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 BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION

The Executive Council,

1. Recalling Resolution 69/292 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 19 June 2015,

2. Having considered document IOC/INF-1338 on IOC potential contribution to a new international 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) and the document IOC/EC-XLIX/2 Annex 9 Rev. on the contribution to the future of the IOC Executive Roadmap,

3. Acknowledging the value of the role of the IOC Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea (IOC/ABE-LOS),

4. Bearing in mind Decision EC-XLV/4.31 on the Review of IOC/ABE-LOS by which it decided that IOC/ABE-LOS will continue its work focused on priorities as tasked by the governing bodies of the IOC,

5. Decides that the IOC/ABE-LOS is tasked to prepare, for consideration by the IOC Assembly at its 29th session, 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 UNCLOS on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of ABNJ;

6. Calls upon IOC Member States to actively participate and fully support IOC/ABE-LOS in its assigned tasks;

7. 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 as defined by the IOC Executive Council.

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