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Excellency,

I write to you concerning the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Meeting is convened annually by the Secretary-General pursuant to article 319 of the Convention to consider the report of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and to deal with its budgetary and administrative matters, to receive information provided by the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority and the Chairperson of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf on the activities of these bodies, and to receive the Report of the Secretary-General under article 319 for the information of States parties on issues of a general nature, relevant to States parties, that have arisen with respect to the Convention. Periodically, it also elects the members of the Tribunal and the members of the Commission.

For 2020, the General Assembly approved, in paragraph 56 of resolution 74/19 of 10 December 2019, the convening by the Secretary-General of the Meeting, in New York from 15 to 19 June, with full conference services, including documentation, as required.

In this regard, I wish to inform you that, in light of the situation concerning the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the States Parties of the Convention have endorsed a proposal that I made following consultations with the Bureau of the twenty-ninth Meeting of States Parties to postpone the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to a period of at least three days between 31 August to 4 September 2020, provided that a