DRAFT RESOLUTION EC-XLIX/DR.4.3.3

Submitted by: France, Germany, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas Areas beyond National Jurisdiction

The Executive Council,

1. **Having considered** Resolution 69/292 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 19 June 2015, document IOC/INF-1338 on IOC potential contribution to a new international instrument under UNCLOS on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction and the document IOC/EC-XLIX/2 Annex 9 Rev. on the contribution to the future of the IOC Executive roadmap,

2. **Acknowledging** the value of the role of the IOC Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea [IOC/ABE-LOS],

3. **Bearing in mind** decision EC-XLV4.31 to continue its work focused on priorities as tasked by the governing bodies of the IOC,

4. **Decides** that the IOC/ABE-LOS is tasked to prepare for consideration by the 29th session of the IOC Assembly, an overview report on the potential implications on the role and the work of the IOC arising from the development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea [UNCLOS] on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction [ABNJ];

5. **Calls upon** IOC Member States for active participation and full support of IOC/ABE-LOS in its assigned tasks;

6. **Requests** the IOC Executive Secretary to co-ordinate the work of IOC/ABE-LOS to be undertaken by correspondence and facilitate the work of the IOC/ABE-LOS where defined by the Executive Council.

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Financial implications: As IOC-ABE-LOS is already established and will be able to work by electronic means no additional costs will occur.