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Selection of candidates for the training programme of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany

1. The Legal and Technical Commission met to decide on the selection of candidates for the training programme proposed by the Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources of the Federal Republic of Germany (BGR) pursuant to the contract for exploration for polymetallic nodules between BGR and the International Seabed Authority.

2. The Commission was informed that, after receiving information regarding the training programme from the contractor, the secretariat had followed the same procedures as for previous contractors. This procedure is summarized in document ISBA/14/LTC/4. Members of the Authority were requested, in a note verbale dated 21 January 2008, to nominate candidates for training by 30 April 2008. A total of 42 nominations from 18 different member countries of the Authority were received by that date. In respect of each application, the secretariat made available to the Commission all documents submitted in the original language of submission.

3. At its meeting on 19 May 2008, the Commission appointed a small group from its membership to carry out an initial review and appraisal of the applications and to report back to the full Commission. In making its selection of candidates, the Commission considered and applied regulation 27 of the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules in the Area as well as the principles, policies, guidelines and procedures applicable to the training programmes carried out by other contractors with the Authority.

4. After detailed consideration of all the applications received, and following a full discussion, the Commission pre-selected 11 applicants for the traineeship programme based on the criteria of academic qualifications, age and language skills and taking into account any relevant training undertaken by the applicant.

5. In the second stage of the selection process, the Commission ranked the remaining 11 candidates according to professional experience, their reasons for seeking training and how the training would benefit the nominating Government. Having selected the best qualified applicant for each traineeship, the Commission

then considered equitable geographic representation, bearing in mind the need to give priority to candidates from developing countries.

6. The Commission selected the following candidates for the training programme of BGR:

- 1. Heliarivonjy Rakotondramano (Madagascar)
- 2. Hla Myo **Tun** (Myanmar)
- 3. Yaya **Djire** (Mali)
- 4. Suzan Mohamed **El-Gharapawy** (Egypt)

7. The Commission also selected the following alternate candidates ranked by preference on the understanding that the alternate candidate from Madagascar would only replace the first selected candidate from Madagascar:

- 1. Tolojanahary Randriamiarantsoa (Madagascar)
- 2. Nesha **Nurse** (Barbados)
- 3. Lucía Alejandra Villar Muñoz (Chile)
- 4. Francisco Javier García Villalobos (Mexico)