

1 May 2020

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to transmit herewith, a letter from the co-chairs of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, H.E. Ms. Isabelle F. Picco, Permanent Representative of the Principality of Monaco and H.E. Ms. Pennelope Althea Beckles, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, regarding the twenty-first meeting of the Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, scheduled to be held at the United Nations Headquarters from 22 to 26 June 2020.

The letter from the co-chairs informs that in light of the evolving situation concerning the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and after consulting with delegations, it was agreed that the twenty-first meeting of the Informal Consultative Process will be postponed to 2021, to be held at a date to be later decided by the Assembly. Therefore, in the coming days, I will submit a draft decision on the postponement

In this regard, I would like to acknowledge the work undertaken by the co-chairs thus far despite the many challenges COVID-19 has posed to our work.

I would also like to avail this opportunity to express our solidarity with Member States who are fighting COVID-19 and our sincere condolences for their loss.

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

Tijjani Muhammad-Bande

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York

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United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea

Excellency,

We write to you concerning the Twenty-First meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea.

You will recall that the General Assembly requested, in paragraph 349 of resolution 74/19, the Secretary-General to convene, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 54/33, the twenty-first meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in New York for eight meetings during the week of 22 to 26 June 2020.

However, in light of the situation concerning the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), we have consulted with delegations in the past days to consider the postponement of that meeting. As a result of those consultations it was agreed that the twenty-first meeting of the Informal Consultative Process will be postponed to 2021 to be held at a date to be later decided by the Assembly.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Isabelle F. Picco

Pennelope Althea Beckles

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H.E. Prof. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande President of the United Nations General Assembly