



**Information Note on matters for consideration by the Council of the  
International Seabed Authority during the third part of  
the twenty-seventh session of the Authority**

---

**I. Introduction**

1. In line with the roadmap on the work of the Draft regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area in 2022, the Council of the International Seabed Authority will hold ten meetings from 31 October to 11 November 2022 in Kingston, Jamaica for the third part of the twenty-seventh session.

2. The Council will continue to progress the agenda for the twenty-seventh session which was adopted during Part I of the session (ISBA/27/C/1). In March 2022, the Council also elected Tomasz Abramowski, as President, together with Sierra Leone (African States), Jamaica (Latin American and Caribbean States), Canada (Western European and other States) and the Republic of Korea (Asia-Pacific States) as Vice-Presidents for the twenty-seventh session (ISBA/27/C/21).

3. The purpose of this note is to inform representatives of members and of observers of the International Seabed Authority on matters for consideration by the Council at its next Part III session.

4. This note briefly presents the items of the agenda of the Council which will be considered during Part III of the session. The agenda, the indicative programme of work and official documents for the forthcoming session have been placed on the website of the Authority which will continue to be updated as more documents become available.

5. This note will be supplemented by a note on logistical and procedural matters. Pre-session documents for the Council and its working groups are also grouped for ease of reference on the page for the twenty-seventh session/Council/Part III top right. Please kindly note that the email for submission of statements and textual proposals during the meeting is [council@isa.org.jm](mailto:council@isa.org.jm).

**II. Report of the Secretary-General on the credentials of members of the Council (item 5 of the agenda)**

6. Under this standing item on the agenda of the Council, the Secretary-General will provide an oral report on the credentials of members of the Council. Members who have already submitted credentials for the whole twenty-seventh session would need to submit revised credentials only if there are changes to their delegates.

**III. Draft regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area (item 11 of the agenda)**

7. In line with the roadmap endorsed by the Council in December 2021 and building on the progress made during the first and second parts of the twenty-seventh session, a large portion of the Part III session will be devoted to further advance the negotiations of the Draft regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area (ISBA/25/C/WP.1). The Council will hold formal

plenary sessions and will also meet as an informal working group of the whole to consider those parts of the draft regulations reserved for the plenary. Meetings of the Open-ended Working Group on financial matters and the other working groups established to consider institutional and environmental aspects as well inspection, enforcement and compliance matters will also be scheduled.

8. The Council will be invited to consider the oral reports by the facilitators and the president in plenary.

9. Taking stock of the progress achieved during the twenty-seventh session in 2022, the Council is invited to agree on intersessional work in preparation for the twenty-eighth session.

#### **IV. Report of the Secretary-General concerning the operationalization of the Economic Planning Commission (item 13 of the agenda)**

10. During the second part of the session, the Council agreed to keep the operationalization of the Economic Planning Commission on its agenda. The African Group had indicated its intention to present a draft decision on this matter.

#### **V. Report of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission on the work of the Commission at its twenty-seventh session (item 14 of the agenda)**

11. The Council will resume its consideration of the report of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission on the work of the Commission at the second part of its twenty-seventh session, which was presented by the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission during the July's meetings (ISBA/27/C/16/Add.1) and will adopt a decision as appropriate.

12. Taking into account the recommendations of the Commission as reported by the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission during the Part II session, the Council is invited the following recommendations presented by the Commission:

(a) A draft decision of the Council of the International Seabed Authority relating to the procedure and criteria for consideration of a request for the transfer of rights and obligations under a contract for exploration, pursuant to article 20 of annex III to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (see ISBA/27/C/35, Annex II); the draft procedure and criteria for consideration of a request for the transfer of rights and obligations under a contract for exploration is contained in Annex I to the report and recommendations of the Commission on this matter (see ISBA/27/C/35);

(b) A standardized procedure for the development, review and approval of regional environmental management plans (REMPs), including a template with indicative elements, which has been developed by the Commission (see ISBA/27/C/37, Annex I and appendix), upon the request of the Council (see ISBA/26/C/10); a draft decision of the Council is being prepared for that purpose;

(c) A regional environmental management plan for the Area of the northern Mid-Atlantic Ridge with a focus on polymetallic sulphide deposits, which was requested, as a matter of priority, as part of the Authority's environmental strategy. The recommendations of the Commission are contained in document ISBA/27/C/38.) . A draft decision of the Council is being prepared for that purpose.

**VI. Report on matters relating to the Enterprise (item 18 of the agenda)**

13. The African Group has indicated that it may present a draft decision on this matter

**VII. Dates of the next session (item 20 of the agenda)**

14. The dates for the twenty-eighth session will be announced in due course.

Kingston, Jamaica, 28 September 2022