COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF THE SEA-BED AND THE OCEAN FLOOR BEYOND THE LIMITS OF NATIONAL JURISDICTION

DRAFT STATUTE FOR AN INTERNATIONAL SEA-BED AUTHORITY

As submitted by the United Republic of Tanzania

The Contracting Parties

Recalling resolutions 2340 (XXII) of 18 December 1967, 2467 (XXII) of 31 December 1968, 2574 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969, and 2750 (XXIV) of 17 December 1970 of the General Assembly of the United Nations,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles Governing the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and the Subsoil Thereof, Beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction adopted by the General Assembly on 17 December 1970,

Desiring to ensure that the exploration and use of the sea-bed and ocean floor should be conducted in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in conformity with the Declaration of Principles Governing the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and the Subsoil Thereof, Beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction, in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and for the benefit of all mankind and in particular the interests of developing countries,

Mindful of the importance of preserving the sea-bed and the ocean floor and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction from actions and uses which might be detrimental to the common interests of mankind,

Noting to foster greater international co-operation and co-ordination in the peaceful exploration and exploitation of the sea-bed and ocean floor and its subsoil thereof beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

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(3) Each Contracting Party shall be responsible for maintaining public order on
manned installations and equipment operated by it or those sponsored by it.
(4) Each Contracting Party shall be responsible for damages caused by activities
which it sponsors, to any other Contracting Party or its nationals.
(5) A group of States acting together, pursuant to agreement among them or through
an international organization, shall be jointly and severally responsible under this
Convention.

Article 15
All disputes arising out of the interpretation or application of this Convention
shall be settled in accordance with the provisions of Article 39 hereunder.

Powers of the Authority

Article 16
The International Sea-bed Authority is empowered:

(1) to explore the International Sea-bed Area and exploit its resources for peaceful
purposes by means of its own facilities, equipment and services, or such as are
procured by it for the purpose;

(2) to issue licences to Contracting Parties, individually or in groups, or to
persons, natural or juridical, under its or their sponsorship, with respect to all
activities of exploration of the International Sea-bed Area and the exploitation of
its resources for peaceful purposes, and related activities, subject to such terms
and conditions, including the payment of appropriate fees and other charges, as the
Authority may determine;

(3) to provide for the equitable sharing by Contracting Parties of raw materials
obtained from the International Sea-bed Area, funds received from the sale thereof,
and all other receipts, as well as scientific information and such other benefits as
may be derived from the exploration of the International Sea-bed Area and the
exploitation of its resources;

(4) to establish or adopt in consultation, and where appropriate, in collaboration
with the competent organs of the United Nations, and with the specialized agencies
concerned, measures designed to minimize and eliminate fluctuation of prices of land,
inminerals and raw materials that may result from the exploitation of the resources of
the International Sea-bed Area, and any adverse economic effects caused thereby;
Obligations of the Parties

Article 10
States shall act in the area in accordance with the applicable principles and rules of international law including the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, adopted by the General Assembly on 24 October 1970, in the interests of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international co-operation and mutual understanding.

Article 11
Exploration and exploitation of the resources of the International Sea-bed Area must not result in any unjustifiable interference with other activities in the marine environment.

Article 12
All activities in the International Sea-bed Area shall be conducted with strict and adequate safeguards for protection of human life and safety of the marine environment.

Article 13
All activities of exploration and exploitation of the resources of the Area and other related activities shall be conducted by or on behalf of the International Sea-bed Authority, or by a Contracting Party or group of Contracting Parties or natural or juridical persons under its or their sponsorship, all subject to the general supervision and control of the International Sea-bed Authority.

Article 14
(1) Each Contracting Party shall take appropriate measures to ensure that those conducting activities under its sponsorship comply with this Convention.
(2) Each Contracting Party shall make it an offence for those conducting activities under its sponsorship in the International Sea-bed Area to violate the provisions of this Convention. Such offences shall be punishable in accordance with administrative or judicial procedures established by the Contracting Party sponsoring such activities.