



AMBASSADE DE FRANCE EN JAMAÏQUE

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

10 November 2020

Excellencies,

I wish to refer to letters of the President of the 25th session of the Assembly dated 17, 23 September and 5, 12, 16, 26, 29 October 2020, as well as my letters dated 3, 6 and 9 November 2020, concerning the twenty-sixth session of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority.

As you are aware, by the decision of the Assembly effective on 15 October 2020 ("decision of 15 October 2020") on the "Procedure for adoption of decisions by the Assembly during the twenty-sixth session owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic", the Assembly authorized the President of the twenty-sixth session to circulate draft decisions of the Assembly under a silence procedure of at least 72 hours regarding the election of the Vice-Presidents and the appointment of the Credentials Committee.

In this connection, I refer to items 4 (Election of the Vice-Presidents) and 5 (Appointment of the Credentials Committee) on the agenda of the Assembly. I here propose for adoption two separate decisions entitled respectively "*Election of Vice-Presidents*" and "*Appointment of the Credentials Committee*", by the silence procedure, pursuant to the decision of 15 October 2020.

(a) "Election of Vice-Presidents"

I have the privilege of informing you that I have received, through the Secretariat, the following nominations:

- Nigeria, for the seat allocated to the Group of African States;
- Poland, for the seat allocated to the Group of Eastern European States; and
- Dominican Republic, for the seat allocated to the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

I propose that each of the above-mentioned candidates be elected as Vice-President of the twenty-sixth session of the Assembly.

Accordingly, the proposal to elect Nigeria, the proposal to elect Poland and the proposal to elect the Dominican Republic as Vice-Presidents of the twenty-sixth session of the Assembly are placed under the silence procedure until 17:00 on Friday, 13 November 2020 (Jamaica time).

Any objection to the above proposal(s) should be transmitted in a letter or a note verbale addressed to me, with a clear indication of the proposal(s) which the objection (s) Refer(s) to. Such correspondence should be sent by email to secretary-general@isa.org.jm (cc to ola@isa.org.jm).

Furthermore, in connection with the nomination of the Group of Asia-Pacific States, I have been informed that the Group is close to propose a nomination. I would like to request the Group of Asia-Pacific States to continue consultations and inform me, through the Secretariat, of their nomination as soon as possible.

In view of the pending nomination, the election of the remaining seat of Vice-President will be conducted soon after I receive information on the nomination by that regional group.

(b) "Appointment of the Credentials Committee"

I have the further privilege of informing you that I have received, through the Secretariat, the following nominations:

- Lesotho and South Africa, for the seats allocated to the Group of African States;
- Czech Republic, for the seat allocated to the Group of Eastern European States;
- Chile and Costa Rica, for the seats allocated to the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and
- Canada and Spain, for the seats allocated to the Group of Western European and Other States.

I propose that each of the above-mentioned members of the Authority be appointed as a member of the Credentials Committee of the twenty-sixth session of the Assembly.

Accordingly, the proposal to appoint Canada, the proposal to appoint Chile, the proposal to appoint Costa Rica, the proposal to appoint Czech Republic, the proposal to appoint Lesotho, the proposal to appoint South Africa, the proposal to appoint Spain as members of the Credentials Committee of the twenty-sixth session of the Assembly are placed under the silence procedure until 17:00 on Friday, 13 November 2020 (Jamaica time).

Any objection to the above proposal(s) should be transmitted in a letter or a note verbale addressed to me, with a clear indication of the proposal(s) which the objection(s) Refer(s) to. Such correspondence should be sent by email to secretary-general@isa.org.jm (cc to ola@isa.org.jm).

In this regard, I wish to request the Group of Asia-Pacific States to continue consultations and inform me, through the Secretariat, of their nominations as soon as possible.

In view of the pending nominations, the appointment of the remaining seats on the Credentials Committee will be conducted soon after I receive information on the nominations by that regional group.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Ambassador Denys Wibaux

President of the twenty-sixth session of the Assembly

To: All members of the International Seabed Authority