SUBMISSION BY THE REPUBLIC OF GABON ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP OF NEGOTIATORS (AGN)

for the dialogue on Ocean and Climate Change under the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA)

The 25th Conference of the Parties decision 1/CP.25 paragraph requested the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to convene at its fifty-second session (June 2020) a dialogue on the ocean and climate change to consider how to strengthen mitigation and adaptation action in this context.

In paragraph 32 of 1/CP.25 further Invites Parties and non-Party stakeholders to submit inputs via the submission portal by 31 March 2020 to inform the dialogue on ocean and climate change.

Following the invitation of paragraph 32 of decision 1/CP.25, The African Group welcomes the opportunity and presents views for the ocean and climate change dialogue

I. Requests the SBSTA to organize workshop(s) in the continent on Oceans and Seas considering related IPCC special report, African national reports and recommendations from workshops already conducted. Possible topics to be discussed would include; the effects and consequences of sea level rise, overfishing, loss of marine biodiversity and coastal erosions.

II. The African Group solicit funds to review work done or not done at individual country’s level; identify any gaps and what necessary measures to be put in place to fill those gaps, particularly linked to direct and indirect climate change impacts and adverse effects, being socioeconomic, environmental, technological and financial and implement results and recommendations from those workshop(s) in the region.

III. Many of the African coastal countries highly depend on fish for protein intake in their diets. Therefore, protection of our costal and marine resources is paramount to our communities. The workshops should provide information on how to protect African coastal areas and marine life from the polluting fret-shipping pressure all around the continent.

IV. The African Group requests the representation of regional groups in the dialogues. The Africa Group should be well represented in future discussions; meetings and or workshops planned that may be conducted, including any climate related technical/scientific analysis or reports that need to be considered under the UNFCCC & IPCC processes, as well as African specialized institutions.