



Finance Committee

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Kingston, Jamaica
15-26 August 2005

Report of the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority on the Voluntary Trust Fund for the participation of members of the Finance Committee and the Legal and Technical Commission from developing countries

I. Introduction

1. The Voluntary Trust Fund for the participation of members of the Finance Committee and the Legal and Technical Commission from developing countries was established in 2002, following a request by the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority, to enhance the participation of members from developing countries in the meetings of the Legal and Technical Commission and the Finance Committee. Activity related to the Fund since the tenth annual session of the Authority is set out below.

II. Applications and approvals for the eleventh session

2. There are 18 members of the Legal and Technical Commission and 7 members of the Finance Committee from developing countries. Included in the number of Committee members is the host country, Jamaica. As had been done for the tenth annual session of the International Seabed Authority, notes verbales were sent to all eligible member countries and copied to eligible representatives on the Commission and the Committee advising of the availability of support from the Voluntary Trust Fund. In respect of the eleventh annual session, seven valid requests were received regarding Commission members and two regarding Committee members. The applications were assessed against the criteria set out in document ISBA/9/A/5*-ISBA/9/C/5* and all received approval for support in respect of economy class fares and per diems. The members that received support are listed below.

Legal and Technical Commission members

Dr. Shahid Amjad
 Dr. Galo Carrera
 Mr. Miguel Dos Santos Chissano
 Mr. Albert Hoffman
 Dr. Frida Armas Pfirter
 Mr. Alfred Simpson
 Ms. Inge Zaamwani

Finance Committee members

Professor Dr. Hasjim Djalal
 Mrs. Juliet Semambo Kalema

III. Income

3. Over the life of the Fund, contributions totalling 37,800 United States dollars have been received from: Angola (US\$ 300); Namibia (US\$ 1,300); Norway (US\$ 25,000); Oman (US\$ 10,000); Directorate-General for Information, Public Diplomacy and International Treaties Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia (US\$ 1,000); and Dr Y. Kazmin (US\$ 200). As at 31 July 2005, interest income of US\$ 819 had been earned on the funds on deposit. In addition, an amount of US\$ 75,000 was advanced from the fund established to assist the International Seabed Authority in the administration and management of application fees from Pioneer Investors. There was no need to call upon any of the \$10,000 facility the Assembly had authorized the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority to draw on as advance, as necessary, to satisfy requests for assistance in relation to the eleventh annual session. A summary table of Fund income follows.

(United States dollars)

<i>Income source</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>Total</i>
Contributions	37 500	300	37 800
Advance	75 000		75 000
Interest	135	684	819
Total	112 635	984	113 619

IV. Expenditure

4. Expenditure from the Fund as at 12 August 2005 was 90,181 United States dollars. A table analysing the expenditure, split between the tenth and eleventh annual session, appears below.

(United States dollars)

	2004: tenth session	2005: eleventh session	Totals
Legal and Technical Commission	*	*	
	4	7	
Fares	17 598	17 470	35 068
DSA ^a	13 238	20 292	33 530
Finance Committee	3	3	
Fares	6 702	5 921	12 623
DSA ^a	4 573	4 387	8 960
Totals	42 111	48 070	90 181

* Number of members assisted.

^a Daily subsistence allowance.

V. Available balance

5. As at 12 August 2005, the balance of the Voluntary Fund was 23,438 United States dollars. No part of the advance of 75,000 United States dollars from the fund established to assist the Authority in the administration and management of application fees from Pioneer Investors has been repaid.

VI. Requests for contributions

6. As had been done in 2004, notes verbales were sent in 2005 to all Member States and the European Commission seeking contributions to the Fund. For 2005, these were sent in January 2005. Namibia subsequently responded with a contribution of 300 United States dollars.