Statement by Brazil

Item 7 of the agenda: Status of contracts for exploration and related matters, including information on the periodic review of the implementation of approved plans of work for exploration.

Madam President,

1. On 7 December 2018, Brazil submitted to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, in accordance with Article 76, paragraph 8 of the Convention information on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of its territorial sea is measured related to Brazilian Oriental and Meridional Margin.

2. It represents more than 30 years dedicated by Brazil to scientific research and surveys for data and technical information concerning the Brazilian outer limits of the continental shelf in areas where those limits extend beyond 200 nautical miles.

3. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, the Secretary General of the United Nations circulated a communication to all Member States of the United Nations, as well as States Parties to the Convention, in order to make public the Executive Summary of the 2018 Brazilian partial revised submission, including all charts and coordinates contained in that summary.

4. The polygon and related coordinates of the Meridional Margin comprises the Rio Grande Rise as natural prolongation of Brazil's land territory, existing “ipso facto” and “ab initio” pursuant Articles 76, 77, and Annex II of the Convention.

5. Brazil is already taking necessary steps to officially and promptly notify the Secretary-General of the ISA on the legal consequence of that submission over the present sponsorship granted by Brazil and also on the necessary measures to be implemented accordingly.

Thank you