



Council

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Decision of the Council relating to an application for the approval of a plan of work for exploration for polymetallic sulphides by the Government of India

The Council of the International Seabed Authority,

Acting on the recommendation of the Legal and Technical Commission,

Noting that, on 26 March 2013, the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority received an application from the Government of India for the approval of a plan of work for exploration for polymetallic sulphides in the Area, which was submitted pursuant to the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Sulphides in the Area,¹

Recalling that, in accordance with paragraph 6 (a) of section 1 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 1982,² the processing of an application for approval of a plan of work for exploration shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including annex III thereto, and the Agreement,

Recalling also that, pursuant to article 153, paragraph 3, of the Convention³ and paragraph 6 (b) of section 1 of the annex to the Agreement, the plan of work for exploration shall be in the form of a contract concluded between the Authority and the applicant,

Taking note of the advisory opinion of the Seabed Disputes Chamber of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea of 1 February 2011,

1. *Takes note* of the report and recommendations of the Legal and Technical Commission relating to an application for the approval of a plan of work for

¹ ISBA/16/A/12/Rev.1, annex.

² General Assembly resolution 48/263, annex.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.



exploration for polymetallic sulphides submitted by the Government of India to the Council,⁴ in particular paragraphs 24 to 27 thereof;

2. *Approves* the plan of work for exploration for polymetallic sulphides submitted by the Government of India;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Authority to issue the plan of work for exploration for polymetallic sulphides in the form of a contract between the Authority and the Government of India in accordance with the Regulations.

*199th meeting
21 July 2014*

⁴ ISBA/20/C/6.