

**Council**

Distr.: General
18 July 2007

Original: English

Thirteenth session

Kingston, Jamaica

9-20 July 2007

Decision of the Council of the International Seabed Authority on the future size and composition of the Legal and Technical Commission and the process for future elections

The Council of the International Seabed Authority,

Recalling the provisions of article 163 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, including the requirement that the Legal and Technical Commission shall be composed of 15 members, elected by the Council from among the candidates nominated by the States parties; the Council may decide, if necessary, to increase the size of the Commission giving due regard to economy and efficiency,

Recalling also the provisions of article 165, paragraph 1, of the Convention, which provides that members of the Legal and Technical Commission shall have appropriate qualifications such as those relevant to exploration for and exploitation and processing of mineral resources, oceanology, protection of the marine environment, or economic or legal matters relating to ocean mining and related fields of expertise,

1. *Decides* that the procedure for nomination of candidates for future elections of the Legal and Technical Commission shall be as follows:

(a) At least six months before the opening of the session of the International Seabed Authority at which the election is to be held, the Secretary-General shall address a written invitation to all members of the Authority to submit their nominations of candidates for election to the Commission;

(b) Nominations for election to the Commission shall be accompanied by a statement of qualification or curriculum vitae setting out the candidate's qualifications and expertise in fields relevant to the work of the Commission and shall be received not less than three months prior to the opening of the relevant session of the Authority; nominations received less than three months prior to the opening of the relevant session of the Authority will not be accepted;

(c) The Secretary-General shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of the persons nominated for election to the Commission in accordance with paragraph (a) above, indicating the nominating member of the Authority, and containing an annex with the statements of qualification or curricula vitae submitted in accordance with paragraph (b) above; the list shall be circulated to all members of the Authority not less than two months prior to the opening of the session at which the election is to be held;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the views of the chairs of the Legal and Technical Commission, to prepare a report for consideration by the Council in 2010 on the functioning of the Commission, with a view to the Council determining in 2010 the number of members of the Commission to be elected in 2011.
