

INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

30 January 2019

Dear Mr Serpa Soares,

Reference is made to your letter of 19 December 2018 inviting the contribution of the International Seabed Authority to the report of the Secretary-General on Oceans and the Law of the Sea pursuant to General Assembly resolution A/73/424.

[REDACTED]

Please find enclosed the contribution of the Authority on this important theme.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

For example, the Authority collaborates with the global scientific community to publish taxonomic atlases for the deep sea. The lack of deep sea marine taxonomy is a major impediment for assessing deep sea marine biodiversity since existing lists of species do not provide the required information to undertake basic ecological assessment of deep sea biodiversity. It is expected that this tool will greatly

In addition to fulfilling the Authority's mandate to collect and share information for the benefit of