Agreement on modalities for cooperation with existing relevant global, regional and sectoral bodies.

There are some additional points that we would like to see covered in a cross cutting section of the Agreement. They probably fit best in this section on international cooperation but we are flexible on this. We note that both of these points are mentioned or alluded to in more specific sections of the text.

Firstly, we would like to see an explicit obligation on States parties to cooperate to establish new global, regional or sectoral bodies, where necessary, to fill governance gaps.

Secondly, we would also like to see an explicit obligation on States parties to cooperate to strengthen existing global, regional and sectoral bodies, and adjust the mandates where possible and as appropriate, to support the objectives of the BBNJ Agreement.

Thank you Madam President