



INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY *news*

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New Chief at the helm of the Authority in January 2017



Michael Lodge of the United Kingdom will be the Authority's third Secretary-General when he takes up his appointment effective from 1 January 2017. He succeeds Nii Allotey Odunton of Ghana who has served two terms (2008-2016) and who in turn replaced the first Secretary-General, Ambassador Satya Nandan of Fiji.

Mr Lodge has been instrumental in shaping and executing the work of the Authority's Office of Legal Affairs. He was Legal Counsel from 1996-2004 and Deputy to the Secretary-General and Legal Counsel from 2007 to date. Lodge's appointment comes at a time when the work of the

Authority has significantly increased with 26 exploration contracts, where the organisation is in the middle of a review of its operations, and is in the process of developing Regulations for exploitation of mineral resources in the Area which is the ultimate regulatory phase in developing the common heritage of mankind. "I am honoured and delighted to have been elected by member States to lead the Authority," said Lodge. "I am tremendously excited about the potential for deep seabed mining and look forward to the challenge of leading the organization into the next phase of its existence."

[\[Biography\]](#)

Article 154 Review Committee to Meet in January

The Review Committee will meet in Kingston from January 28-31, 2017 to finalise their report on the first periodic review of the International Seabed Authority per Article 154 of UNCLOS.

The revised report follows a first draft that was circulated to member States at the Authority's 22nd Session in July 2016 and included views and comments from the subsidiary organs of the Authority.

During the 22nd session, the Assembly decided to provide further opportunity for members and observers to provide additional comments and for those who have not done so, an opportunity to

complete the Article 154 Review Questionnaire by a 15 October 2016 deadline. The committee is expected to also take into account the additional comments and observations received by the deadline. The final report will be transmitted to States parties and Observers by 15 April 2017.

The periodic review of the Authority was approved by the Assembly in 2015 per Article 154 of UNCLOS which stipulates that the Assembly undertake a general and systematic review of the manner in which the international regime of the Area has operated in practice every five years, and recommend measures which will lead to its improvement.

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University of Guyana Students Visit ISA

Students from the Department of Government and International Affairs at the University of Guyana visited the Authority headquarters on Thursday, October 13, 2016 whilst in Kingston, Jamaica. The students were part of a visiting group hosted by the University of West Indies at its Mona Campus in Kingston and also had scheduled visits to various Jamaican government offices. The 22 students and two teachers met with Secretary-General Odunton to hear about the work of the Authority and its link to Guyana as one of the 168 members of the Authority. The group was also briefed by senior members of the staff on the activities of the organization, general science, minerals and environment issues, the Authority's structure and functions, its exploration contract system, internships, endowment fund fellowships and its training programmes.



Head of EU Delegation Presents Credentials to ISA



Ambassador Malgorzata Wasilewska, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Jamaica, presented her credentials to the Secretary-General as the new Permanent Representative to the International Seabed Authority on 26 October 2016. She is also the Head of the Delegation to Belize and the Bahamas with the rank and title of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. Ambassador Wasilewska was head of the Division for Conflict Prevention,

Peace Building and Mediation at the Security Policy Directorate of the European External Action Services (EEAS) in Brussels. In this capacity she led a team responsible for conflict prevention and peace building. She has also held the position of Head of Division for Elections and Democracy Support in EEAS - and assigned to the Office of the Directorate General for External Relations of the European Commission.

Brazil, Colombia Naval Officers Visit ISA

Naval officers from Brazil's naval training ship *NE Brasil* led by Captain José Luiz Ferreira Canela and Colombia's navy vessel *ARC Gloria* led by Captain Juan Jimenez visited the Authority recently when their vessels docked in Kingston.

The officers were accompanied by their respective Ambassadors, HE Mr Carlos Alberto Michaelsen Den Hartog of Brazil and HE Mr Roberto Garcia Marquez.

The visitors met with Secretary-General Nii Odunton and were briefed by senior staff members on the structure and functions of the ISA, the work of the Legal and Technical Commission, ISA training and capacity initiatives, environmental and mineral resources.



L-R: Captain José Luiz Ferreira Canela; HE Mr Carlos Alberto Michaelsen Den Hartog; Secretary-General Nii Odunton; HE Mr Roberto Garcia Marquez; Captain Juan Jimenez



The naval visitors with Secretariat staff

The digital newsletter is also available [online](http://www.isa.org.jm).

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ISA Bids Secretary-General Odunton Farewell

Secretary-General Nii Odunton leaves the Authority in December 2016.

He has served two terms as Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority from 2008 - 2016.

He was Interim Director-General and Programme Coordinator for the Authority from 1996 and was deputy to the Secretary-General prior to his election.

In his final statement to the Council in July 2016, Secretary-General Odunton paid tribute to the members for their outstanding service over the years that had brought the Authority to the "impressive point in making the common heritage of mankind a near opportunity for the international community".

He said that at the second session of the Authority in March 1996 when agreement was reached on the composition of the Council, it had laboured through "a series of highs and lows" to reach a stage where consideration was being given to the completion of a mining code for polymetallic nodules in the near future.

Mr Odunton continued that he had been fortunate to have the opportunity to work with the Council since its inception and wished the members the "very best" in their endeavours. He reminded them to keep their eyes "on the prize" which was the sustainable mining of the deep seabed mineral resources.

Addressing staff at his farewell function, Secretary-General Odunton wished the staff well and encouraged them to uphold the standards of the Authority.

Prior to joining the International Seabed Authority, Mr Odunton held several positions at the United Nations Department of International Economic and Social Affairs in New York, including that of Chief of the Mineral Resources Section/Ocean Economics and Technology Branch.

He was adviser to the Minerals Commission of the Government of Ghana (1984-1987), assisting the Government with expert advice on national minerals policy, mineral development policy, and in particular, in revamping the national mining code and investment promotion in the gold sector. Furthermore, he assisted the Government of Ghana in procedural changes in the exploitation and marketing of gold and diamond.

Mr Odunton is a member of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers (AIME) and the Ghana Institute of Engineers. He is a recipient of the African Scholarship Programme of American Universities Award (ASPAU) 1969 and 1969-1972; the Henry Krumb Research Fellow (1972) and the Henry Krumb Fellow (1974-1975).

At right, pictures of Secretary-General Odunton:

1. With Mr Keith Rowley, Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister at the 22nd Session
2. At the 30th Anniversary of UNCLOS in Montego Bay with (L-R) Ambassador Wolfe, Ambassador Nandan, Wini Broadbelt and Rear Admiral Khurshed Alam
3. With key presenters at the Authority's 20th Anniversary special session
4. With staff of the Office of Resources & Environmental Monitoring Unit
5. With (L-R) Charles Morgan, the late Vijay Kodagali and Kaiser de Souza.



Contractor Training Programmes



Two exploration contractors with the Authority are offering training opportunities for candidates from developing States. The contractors are **Global Sea Mineral Resources NV** (GSR) and **Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer** (Ifremer) and the training is in accordance with their respective contracts for exploration for polymetallic nodules and polymetallic sulphides held with the Authority.

GSR Training Programme

GSR is offering **two** places for candidates from developing States for :

- (1) one candidate to attend the annual 2017 session of the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy (2-21 July 2017) in Greece. The intensive 3-week training period focuses on ocean law and policy, development of future deep-sea mining regulations, science resources, delimitation, navigation and environment. Candidates must hold a legal degree.
- (2) one candidate to attend a seminar on Dredging Technologies (19-30 June 2017) in Antwerp, Belgium. The course organized by Antwerp Port Training Center (APEC) will cover essential theoretical and practical aspects of dredging, navigation, strategies for the dumping of dredged sediments, dredgers, simulations, maintenance and technical aspects of new developments in dredging technologies. Candidates must hold a technical degree linked to offshore activities (Marine Engineering).

The deadline for applications for both training opportunities is 31 December 2016. Candidates applying for either of the programmes must also provide proof of sufficient knowledge of English. All required forms and documents (available on the [ISA website](http://www.isa.org.jm)) must be emailed to training@isa.org.jm.

Ifremer Training Programme

Ifremer is offering **one** at-sea training place and **two** internship places to candidates from developing States. The at-sea training will take place onboard one of Ifremer's research vessels for a duration of approximately

two months and will take place between March and May 2017. The internships will take place at Ifremer's deep-sea ecosystems studies laboratory in Brest from mid-May to mid-July 2017.

At-Sea Training: The training will and will focus on providing practical experience about polymetallic sulphide exploration cruises and activities.

The deadline for applications for this programme is 16 December 2016. Candidates may apply in either English or French. All required forms and documents are available on the [ISA website](http://www.isa.org.jm). Applications must be emailed to training@isa.org.jm.

Internships: The *taxonomy internship* is dedicated to the identification and DNA-barcoding of specimens belonging to the class Polychaeta from box-core samples of the Clarion Clipperton Fracture Zone and the *habitat internship* involves unsupervised and supervised classification of seafloor habitats from high-resolution bathymetry, backscatter imagery and oceanographic data.

The deadline for applications for this programme is 15 January 2017. Candidates may apply in either English or French. All required forms and documents are available on the [ISA website](http://www.isa.org.jm). Applications must be emailed to training@isa.org.jm.

About the Contractor Training Programme

Contractors with the Authority have a legal obligation to provide and fund training opportunities for trainees from developing States and the personnel of the Authority. The training programme is formulated following negotiations between the Authority and the contractor, in accordance with the recommendations for guidance issued by the Legal and Technical Commission, and included as schedule 3 of the contract for exploration. From 2013 to date, a total of 45 training places were provided by nine contractors. The types of training include at-sea training, engineering training, fellowship training, master's and PhD programmes and workshop internship. All short-term training opportunities for suitable candidates from developing States are available on the ISA website.

Staff Updates



Congratulations to Mrs Avril Pereira on her retirement in October 2016. Avril joined the Authority in 1997 as the Executive Assistant and was promoted to Protocol Officer for then Secretary-General, Ambassador Satya Nandan and subsequently under Secretary-General Nii Odunton. She has always been held in high regard by her colleagues and will be deeply missed. For her farewell, a buffet lunch was served together with some good humoured roasting and toasting of a colleague, a good friend and mentor.



The Authority also farewells Ratu Sainivalati

S. Navoti who has resigned from his post as Senior Legal Officer.

Sainivalati joined the organization in 2014 and has been a valued part of our team for the past two years. He also served as Secretary of the Assembly. He joins the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) in New York as Chief of its Small Island Developing States Unit. Sainivalati and his family depart ISA in December 2016.

We wish both Avril and Sainivalati and their families all the best in their future

American Library Association Annual Conference



The Authority's librarian, Ms Michelle Bond attended the 2016 American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference and Exhibition at the Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida in June 2016. With an emphasis on library transformation and the future of libraries, the conference showcased the transformative nature of today's libraries and elevating the critical role libraries play in the digital age, through examining programmes, and providing resources to understand trends that can lead to changes and improve services, technology, collections and spaces. The conference saw 16,597 librarians, library workers and library supporters in attendance, with over 2,500 formal and informal programmes, sessions and events.



Save the Dates

2017

Feb 20-3 Mar Legal and Technical Commission Meeting, Kingston

July 31-4 Aug Legal and Technical Commission Meeting, Kingston

Aug 7-18 ISA 23rd Annual Session, Kingston

Season's Greetings



From the Management and Staff