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**OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER OF THE DMUN FOUNDATION TO THE
UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AND BRETTON WOODS
INSTITUTIONS**

Arrangements to enhance cooperation with relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional, subregional and sectoral bodies

Ms. Alexa Theodoropoulos
Global Youth Representative
DMUN Foundation

Second Preparatory Committee 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 (BBNJ
Agreement)

PM 25 August 2025

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SEUL LE TEXTE PRONONCÉ FAIT FOI

Thank you Chair.

I take the floor on behalf of the DMUN Foundation, a member of the Oceans Youth
Constituency of the Major Group for Children and Youth.

Our delegation notes that article 5.2 mandates the Agreement not to undermine
existing legal instruments and bodies, but promote coherence and coordination. In
addition, Article 8.1 requires Parties to cooperate to strengthen and enhance
linkages with relevant legal instruments, frameworks, and bodies, underpinning the
importance of ensuring mutual reinforcement in practice.



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Hence, it is our view that mutual reinforcement with relevant frameworks are vital to avoid fragmentation of work and to increase the effectiveness of the functioning of the Secretariat and the implementation of the Agreement.

Specifically, it is our belief that the subsidiary bodies must liaise with their counterparts in other regimes to facilitate the exchange of scientific data, expertise, and best practices. We believe that this is in line with Article 8.1 that requires parties to cooperate to strengthen and enhance such linkages and article 47.6.c which mandates the COP to consider such arrangements at its first session.

In line with Article 51.3.d, robust measures on information-sharing must be identified. We propose joint data sharing platforms and interlinked CHMs that can ensure transparency and coordination among relevant bodies.

For example, the existing cooperation between OSPAR and NEAFC on managing protected areas in areas beyond national jurisdiction demonstrates how joint work programs can align conservation and fisheries management without duplication. Such cooperative frameworks would not only prevent duplication but also open pathways for scientists, youth, and civil society to contribute meaningfully across regimes.

Second, drawing on good practices from other multilateral instruments, we propose that parties consider granting reciprocal observer status to relevant bodies at the meetings of the agreement.

We believe that mutual observer status between the future Secretariat and Secretariat of relevant multilateral treaties and bodies can facilitate meaningful dialogue and information-sharing at the policy and implementation level.



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Finally, we believe that measures adopted under the Agreement must be consistent with relevant bodies such as RFMOs, the IMO, ISA, and the regional seas convention, with a particular focus on reducing duplication.

We suggest formalized modalities for cooperation, such as joint programs of work and coordinated exercises for reporting. Moreover, the COP should provide clear guidance to the Secretariat to pursue such cooperative frameworks as a matter of priority.

We thank you.