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

On Rules of Procedures

Mr. Christopher Asma
Chef de Cabinet
Office of the Executive Director
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 19 August 2025

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SEUL LE TEXTE PRONONCÉ FAIT FOI

Thank you Chair.

This is a joint statement.

The DMUN Foundation would like to first express its alignment to the position expressed by distinguished representatives for the Major Group for Children and Youth.

We believe that the Preparatory Commission should fully guarantee the meaningful and effective participation of all observers, including stakeholders and rightholders.



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We believe that special attention must be given to historically marginalized rightsholders, including children, youth, and indigenous peoples.

We note that some states are proposing the implementation of a non-objection, consensus-based procedure for the admission of observers to the future conference of parties.

We express concern that the previous precedents of consensus-based procedures in CSO involvement has led to cases of objections raised towards organizations that have fulfilled all mandated requirements for the granting of observer status. We believe that a similar case may occur if this procedure is implemented in this Agreement.

Therefore, in consideration of the modalities of the admission of observers in multilateral environmental agreements such as the UNFCCC and UNCCD, propose that applications of observers to the agreement can be denied if at least $\frac{1}{3}$ of all states parties present at the conference of parties objects.

We believe that this measure will reverse the denial of observer status to only legitimate purposes, enhancing multistakeholder participation in the Agreement.



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In addition, we also propose that, in accordance with precedents like the UNEA or the Rome Statutes, that NGOs already in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council are granted observer status by virtue of their current consultative relationship with the UN.

Finally, we propose that pre recorded video statements or hybrid meetings are duly provided in the Conference of Parties to fully facilitate the participation of state party delegates and representatives of observer organizations.

Chair, the value of this agreement will rely on the meaningful and effective role of observer participation. The rules of procedure must not be a barrier for our participation but a mechanism that aids it.

We thank you.