



Assembly

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Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

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

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Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Assembly of the International Seabed Authority is invited to note that Ahila Sornarajah (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) resigned from the Finance Committee with effect from 1 May 2020. She 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 (see [ISBA/22/A/14](#)).
2. 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 provides that, in the event of the death, incapacity or resignation of a member of the Committee prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Assembly shall elect for the remainder of the term a member from the same geographical region or group of States.
3. By a note verbale dated 1 May 2020, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom informed the secretariat of the Authority of the nomination of Philip Dixon to fill the seat on the Committee left vacant by Ms. Sornarajah for the remainder of her term ending on 31 December 2021. The curriculum vitae of Mr. Dixon is contained in the annex to the present note.

* [ISBA/26/A/L.1](#).



Annex

Curriculum vitae*

Philip Dixon (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Education

MA in Jurisprudence (Law) MA (Hons) (Oxon) – Somerville College, Oxford University (2000–2003)

Legal Practice Course (Distinction) – Nottingham Law School (2003–2004)

Professional experience

Foreign & Commonwealth Office Feb 2013–present

Assistant Legal Adviser, Legal Directorate *Dec 2019–present*

- Advising on maritime and law of the sea issues, and constitutional and international law issues regarding UK Overseas Territories.

First Secretary (Legal), UK Mission to the United Nations, New York *Sep–Nov 2019*

- Short term attachment.
- UK Delegate to the UNGA Sixth Committee.
- Advising on a variety of General Assembly and Security Council resolutions.

Legal Adviser & Head of International Law Team, British Embassy The Hague *Aug 2016–Sep 2019*

- Providing strategic direction and leadership on UK engagement with international legal institutions in The Hague, including the International Criminal Court (ICC), the International Court of Justice, the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, the Special Tribunal for Lebanon.
- Representation at international meetings, delivering UK statements, negotiating resolutions and rule/treaty amendments, governance and reform; co-chair of ICC working group on governance.
- Review and negotiation of annual budgets for ICC, Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) and Hague Conference on Private International Law. Member of working group on review of judicial remuneration (ICC) and working group on budget review (PCA).

Assistant Legal Adviser, Legal Directorate *Feb 2013–Jul 2016*

- Advising on diplomatic law, treaty law and law of the sea; and a range of domestic litigation involving complex issues of public law, international law, human rights and EU law.

* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.

- Participating in numerous bilateral and multilateral international meetings and negotiations, including the International Seabed Authority (Annual Sessions 2013–2016), the United Nations Human Rights Council, EU and ECHR legal meetings.

Government Legal Department **Dec 2008–Jan 2013**

Lawyer, National Security and Counter-Terrorism Team *Oct 2009–Feb 2013*

- Advising on sensitive and high profile cross-government litigation involving national security and human rights.

Lawyer, Immigration Team *Dec 2008–Oct 2009*

- Litigator

Hempson Solicitors, London **Apr 2007–Nov 2008**

- Undertaking a range of litigation and advisory work for NHS bodies, charities and individuals.

Allen & Overy LLP, London and Rome **Mar 2005–Mar 2007**

- Trainee Solicitor.

Other skills

Languages

- French (Confidence)