

Submission of Japan

*Sea-level rise in relation to international law*

[1 July 2022]

Japan would like to provide the following information that corresponds to “(c) declarations, statements or other communications in relation to treaties or State practice” mentioned in paragraph 32 in chapter III of the Report of the International Law Commission on the seventy-first session (A/74/10) with reference to the paragraph 27 of chapter III of its Report on the seventy-second session (A/76/10).

Excerpt from the Ninth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM9) Leaders Declaration (<https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100207980.pdf>)

12. The PALM Leaders reiterated the importance of all states respecting international law as reflected in UNCLOS, which grants States certain rights and freedoms in the uses of the oceans, including for instance, the freedoms of navigation and overflight through or over the high seas and exclusive economic zone, and other internationally lawful uses of the seas. The PALM Leaders also emphasised the importance of states establishing their maritime zones in accordance with the relevant provisions of UNCLOS, exercising self-restraint and resolving disputes by peaceful means, without resorting to the threat or use of force, in accordance with international law in particular UNCLOS. The PALM Leaders jointly noted the importance of protecting maritime zones established in accordance with UNCLOS, and concurred to further discuss the issue of preserving maritime zones, properly delineated in accordance with UNCLOS, in the face of climate change-related sea level rise including at the multilateral level.