

SRI LANKA'S STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 6: RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF THE SUBJECT MATTER ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT, AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON AN INTERNATIONAL LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA ON THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF MARINE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION,

1<sup>st</sup> April 2019

#### 5.5 Content of Environmental Impact Assessment Reports

Mr. Facilitator, at the outset, we align ourselves with the statement made on behalf of G77 and China.

Under 'Content of environmental impact assessment reports,' option - II is our preferred option. As opined by a few other delegations, careful analysis of the elements of Option -II is required.

In looking at Options under paragraph (a), we see merit in taking on board option 'A' relating to 'a description of planned activity with the addition of 'purpose' at the end of option 'A'.

Paragraph (b), we prefer option 'A'. However, we are not sure whether this is the appropriate place for option 'A'. In our view, reasonable alternatives to the planned activity including non-action alternatives should be considered after considering 'description of the potential effects of the planned activity'.

Paragraph 'C' is acceptable. On Paragraph 'D', we prefer to go with Option 'A'.

Paragraph 'e(1), we prefer to go with Option "A" relating to 'a description of any socioeconomic impacts'.

We are not sure of retention of paragraph 'g', therefore, I will not comment on that.

Paragraph 'h' we prefer to go with Option 'A'.

We are flexible with the retention or amending Paragraphs ( i ) to (q).

We see merit in retaining paragraph 2.

Under paragraph 3, we wish to go with option 'A' and flexible about the way the report should be developed.

I thank you Mr. Facilitator.