



Council

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Election to fill a vacancy on the Legal and Technical Commission in accordance with part XI, section 4, subsection C, article 163, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Council of the International Seabed Authority is invited to note that Laleta Davis-Mattis (Jamaica), member of the Legal and Technical Commission, resigned on 4 February 2014. Mrs. Davis-Mattis had been elected a member of the Commission on 21 July 2011 (see [ISBA/17/C/21](#), para. 18), for a term of five years beginning 1 January 2012.
2. In accordance with article 163, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and rule 80, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the Council, in the event of the death, incapacity or resignation of a member of the Commission prior to the expiration of his or her term of office, the Council shall elect for the remainder of the term a member from the same geographical region or area of interest.
3. Article 163, paragraph 3, of the Convention and rule 81 of the rules of procedure of the Council provide that members of the Commission shall have appropriate qualifications in the area of competence of the Commission, and States parties shall nominate candidates of the highest standards of competence and integrity with qualifications in the relevant fields so as to ensure the effective exercise of the functions of the Commission.
4. By a note verbale dated 12 February 2014, the Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the International Seabed Authority informed the secretariat of the Authority of the nomination of Michelle Walker, Head of Legal Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade in Jamaica, as a candidate to fill the vacant seat on the Commission. The curriculum vitae of Ms. Walker is contained in the annex to the present note.



Annex

Curriculum vitae*

Michelle Walker (Jamaica)

Professional qualifications/memberships

Jamaica Bar Association

Professional experience

2001-present Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

Legal Adviser, Head of Legal Unit

- Provides advice to the Ministry on legal matters, in particular, relating to treaty application and interpretation including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
- Represents the Government in negotiation of agreements in various areas e.g. maritime delimitation, (deputy lead negotiator)
- Responsible for providing liaison support and monitoring of technical assistance project for capacity-building in maritime delimitation
- Advised on development of national guidelines for conducting marine research in Jamaican maritime space
- Represents the Government in various regional and international forums, e.g. the International Seabed Authority(member of delegation since 2001), the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly
- Represented Ministry on working groups for implementation of regional environmental agreements
- Member of Jamaica's National Council of Ocean and Coastal Zone Management

1998-2001 CARICOM Secretariat, Georgetown, Guyana

1991-1998 Attorney-General's Department, Kingston, Jamaica

- Advised on ratification of several environmental treaties, e.g. CITES
- Participated in negotiation of various bilateral agreements, including agreements on bilateral investment and maritime delimitation
- Represented the country in various regional and international bodies, e.g. CARICOM, OAS, UNEP, the General Assembly

* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.

Languages

- English (fluent)
- Spanish (beginner)
- French (beginner)

Education

1985-1991, University of the West Indies, Mona Jamaica

- Bachelor of Laws (LLB) (Hons)
- Norman Manley Law School Certificate of Legal Education (CLE)

University of London, University College, United Kingdom

- Master of Laws (LLM)
(Sir Edgerton Richardson Scholarship, British Council)

Publications

- Show Me the Money, Jamaica's Implementation of the International Convention on Terrorism Financing, Risky Business (2010)
 - Some Aspects of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy, The West Indian Law Journal (2005)
 - An Overview of Jamaica's World Trade Organization Obligations, The Jamaica Bar Association Journal (2004)
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