



## **8.3 – CHANGE OF STATUS**

### ***8.3.2 Timeline for the transition period***

Note by the Secretariat

#### **1 BACKGROUND**

As depositary State of the Convention, France, represented by Mrs. Annick Girardin, Minister for Marine Affairs, was the first State to sign the Convention during a ceremony held on 27 January 2021.

This ceremony marked the opening for signature of the Convention for a period of one year. All Member States of the United Nations, and in particular the other signatories of the Final Act of the Kuala Lumpur Conference, are invited to sign the Convention at the Protocol of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, and then to proceed to its ratification.

The Convention will enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification. The Convention includes robust arrangements for a smooth transition.

For this purpose and after advice from the LAP, the Secretariat has appointed a French law firm, Carlara Avocats, to provide legal assistance throughout the transition period and until the winding up of the Association is complete. In particular, Carlara Avocats will provide assistance with respect to the administrative formalities required by French law for the transfer of the rights, interests, assets and liabilities in favour of the new IGO.

#### **2 DISCUSSION**

A roadmap is presented in Annex C73-8.3.2.1 and proposes a calendar of tasks to be carried out until the creation of the IGO and the dissolution of the Association. The different tasks are mapped out to provide a good visibility during the next three years. This period can of course be adjusted according to the time it takes until the Convention enters into force.

Whilst awaiting ratification to be completed by the signatory States, the Secretariat must commence preparations for the administrative transition. The year 2021 will be mainly devoted to the following tasks:

- Final negotiation of the draft Headquarters Agreement with the French Government.
- Comparative study of the different systems of other similar organizations concerning health insurance, social benefits, and staff pension schemes.
- Full inventory of existing contracts in anticipation of the future transfer of rights, assets, and liabilities.

The years 2022 and 2023 shall be dedicated to the analysis and finalization of these three priority topics.

#### **3 THE COUNCIL IS INVITED TO**

**Note** the information provided in this document and in the annex.