



Assembly

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Draft decision of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority relating to the establishment of a Consultative Group of Representatives to the Authority

The Assembly of the International Seabed Authority,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General regarding the permanent missions to the International Seabed Authority,

Taking into account the increased workload of the International Seabed Authority, and in particular its Council,

Mindful of the importance of ensuring adequate preparation of its annual regular sessions and of any special session convened in accordance with article 159, paragraph 2, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, as well as an appropriate follow-up to the decisions and agreements arrived at each session,

Recalling paragraphs 2 and 3 of section 1 of the annex to the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982,¹

1. *Approves* the establishment of a Consultative Group of Representatives to the International Seabed Authority (hereinafter, “Consultative Group”);

2. *Decides* that:

(a) The Consultative Group shall provide assistance and advice to the Assembly, with particular attention to the preparation, including the organization of

¹ Section 1, paragraphs 2 and 3, of the annex to the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 48/263:

2. In order to minimize costs to States Parties, all organs and subsidiary bodies to be established under the Convention and this Agreement shall be cost-effective. This principle shall also apply to the frequency, duration and scheduling of meetings.

3. The setting up and the functioning of the organs and subsidiary bodies of the Authority shall be based on an evolutionary approach, taking into account the functional needs of the organs and subsidiary bodies concerned in order that they may discharge effectively their respective responsibilities at various stages of the development of activities in the Area.



work, of each annual session, as well as of any special session; shall examine ways to promote and facilitate consensus on any issue to be examined by the Assembly or by the Council; and shall examine any other matters submitted to its consideration by the Assembly, the Council, the Secretary-General or any member State of the Authority;

(b) Participation in the Consultative Group shall be open to all permanent representatives to the Authority or to their representatives, as well as to representatives designated by member States of the Authority that have not yet established permanent missions;

(c) The Consultative Group shall choose one of its members to coordinate its work;

(d) Each regional group shall designate at least one of its members to participate in the Consultative Group; that member will be entrusted with disseminating information regarding the work of the Consultative Group to those of its members not present at its meetings;

(e) The Consultative Group shall hold as many meetings as deemed necessary by its members, both during sessions of the Assembly or between each annual session, but no less than four meetings in each intersessional period;

(f) The Secretary-General shall provide all information and support needed in furtherance of the objectives contained in paragraph 2 and shall participate in the meetings of the Consultative Group;

(g) Meetings of the Consultative Group shall take place at the seat of the Authority;

(h) The Consultative Group shall inform the Assembly and, when appropriate, the Council, of its deliberations.
