



Ассамблея

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Просьба о предоставлении статуса наблюдателя при Ассамблее

Записка Секретариата

5 июня 2000 года совместная организация «Интерокеанметалл» (ИОМ) направила Генеральному секретарю Международного органа по морскому дну письмо с просьбой о предоставлении ей статуса наблюдателя при Ассамблее Органа. В приложении к настоящей записке¹ содержится копия подлинника письма и дополнительная информация.

¹ Приложение воспроизводится в том виде, в каком оно было получено, т.е. на языке представления.



Annex



inter metal
JOINT ORGANIZATION

Szczecin, 5 June 2000

Ambassador Satya N.Nandan
Secretary General
International Seabed Authority
14-20 Port Royal Street
Kingston
Jamaica

Re: Observer Status for Interoceanmetal Joint Organization

Dear Sir,


On behalf of the Council of Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (IOM), I have the honour to request information on the process for granting IOM the observer status with ISBA.

Interoceanmetal Joint Organization is an intergovernmental body, certified by the governments of Bulgaria, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Poland, Russian Federation, and Slovakia, and founded in 1987 to carry out exploration for and exploitation of mineral resources on the deep sea bed. Interoceanmetal Joint Organization enjoys the status of registered pioneer investor, with its pioneer area located in the Pacific's Clarion-Clipperton Fracture Zone.

Since its foundation, IOM has been vitally interested in the international cooperation involving counterparts from beyond the IOM certifying states' perimeter and sought to promote this cooperation, advocated by the International Seabed Authority, at various levels. The IOM Council has authorised me to forward their belief to you that the observer status, should it be granted, would greatly enhance IOM's potential for international cooperation and will strengthen the links IOM has already made with the International Seabed Authority.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,


Dr. Ryszard Kotliński
Director General
Interoceanmetal Joint Organization

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P - 001280094-1-23-4700-520-59-1-8101-7420-351

Appendix

Interoceanmetal Joint Organization

Background information in support of request for observer status with International Seabed Authority

1. Name of Organization

Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (IOM)

2. Address of Headquarters

ul. Cyryla i Metodego 9

71-541 Szczecin

Poland

Phone: +48 91 4531 398

Fax: + 48 91 4531 399

E-mail: iom@iom.gov.pl

Web site: <http://www.iom.gov.pl>

3. Name and Address of Proposed Primary Representative

Dr. Ryszard Kotliński

Director General

ul. Cyryla i Metodego 9

71-541 Szczecin

Poland

Phone: +48 91 4531 498

Fax: +48 91 4531 399

E-mail: r.kotlinski@iom.gov.pl

4. Aims and Purposes of the Organization

IOM acts in conformity with international regulations, notably those of UNCLOS and Resolution II and documents issued by the International Seabed Authority.

IOM is an intergovernmental organization, enjoying the status of pioneer investor, and established to:

- carry out prospecting for polymetallic nodules in the pioneer area and its environmental exploration with the aim of preparing ground for future exploitation of the nodules;

- develop polymetallic nodule mining technologies;
- work out means and measures of protecting the marine environment from potential harmful effects of exploration and exploitation of the pioneer area.

5. History

IOM was chartered on 27 April 1987, based on the Intergovernmental Agreement signed by Bulgaria, Vietnam, the then German Democratic Republic, Cuba, Poland, the then USSR, and Czechoslovakia, and started operating in December that year. In 1989, Vietnam withdrew from the Organization, Germany following suit in 1991 in the wake of the unification. On 31 December 1992, Slovakia and the Czech Republic, as two sovereign states, divided the responsibilities of the former Czechoslovakia towards IOM between themselves.

In June 1988, the IOM Council approved the eastern part of the NE Pacific's Clarion-Clipperton Fracture Zone as a target area of IOM prospecting activities. In November 1990, the IOM Council approved application of the governments of the member states for registration of the Interoceanmetal Joint Organization as a pioneer investor and for allocation of a pioneer area. The application, received by the Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority and for International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (PrepCom) in March 1991, was granted, following which, on 22 August 1991, IOM was registered as a pioneer investor. The appropriate Certificate of Registration, signed by the Secretary General of the United Nations Organization, was issued on 30 July 1992.

In March 1994, IOM received from PrepCom the Certificate of Compliance with obligations as a pioneer investor. In compliance with the obligations, IOM has already relinquished 30% of its originally 150,000 km² pioneer area. Preparations for relinquishment of the final 20% are in progress. Also in compliance with the obligations, IOM provided training in methods of underwater geophysical exploration and in metallurgy to four international trainees selected by PrepCom.

On 27 August 1997, International Seabed Authority approved the plan of work for exploration, submitted by IOM.

6. Recent and Planned Activities

IOM has been vigorously pursuing exploration of its pioneer area. In 1999, the major part of the area was subject to a detailed bathymetric survey resulting in a set of very detailed maps and charts.

Within 1994-1997, IOM was carrying out a major environmental project, the Benthic Impact Experiment, aimed at assessing the extent of an impact produced by a simulated mining operation. A follow-up cruise to the experiment site is in progress.

IOM has been and is involved in multi- and bilateral cooperation programmes with organizations from, i.a., China (COMRA), Germany (VWS), US (NOAA), Japan (MMAJ), Korea (CORDI), and Russia (CGGE). The programmes include joint field and laboratory research on various aspects of environmental and metallurgical research carried out by the cooperating organisations.

IOM has been actively participating in international conferences, notably the annual ISOPE Conferences (1996, 1997, 1998, 1999) and bi-annual ISOPE Ocean Mining Symposia (1995, 1997, 1999) and attended a number of other international meetings and seminars. Preparations are underway for the next ISOPE Ocean Mining Symposium to be hosted by IOM and held in Szczecin in November 2001.

7. Structure

The suite of IOM certifying states (member states) consists at present of: Republic of Bulgaria, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Republic of Poland, Russian Federation, and the Slovak Republic.

IOM is governed by the Council consisting of plenipotentiary representatives of the member states. The Council meets twice a year to review the activities and to work out general policies of the organisation. The Council appoints the Auditioning Commission as the controlling body and the Director General as an executive arm.

8. Finances

IOM is supported by the annual equal financial contributions paid from the respective budgets of the certifying states.

9. Publications

Although IOM does not issues its own journal or newsletter, a number of papers authored or co-authored by the IOM staff members have appeared in scientific journal and conference proceedings (a sample is provided).

The IOM web site (<http://www.iom.gov.pl>) is periodically updated to provide current information to all interested parties on the Organization's past and present activities.
