## Ministry Reply

Subject: Inquiry 52/XIV/3<sup>a</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup> - Ratification of the Cape Town Agreement

Instructs me His Excellency, the Minister of the Sea, regarding the question identified above, of the Parliamentary Group of the BE to submit the following comments:

1. Will the Portuguese State ratify the CTA Agreement, fulfilling the commitments made in October 2019 with the subscription of the Torremolinos Declaration during the Ministerial Conference organized by the International Maritime Organization?

Yes.

1.1 If so, on what date does the government plan to ratify the Agreement?

Considering that the legislative initiative is of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the workings are advancing according to the introductory procedures of internal law and deposit of international conventions and instruments in the IMO. it is estimated that by the end of the 1st quarter of 2022 the respective decree law will be published.

2. What has prevented the government from proceeding with the ratification of the Cape Town Agreement and from joining other European Union States that have already done so?

Question does not apply. Work is advancing to meet this objective.

**3.** How will the government overcome the obstacles that prevent ratification of the Cape Town Agreement?

Question does not apply. Work is advancing to meet this objective.

Best regards,

The Chief of Staff,

Frederico Cardigos