



**INFORMATION NOTE ON MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE ASSEMBLY  
AT THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION**

22-26 July 2019, Kingston

1. The 25th session of the Assembly is to be declared open on Monday 22 July ([Provisional agenda item 1](#)) by the President of the 24<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly, and is scheduled to close on Friday 26 July 2019. The Assembly will commence its business with the adoption of the agenda ([Provisional agenda item 2](#), [ISBA/25/A/L.1/Rev.1](#)) followed by the election of a President and Vice-Presidents ([Provisional agenda item 3 and 4](#)). It will be the turn of the Latin American and Caribbean States Group to nominate a candidate for the presidency of the Assembly. Each of the other regional groups will nominate a Vice-President of the Assembly. The President and Vice-Presidents shall constitute the Bureau which could meet periodically throughout the session to review the progress of the work of the Assembly and make recommendations for furthering such progress.
2. The secretariat would be grateful, in order to facilitate the smooth running of the session, if regional groups can coordinate on the issue of candidatures for the positions of President and Vice-Presidents of the Assembly in advance of the session, and to communicate any nomination to the Office of the Secretary-General ([cgriffiths@isa.org.jm](mailto:cgriffiths@isa.org.jm)).
3. The members of the Credentials Committee need also to be appointed ([Provisional agenda item 5](#)). The Credentials Committee shall consist of nine members of the Assembly, who shall be appointed by the Assembly on the proposal of the President. The Committee shall elect its own officers. It shall examine the credentials of representatives of members and report to the Assembly without delay ([Provisional agenda item 14](#)). A meeting of the Credentials Committee is scheduled on Wednesday 24 July 2019 at 2:00-2:45pm.
4. The Assembly will continue its business with the consideration of requests for observer status in accordance with rule 82, paragraph 1 (e), of the rules of procedure of the Assembly ([Provisional agenda item 6](#)). Two requests were received by the Secretary-General, one from Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea, United Kingdom ([ISBA/25/A/INF/1](#)) and the other from the Institute for Sustainable Development & Research, India ([ISBA/25/A/INF/2](#)).
5. In addition, it is recalled that during the 24th session, the Assembly considered a note by the secretariat on the application process and other procedures for non-governmental organizations for observer status and requested the secretariat to develop more detailed guidelines and criteria for assessing the merits of observer applicants, for consideration by the Assembly at its 25th session. Accordingly, a note prepared by the secretariat will be posted at ISA website ([ISBA/25/A/7](#)).
6. The Assembly will hold an election to fill a vacancy on the Finance Committee, in accordance with section 9, paragraph 5, of the annex to the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of

the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 ([Provisional agenda item 7](#)). In this respect, the Assembly is invited to note that Mr. Ye Minn Thein (Myanmar) resigned from the Finance Committee with effect from 21 February 2019. He had been elected by the Assembly at its twenty-second session as a member of the Committee for a term of five years commencing on 1 January 2017 and ending on 31 December 2021. By note verbale dated 22 February 2019, the Permanent Mission of Myanmar to the United Nations informed the secretariat of the Authority of the nomination of Mr. Nyan Lin Aung to fill the vacant seat on the Committee left by Mr. Thein for the remainder of his term ending on 31 December 2021 (see [ISBA/25/A/3](#)).

7. It is also recalled that during the 24th session, the President of the Council introduced his statement on the work of the Council during the 24th session and the Assembly endorsed the proposal that the statement by the President of the Council in this respect will be a standing item on the agenda of future sessions of the Assembly. Therefore, the President of the Council for the 25th session, Her Excellency Lumka Yengeni (South Africa) will introduce her statement on the work of the Council ([Provisional agenda item 8](#)), including Part I held from 25 February to 1 March 2019 (see [ISBA/25/C/17](#)) and Part II to be held from 15 to 19 July 2019.

8. As a regular item ([Provisional agenda item 9](#)), the Assembly will consider the annual report of the Secretary-General, submitted pursuant to article 166 of the Convention (see [ISBA/25/A/2](#)).

9. The Assembly will also consider implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Authority for the period 2019-2023 ([Provisional agenda item 10](#)). It is recalled that during the 24th session, the Assembly adopted a decision relating to the Strategic Plan (see [ISBA/24/A/10](#)). In its decision, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of priority, to prepare a high-level action plan and to include key performance indicators and a list of outputs for the next five year and to provide with a detailed overview of the implementation mechanisms to be established, including for monitoring, evaluation and learning. In this respect, the secretariat prepared the high-level action plan and circulated it for comments in April 2019. The documents on this issue will be made available on the website of the Authority (see [ISBA/25/A/5](#) and [ISBA/25/A/6](#) and [ISBA/25/A/L.2](#)).

10. The commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of the Authority will take place on 25 July 2019 ([Provisional agenda item 11](#)). In the regard, the Secretary-General has sent a letter to Members on 26 November 2018 announcing the celebration of the 25th Anniversary and the special meeting on 25 July. In addition, the secretariat will soon post a special briefing note on the activities that will take place during the commemoration day.

11. The Assembly will also consider the report of the Finance Committee ([Provisional agenda item 12](#)), taking into account the recommendations of the Finance Committee and of the Council. In this respect, the Assembly is invited to note that the Finance Committee will meet from 8 to 10 July. The provisional agenda of the Finance Committee is contained in [ISBA/25/FC/L.1](#). A joint meeting will be held between the Legal and Technical Commission and the Committee on 9 July 2019 to consider the issue on the development of rules, regulations and procedures on the equitable sharing of financial and other economic benefits derived from activities in the Area pursuant to section 9, paragraph 7 (f), of the annex to the 1994 Agreement.

12. The Assembly is drawn attention to its function as specified in paragraph 2 (j) of article 160 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, under which the Assembly is required to initiative studies and make recommendations for the purpose of promoting international co-operation concerning activities in the Area. In this respect, the Secretary-General wish to inform that a proposal has been received on 28 May 2019 from the Government of the People’s Republic of China on establishment of a joint training center under the [provisional agenda item 13](#) for the consideration of the Assembly. A note on the proposal, together with a draft memorandum of understanding will be made available to the members of the Authority on the website.

13. At the end of the session, the dates of the 26th session of the Assembly will be announced ([Provisional agenda item 15](#)).

14. The Assembly may consider other matters under [provisional agenda item 16](#).

31 May 2019  
Kingston, Jamaica