

TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE LAW OF THE SEA IN GENERAL AND FISHERIES IN PARTICULAR. WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITHIN THE U.N. CONFERENCE ON LAW OF THE SEA TO REACH AGREEMENT NOT ONLY ON FISHERIES BUT ALSO ON THE OTHER VITAL AND DIFFICULT ISSUES FACING THE CONFERENCE, ISSUES SUCH AS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE RESOURCES OF THE DEEP SEABED AND OCEAN FLOOR WHICH CONSTITUTE THE "COMMON HERITAGE OF MANKIND"; THE PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING THE ARCTIC; AND THE BREADTH OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA AND THE RELATED QUESTION OF PASSAGE THROUGH STRAITS USED FOR INTERNATIONAL NAVIGATION. THESE ISSUES MUST FIND AN EARLY MULTILATERAL SOLUTION.

WE KNEW FROM THE OUTSET THAT THE SPRING SESSION OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK COULD NOT ACHIEVE FINAL AGREEMENT ON A NEW CONVENTION. AT LEAST ONE MORE SESSION WILL BE NECESSARY FOR THIS PURPOSE, AND THE CONFERENCE WILL CONVENE AGAIN IN NEW YORK FROM AUGUST 2 TO SEPTEMBER 17. WE HOPE IT WILL SUCCEED BUT MUST ANTICIPATE THAT EVEN THEN THERE WOULD STILL BE FORMALITIES TO BE CONCLUDED.