



## Council

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### **Decision of the Council relating to an application for approval of a plan of work for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts by Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation**

*The Council of the International Seabed Authority,*

*Acting on the recommendation of the Legal and Technical Commission,*

*Noting* that, on 3 August 2012, Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC) submitted to the Secretary-General an application for approval of a plan of work for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts in the Area,<sup>1</sup> in accordance with the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Cobalt-rich Ferromanganese Crusts in the Area,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling* that, in accordance with paragraph 6 (a) of section 1 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,<sup>3</sup> the processing of an application for approval of a plan of work for exploration shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including annex III thereto, and the Agreement,

*Recalling also* that, pursuant to article 153, paragraph 3, of the Convention<sup>4</sup> and paragraph 6 (b) of section 1 of the annex to the Agreement, the plan of work for exploration shall be in the form of a contract concluded between the Authority and the applicant,

*Taking note* of the advisory opinion of the Seabed Disputes Chamber of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea of 1 February 2011,

1. *Takes note* of the report and recommendations of the Legal and Technical Commission on the request for approval of a plan of work for exploration for

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<sup>1</sup> See ISBA/19/LTC/4.

<sup>2</sup> ISBA/18/A/11.

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 48/263, annex.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.



cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts submitted by JOGMEC transmitted to the Council,<sup>5</sup> in particular, paragraphs 27 to 30 thereof;

2. *Approves* the plan of work for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts submitted by JOGMEC;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Authority to issue the plan of work for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts in the form of a contract between the Authority and JOGMEC in accordance with the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Cobalt-rich Ferromanganese Crusts in the Area.<sup>2</sup>

*188th meeting  
19 July 2013*

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<sup>5</sup> ISBA/19/C/3.