

**THE COMMISSION ON THE LIMITS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF  
(CLCS)**

**CLOSING STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMISSION  
ON THE LIMITS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF ON THE OCCASION OF  
THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE LIMITS OF THE  
CONTINENTAL SHELF (CLCS)**

**BY**

**LAWRENCE AWOSIKA**

**Chairperson of the CLCS**

United Nations Legal Counsel

Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority

President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen

Dear Friends

We have now come to the end of the open meeting convened to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

Let me, on behalf of the Commission, express my gratitude to the honourable speakers - the Secretary General of the International Seabed Authority - Mr. Michael Lodge, the President of the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea - Mr. Vladimir Golitsyn who have travelled from Jamaica and Hamburg respectively to attend and speak at this open meeting and to the Legal Counsel of the United Nations Mr. Miguel de Serpa Soares, for making time in his busy

schedule to be here today. We are also very grateful for the presence of the Legal Counsel and Deputy to the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority Mr. Alfonso Ascencio. My sincere appreciation also goes to the Members of the Commission who made presentations on behalf of the Commission.

Your Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen

The Commission is very grateful to you, Excellencies, Representatives of Permanent Missions of States to the United Nations, representatives of International organizations, and other individuals who have taken time out of their busy schedules to attend this open meeting. Our sincere appreciation goes to the staff of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations for their assistance provided to the Commission and for the successful holding of this 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Let me, on behalf of the Commission, also thank the interpreters, conference officers and all those who contribute, on a continuing basis, to the work of the Commission and to the success of this open meeting.

The Commission feels very honoured with your presence here today.

On behalf of the Commission I wish all whom will be travelling safe travels back to your different stations.

I now declare closed the second open meeting of the Commission held to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental shelf.

Thank you all for coming.