

**GP Statement on Chair's recommendations on Environmental Impact Assessments
12 July 2017 morning**

Thank you Mr Facilitator

This statement is delivered by Greenpeace and on behalf of the High Seas Alliance

We will keep our comments extremely brief. They include a very brief comment on section 1

On the **introductory paragraph**, we believe it is important that strategic environmental assessments are included in this section. We support Trinidad's suggestion in this regard, as well as Senegal's support. We propose adding a phrase "*and the need to conduct strategic environmental assessments*".

We also suggest that the text be broad enough to allow for the introduction of EIA requirements and procedures under the agreement. It should also be general enough to allow for inclusion of the option of an impact-oriented approach so as not to prejudge that the agreement's provisions on EIA will be solely activity-oriented, as discussed in previous PrepComs.

On the **Guiding Principles and Approaches** - again, we strongly support the many governments suggesting consolidating these with principles from other sections, and we refer to our intervention this morning.

Otherwise we will need to add other principles such as the precautionary principle (rather than approach), polluter pays principle (as suggested by many delegations), intergenerational equity and stewardship here.

Also, we could consolidate the first three principles:
(transparency; public availability of environmental impact assessment reports and public participation)

That could be phrased as "transparency, including public availability of information, including environmental impact assessment reports, public participation and access to review procedures".

Thank you