

Statement by the delegation of the Republic of Costa Rica
UNEP's Committee of Permanent Representatives Subcommittee meeting,
27th April 2023

The delegation of Costa Rica welcomes that during the Resumed 5th Session of the Intergovernmental Conference on BBNJ, Governments agreed on a draft treaty on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The finalization of these lengthy deliberations is a triumph of multilateralism and good news for the future of the ocean and the life therein. This treaty will address the exploitation of marine genetic resources, including benefit-sharing; establish area-based management tools, such as marine protected areas; set procedures for environmental impact assessments; and provide capacity building and transfer of marine technology. To advance further, Costa Rica calls for member states to join the efforts by adopting, signing, and ratifying the treaty.

The BBNJ is a big step forward for the efforts for conservation and sustainable use across the ocean, including the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Framework to protect 30% of the ocean. It will also contribute to the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of marine genetic resources.

Costa Rica looks forward to the universal adoption and effective implementation of the BBNJ Agreement.