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REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL OF PLANS OF WORK FOR EXPLORATION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DE RECHERCHE POUR L'EXPLOITATION DE LA MER (IFREMER) / ASSOCIATION FRANÇAISE POUR L'ETUDE ET LA RECHERCHE DES NODULES (AFERNOD) (FRANCE), DEEP OCEAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT CO. LTD. (DORD) (JAPAN), YUZHMOGEOLOGIYA (RUSSIAN FEDERATION), CHINA OCEAN MINERAL RESOURCES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (COMRA) (CHINA), INTEROCEANMETAL JOINT ORGANIZATION (IOM) (BULGARIA, CUBA, CZECH REPUBLIC, POLAND, RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND SLOVAKIA) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

The Council of the International Seabed Authority, acting on the recommendation of the Legal and Technical Commission.

Noting that, on 19 August 1997, requests for approval of plans of work for exploration were submitted by the following registered pioneer investors in accordance with paragraph 6(a)(ii) 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: the Government of India, Institut français de recherche pour l' exploitation de la mer (IFREMER) / Association française pour l'etude et la recherche des nodules (AFERNOD) (France), Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. Ltd. (DORD) (Japan), Yuzhmorgeologiya (Russian Federation), China Ocean Minerals Research and Development Association (COMRA) (China), Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (IOM)(Bulgaria, Cuba, Czech Republic, Poland, Russian Federation and Slovakia) and the Government of the Republic of Korea,

Recalling that in accordance with paragraph 6(a) (ii) 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, in the case of a registered pioneer investor, the plan of

work for exploration shall consist of documents, reports and other data submitted to the Preparatory Commission both before and after registration and shall be accompanied by a certificate of compliance, consisting of a factual report describing the status of fulfillment of obligations under the pioneer investor regime, issued by the Preparatory Commission in accordance with resolution II, paragraph 11 (a),

1. Notes the report of the Legal and Technical Commission on the requests for approval of plans of work for exploration submitted by the Government of India, Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer (IFREMER) / Association française pour l'étude et la recherche des nodules (AFERNOD) (France), Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. Ltd. (DORD) (Japan), Yuzhmorgeologiya (Russian Federation), China Ocean Mineral Resources Research and Development Association (COMRA) (China), Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (IOM) (Bulgaria, Cuba, Czech Republic, Poland, Russian Federation and Slovakia) and the Government of the Republic of Korea, transmitted to the Council on 22 August 1997, and in particular its paragraphs 3 and 4 (ISBA/3/C/7);

2. Further notes that in accordance with paragraph 6 (a) (ii) 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, the plans of work for exploration submitted by the Government of India, Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer (IFREMER) / Association française pour l'étude et la recherche des nodules (AFERNOD) (France), Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. Ltd. (DORD) (Japan), Yuzhmorgeologiya (Russian Federation), China Ocean Mineral Resources Research and Development Association (COMRA) (China), Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (IOM) (Bulgaria, Cuba, Czech Republic, Poland, Russian Federation and Slovakia) and the Government of the Republic of Korea are considered to be approved;

3. Requests the Secretary-General of the Authority to take the necessary steps to issue the plans of work in the form of contracts, incorporating the applicable obligations under the provisions of the Convention and the Implementation Agreement and resolution II and in accordance with the regulations on prospecting and exploration for polymetallic nodules in the Area and a standard form of contract to be approved by the Council.

22nd Meeting  
27 August 1997