

OWG SDGs

Adoption of the Report

New York, 19 July 2014

Statement by the Delegation of Greece

Your Excellencies,

Co-chairs of the Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals,

While thanking you for the tremendous work you have done, as well as your inspired leadership, we would like to note that Greece can not support the reference to state parties to UNCLOS, as reflected in the first and second line of Target 14c of the final text of the Report of the Open Working Group for the Sustainable Development Goals (“..for states parties to it..”).

UNCLOS has universal character and almost universal participation and its provisions either embody or reflect customary international law. We believe that the aforementioned proposed language undermines the importance of UNCLOS, especially this year, that we celebrate the 20th anniversary of its entering into force. To our understanding, the language in this target does not reflect consensus.

We look forward to continuing our collective work in the framework of the forthcoming intergovernmental process, including for addressing this issue.

Please accept, Your Excellencies, the assurances of our highest Consideration.