

The contribution of the ISA to capacity building of African States

Summary

The International Seabed Authority has the responsibility to promote and facilitate capacity building amongst its developing member States in matters related to seabed exploration and mining in the Area. The objective is to ensure that developing member States will have the necessary technical know-how to participate in deep sea mining when it starts.

47 out of 54 African states are members of the Authority. All these 47 states, through their nationals, are eligible to benefit from all the Authority's capacity building programmes.

The Authority fulfils its responsibility through three principle means, namely, administration of the contractor training programme, facilitation of marine scientific research and through its internship programme.

The presentation details the legal basis of the of this obligation and describes how the Authority administers these. It further discusses the successes of the programmes by providing statistcic on participation and types of activities and challenges faced – with a focus on African states. Future opportunities will be addressed including how African states can participate in improving the programmes for their benefit.

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