

**10. 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

NOT YET IN FORCE: in accordance with article 68(1) which reads as follows: "This Agreement shall enter into force 120 days after the date of deposit of the sixtieth instrument of ratification, approval, acceptance or accession".

STATUS: Signatories: 83.

TEXT: -

Note: The Agreement was adopted in New York on 19 June 2023 during the further resumed fifth 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. The Agreement shall be open for signature in New York on 20 September 2023 and shall remain open for signature until 20 September 2025.

C.N.203.2023.TREATIES-XXI.10 of 20 July 2023 (Opening for Signature).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>
Antigua and Barbuda.....	20 Sep	2023	Estonia	20 Sep	2023
Australia.....	20 Sep	2023	European Union.....	20 Sep	2023
Austria	20 Sep	2023	Fiji	20 Sep	2023
Bangladesh.....	20 Sep	2023	Finland	20 Sep	2023
Belgium	20 Sep	2023	France	20 Sep	2023
Belize.....	22 Sep	2023	Gabon.....	20 Sep	2023
Bolivia (Plurinational State of).....	20 Sep	2023	Germany	20 Sep	2023
Brazil	21 Sep	2023	Ghana.....	20 Sep	2023
Bulgaria	20 Sep	2023	Greece.....	21 Sep	2023
Cabo Verde.....	20 Sep	2023	Honduras.....	20 Sep	2023
Chile.....	20 Sep	2023	Hungary	21 Sep	2023
China.....	20 Sep	2023	Iceland	20 Sep	2023
Colombia	20 Sep	2023	Indonesia.....	20 Sep	2023
Congo.....	20 Sep	2023	Ireland.....	20 Sep	2023
Cook Islands	22 Sep	2023	Italy	22 Sep	2023
Costa Rica.....	20 Sep	2023	Lao People's Democratic Republic	20 Sep	2023
Croatia	20 Sep	2023	Latvia.....	20 Sep	2023
Cuba.....	20 Sep	2023	Lithuania.....	20 Sep	2023
Cyprus.....	20 Sep	2023	Luxembourg.....	20 Sep	2023
Czech Republic.....	29 Sep	2023	Malawi.....	20 Sep	2023
Denmark	20 Sep	2023	Malta.....	20 Sep	2023
Dominica	21 Sep	2023	Marshall Islands.....	20 Sep	2023
Dominican Republic.....	20 Sep	2023	Mauritania.....	22 Sep	2023
Ecuador.....	21 Sep	2023			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>
Mauritius.....	20 Sep	2023	Sierra Leone.....	20 Sep	2023
Mexico	20 Sep	2023	Singapore	20 Sep	2023
Micronesia (Federated States of)	20 Sep	2023	Slovakia	20 Sep	2023
Monaco	20 Sep	2023	Slovenia	20 Sep	2023
Morocco.....	21 Sep	2023	Solomon Islands	20 Sep	2023
Nauru	22 Sep	2023	Spain	20 Sep	2023
Nepal.....	20 Sep	2023	St. Lucia.....	20 Sep	2023
Netherlands (Kingdom of the).....	20 Sep	2023	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	20 Sep	2023
New Zealand.....	20 Sep	2023	State of Palestine	20 Sep	2023
Norway	20 Sep	2023	Sweden.....	20 Sep	2023
Palau	20 Sep	2023	Timor-Leste	20 Sep	2023
Panama.....	20 Sep	2023	Togo.....	22 Sep	2023
Philippines	20 Sep	2023	Tuvalu.....	20 Sep	2023
Poland	21 Sep	2023	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	20 Sep	2023
Portugal.....	20 Sep	2023	United Republic of Tanzania.....	20 Sep	2023
Republic of Korea.....	31 Oct	2023	United States of America.....	20 Sep	2023
Romania.....	20 Sep	2023	Viet Nam.....	20 Sep	2023
Samoa	20 Sep	2023			
Seychelles	20 Sep	2023			

Declarations

(Unless otherwise indicated, the declarations were made upon ratification, accession or succession.)

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

“In signing the Agreement, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the “United Kingdom”) recalls Article 71 of the Agreement and has the honour to convey the following declarations:

1. The United Kingdom welcomes the general obligation to interpret and apply the BBNJ Agreement in a manner that promotes coherence and coordination with and that does not undermine other relevant instruments, frameworks and global, regional, subregional and sectoral bodies. In this context, the United Kingdom notes that the Antarctic Treaty system comprehensively addresses the legal, political and environmental considerations unique to that region and provides a comprehensive framework for the international management of the Antarctic.

2. The United Kingdom notes references in paragraph 8 of the Preamble to “the existing rights of Indigenous Peoples, including as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, or of, as appropriate, local communities,” and in Article 7(k) to “the rights of Indigenous Peoples or of, as appropriate, local communities”. The United Kingdom’s long-standing and well-established position, set out in its annual explanation of position at the UN General Assembly on the rights of indigenous people, is that human rights are held exclusively by individuals. With the exception of the right of self-determination (Common

Article 1 of the two International Human Rights Covenants), the United Kingdom does not recognise collective human rights in international law. The United Kingdom consider this important in ensuring that individuals within groups are not left vulnerable or unprotected by allowing the rights of the groups to supersede the human rights of the individual. The United Kingdom therefore understands any internationally-agreed reference to the rights of indigenous peoples or local communities, including those in the UN

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and, in the Agreement signed today, to refer to those rights bestowed by governments at the national level. The United Kingdom further understands the term “local communities” to be used consistently with the way it is used in the Convention on Biological Diversity.”

