

INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY

Council



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9-27 August 1999

DECISION OF THE COUNCIL RELATING TO THE BUDGET OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY FOR 2000

The Council of the International Seabed Authority,

Taking into account the recommendation of the Finance Committee,

1. Recommends to the Assembly for adoption the revised budget of the Authority for 2000¹ in the sum of United States dollars 5,275,200;

2. Also recommends to the Assembly that, in order to enable the Council to complete its work on the draft regulations for prospecting and exploration for polymetallic nodules in the Area (the mining code) during 2000, there should be two two-week sessions of the Authority in 2000, without prejudice to the future work pattern of the Authority;

3. Further recommends to the Assembly for adoption the following draft resolution:

"The Assembly of the International Seabed Authority,

"1. Adopts the revised budget of the Authority for 2000¹ in the sum of 5,275,200 United States dollars;

"2. Decides that, in order to enable the Council to complete its work on the draft mining code during 2000, there should be two two-week sessions of the Authority in 2000 without prejudice to the future work pattern of the Authority;

"3. Decides further that, in view of the commitment shared by all members to carrying out the work of the Authority expeditiously, in particular to the adoption of the draft mining code during 2000, and the need to streamline the work of the Authority; in the organization of work for the sixth session, priority shall be given to the work of the Council on the draft mining code and the meetings shall be structured as follows:

(i) The agenda for the first part of the session shall be devoted to consideration by the Council of the draft mining code.

¹ ISBA/5/A/2/Add.1/Rev.1-ISBA/5/C/2/Add.1/Rev.1.

To further advance the work of the Council, the Secretary-General will consult with the incoming President of the Council and with the regional groups and interest groups with a view to identifying the main areas of difficulty in the draft code and the most efficient working method which would enable the outstanding issues to be resolved;

(ii) The agenda for the second part of the session shall include, during the first week of the two-week session, the elections to the organs and offices of the Authority and the work of the Finance Committee; and the conclusion and adoption of the draft mining code;

"4. Appeals to the members of the Authority, including those States which are no longer members of the Authority following the termination of provisional membership on 16 November 1998, to pay the arrears in their contributions to the budget of the Authority for 1998 as soon as possible and requests the Secretary-General to inform the members of the Authority of this appeal;

"5. Authorizes the Secretary-General to establish the scale of assessment for 2000 based on the scale used for the regular budget of the United Nations for 1999, and as recommended in paragraph 7 of the report of the Finance Committee;²

"6. Decides that the rate of assessment and the amounts of contribution to the general administrative fund and the Working Capital Fund of Ukraine and Vanuatu, which became members of the Authority in 1999, shall be as recommended in paragraph 8 of the report of the Finance Committee;

"7. Also decides that, for 2000, the Secretary-General is authorized to transfer from Part 1 to Part 2 of the budget as necessary in order to enable the Authority to hold two two-week sessions in 2000, and between appropriations sections up to 30 per cent of the amount in each section;

"8. Decides further that, should the funds in the Working Capital Fund prove inadequate to meet the shortfalls in cash flow, the Secretary-General is authorized to utilize, in 2000, available funds under his custody up to a limit of 10 per cent of the approved budget for 2000, provided that such borrowed sums shall be reimbursed as soon as contributions or advances are available;

"9. Further decides that advances and contributions shall be due and payable in full within 30 days of the receipt of the communication of the Secretary-General requesting payment, or as of 1 January 2000, whichever is the later;

"10. Appoints KPMG Peat Marwick to audit the Authority for 1999, without prejudice to possible extension."

58th meeting
26 August 1999

² ISBA/5/A/8-ISBA/5/C/7.
