

Reference: C.N.386.2025.TREATIES-XXI.10 (Depositary Notification)

AGREEMENT 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

NEW YORK, 19 JUNE 2023

PAKISTAN: SIGNATURE

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary,
communicates the following:

The above action was effected on 21 July 2025, with:

Interpretative declaration (Original: English)

- a) The provisions of the Agreement 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 shall be applied and interpreted in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982. Therefore, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan understands that the Agreement is without prejudice to the sovereign rights, jurisdiction and powers of coastal States under the Convention.
- b) For the purposes of the Agreement, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan reaffirms the declaration it made upon [signing] the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982 with regard to part XV of the Convention, on the settlement of disputes. The Islamic Republic of Pakistan states that:

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan shall, at an appropriate time, make declarations provided for in articles 287 and 298 relating to the settlement of disputes.

- c) The Islamic Republic of Pakistan understands that the principle of the common heritage of humankind, as specified in Article 7, Paragraph (b) of the Agreement, applies to both the geographical spaces and the resources covered under the scope of this Agreement. The scope and legal effects of the freedom of marine scientific research outlined in Article 7, Paragraph (c) of this Agreement should be interpreted in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of

the Sea (UNCLOS). The Islamic Republic of Pakistan believes that Article 241 of UNCLOS is crucial for this interpretation and that marine scientific research cannot be used to justify claims of ownership or proprietary rights over any part of the marine environment or its resources.

23 July 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized letters that appear to be 'DN' with a horizontal line underneath.