



Finance Committee

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Status of contributions and related matters

Status of contributions and related matters, including indicative scale of assessed contributions of members of the International Seabed Authority to the administrative budget for the financial period 2021–2022

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The present report covers the status of contributions to the budget of the International Seabed Authority as at 5 May 2020.

2. In accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, the administrative expenses of the Authority shall be met by assessed contributions of its members until the Authority has sufficient funds from other sources to meet those expenses. The scale of assessments shall be based on the scale used for the regular budget of the United Nations, adjusted for differences in membership. As at 5 May 2020, 71 per cent (\$4,788,351) of the contributions to the 2020 budget of the Authority had been received, while 57 per cent of the members of the Authority had fully paid and 14 per cent had partially paid their assessed contribution for 2020.

3. Contributions outstanding from member States for prior periods (1998–2019) amounted to \$1,108,373 as at 5 May 2020. Notices are sent on a regular basis to member States, reminding them of the arrears. In accordance with article 184 of the Convention and rule 80 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, a member of the Authority which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contribution shall have no vote if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of financial contribution due from it for the preceding two years. As at 5 May 2020, the following 57 members of the Authority had been in arrears for two years or more: Albania, Angola, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, North Macedonia, Papua New Guinea,

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Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, State of Palestine, Sudan, Suriname, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tunisia, Uganda, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

4. The Finance Committee is invited to take note of the status of the contributions and to urge member States to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority in a timely manner. The current amount of unpaid contributions represents more than a month of the Authority's annual budget, thus jeopardizing the smooth running of the secretariat and investment in the substantive programmes.

5. The Committee is invited to review, in accordance with article 160 (2) (e) of the Convention, the scale of assessments for the financial period 2021–2022, which is to be based on the scale of assessments for the regular budget of the United Nations for 2019 (see General Assembly resolution [73/271](#)), adjusted for membership, with a ceiling assessment rate of 22 per cent and a floor assessment rate of 0.01 per cent.
