



INFORMATION NOTE ON MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE ASSEMBLY AT THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION

1-5 August 2022, Kingston

1. The twenty-seventh session of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority will be held from 1 to 5 August 2022.
2. The purpose of this note is to inform members of the Authority and observers as referred to under rule 82 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly on matters for consideration by the Assembly during the twenty-seventh session.
3. This note briefly describes the items of the provisional agenda of the Assembly ([ISBA/27/A/L.1](#)). The provisional agenda, the indicative programme of work and all official documents prepared for the upcoming meetings have been placed on the Authority's website. This will continue to be updated as more documents become available.
4. The twenty-seventh session of the Assembly is to be declared open on Monday 1 August 2022 ([Provisional agenda item 1](#)) by the President of the twenty-sixth session of the Assembly, and is scheduled to close on Friday 5 August 2022. The Assembly will commence its business with the adoption of the agenda ([Provisional agenda item 2, ISBA/27/A/L.1](#)) followed by the election of a President and Vice-Presidents ([Provisional agenda item 3 and 4](#)). It will be the turn of the Group of Asia-Pacific States to nominate a candidate for the presidency of the Assembly for the twenty-seventh session. Each of the other regional groups will nominate a Vice-President of the Assembly. The President and Vice-Presidents shall constitute the Bureau which could meet periodically throughout the session to review the progress of the work of the Assembly and make recommendations for furthering such progress.
5. The secretariat would be grateful, in order to facilitate the smooth running of the session, if regional groups can coordinate on the issue of candidatures for the positions of President and Vice-Presidents of the Assembly in advance of the session, and to communicate any nomination to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (secretary-General@isa.org.jm).
6. The members of the Credentials Committee need also to be appointed ([Provisional agenda item 5](#)). The Credentials Committee shall consist of nine members of the Assembly, who shall be appointed by the Assembly on the proposal of the President. The Committee shall elect its own officers. It shall examine the credentials of representatives of members and report to the Assembly without delay ([Provisional agenda item 15](#)). A meeting of the Credentials Committee is scheduled on Wednesday 3 August 2022 at 2:00-2:45pm.

7. The Assembly will continue its business with the consideration of requests for observer status in accordance with rule 82, paragraph 1 (e), of the rules of procedure of the Assembly ([Provisional agenda item 6](#)), and the Guidelines for observer status of non-governmental organizations with the International Seabed Authority (Annex, [ISBA/25/A/16](#)). A total of five requests were received by the Secretary-General, respectively from the Interamerican Association for Environmental Defense ([ISBA/27/A/INF/1](#)), the Ocean Foundation ([ISBA/27/A/INF/2](#)), Cluster maritime français ([ISBA/27/A/INF/3](#)), Oceans North ([ISBA/27/A/INF/4](#)) and the World Organization of Dredging Associations ([ISBA/27/A/INF/5](#)).

8. The President of the Council for the twenty-seventh session, Mr. Tomasz Abramowski (Poland) will introduce his statement on the work of the Council ([Provisional agenda item 8](#)), including Part I held from 21 March to 1 April 2022 (see [ISBA/27/C/21](#)) and Part II to be held from 18 to 29 July 2022.

9. As a regular item ([Provisional agenda item 9](#)), the Assembly will consider the annual report of the Secretary-General, submitted pursuant to article 166 of the Convention (see [ISBA/27/A/2](#), [ISBA/27/A/2/Add.1](#) and [ISBA/27/A/4](#)). In line with the usual practice of the meetings of the Assembly, a preliminary list of speakers will be established for this provisional agenda item.

10. The Assembly will consider the report of the Finance Committee ([Provisional agenda item 12](#), see [ISBA/27/A/8-ISBA/27/C/36](#)), and, taking into account the recommendations of the Finance Committee and of the Council, to adopt the budget of the Authority for the years 2023-2024 ([Provisional agenda item 13](#), see [ISBA/27/A/3-ISBA/27/C/22](#) and [ISBA/27/A/3/Add.1-ISBA/27/C/22/Add.1](#)) as well as the scale of assessment for the contribution to the budget of the Authority ([Provisional agenda item 14](#)).

11. It is recalled that the current members of the Finance Committee were elected in 2016 for a term of 5 years from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2021 (see [ISBA/22/A/14](#)). Due to Covid-19 pandemic and on an exceptional basis, their term was extended for an additional year until 31 December 2022 (see [ISBA/26/A/23](#)). During this session, the Assembly is required to elect 15 members of the Committee to serve for the next term of five years ([Provisional agenda item 16](#), see [ISBA/27/A/7](#)).

12. Elections to fill vacancies on the Council will also take place in accordance with article 161, paragraph 3 of the Convention ([Provisional agenda item 17](#)). Pursuant to decisions of the Assembly as contained in [ISBA/24/A/19](#), the terms of office of 18 members of the Council will end on 31 December 2022. Two vacancies will need to be filled in Group A, three vacancies in Group B, two vacancies in Group C, three vacancies in Group D and eight vacancies in Group E. The secretariat prepared two information papers to assist member States in determining the States eligible for election in each group of the Council (see [ISBA/27/A/CRP.1](#) and [ISBA/27/A/CRP.2](#)).

13. The Assembly is also invited to consider, under Other Matters ([Provisional agenda item 19](#)) the capacity development strategy of the Authority (See [ISBA/27/A/5](#)) and a proposal concerning amendments to rule 82 of the Rules of procedure of the Assembly submitted by Belgium (See [ISBA/27/A/6](#)).

14. The Assembly is invited to pay tribute to the memory of the late Mr Nii Allotey Odunton, the second Secretary-General of the Authority, who passed away on 13 February 2022 ([Provisional agenda item 11](#)).

15. At a request from the Government of Jamaica as the host country, a special event will be held on the afternoon of 1 August 2022, during the twenty-seventh session, to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. It may be noted that the same date marks the sixtieth anniversary of independence of Jamaica. For this event, a separate list of speakers will be established. Statements are encouraged to be made only by ministers, regional groups and (if time allows) permanent representatives to the International Seabed Authority, with a maximum time limit of 5 minutes per statement.

16. At the end of the session, the dates of the twenty-eighth session of the Assembly will be announced ([Provisional agenda item 18](#)).

17. The Assembly may consider other matters under [provisional agenda item 19](#).

19 July 2022

Kingston, Jamaica