



International Seabed Authority
28th Session 2023

**Information on logistical and procedural aspects
for the twenty-eighth session of the Council (Part II) and the Assembly of the
International Seabed Authority
(10 - 28 July 2023)**

A. Introduction

The twenty-eighth session of the Council (Part II) and the Assembly will be held in Kingston, Jamaica from 10 - 28 July 2023 (Council: 10 - 21 July; Assembly: 24 - 28 July 2023). This note aims at providing information to delegations on the logistical and procedural aspects.

B. Meeting Venue and format

The meetings of the twenty-eighth session of the Authority will be held in person at the Jamaica Conference Centre.

C. Access for People with Disabilities

Representatives with disabilities who require accessible seating during the meetings are kindly requested to bring this to the attention of the Secretariat as soon as possible by sending an email to secretary-general@isa.org.jm.

D. Procedural Aspects of the Meeting

Credentials and Accreditation

For planning and registration purposes, delegations are kindly requested to submit legibly scanned copies of their credentials to the Secretary-General via email to protocol@isa.org.jm as soon as possible, but preferably not less than forty-eight (48) hours before the first meeting attended. Credentials should be submitted in the following formats:

- i. A scanned copy of the formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or a person authorized by the Minister.
- ii. A scanned copy of a duly signed communication such as a note verbale from either the respective Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or the Permanent Mission to the International Seabed Authority or the Permanent Mission to the United Nations, containing provisional information concerning the

- appointment of representatives participating in the twenty eighth session, pending the submission of the formal credentials.
- iii. For entities referred to in article 305, paragraph 1 (f), of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, by another competent authority.

Members and observers of the Authority are kindly requested to bring original hard copy credentials on the first day of the Meetings of the Council and the Assembly. Submission of original credentials should be done at the credentials office which is located at the first floor of the Secretariat building.

Members of the Council are reminded that for the meetings of the Council, original hard copy credentials should be formally submitted **no later than twenty-four** hours after seats are taken in the Council.

When appointing new representatives, delegations are also reminded to indicate whether it supersedes or accompanies previously submitted credentials. Credentials are only valid for the meeting period indicated.

The Secretariat may be contacted at protocol@isa.org.jm for any questions on accreditation/credentials.

Registration and Identification badges

All delegates attending the meetings of the Council and of the Assembly will require an ISA-issued identification card/access pass, in order to enter and remain on the premises of the Jamaica Conference Center, as well as to gain entry to the meeting rooms and the Secretariat building.

On arrival, delegates will be directed by security personnel to the Protocol and Credentials Section to submit their credentials and to acquire their access passes.

Passes are non-transferable and are valid only for the period indicated on the card. If lost or stolen, delegates will be required to visit the Protocol and Credentials Section to request the issuance of a new pass. Delegates will also be required to return their access passes to the Secretariat, at the end of the session or the last meeting attended, whichever comes first.

A collection box will be placed at the exit doors of the meeting room for delegates to deposit their passes prior to leaving the premises.

For efficiency purposes as well as crowd control, delegates are encouraged to submit via email to protocol@isa.org.jm, a quality colour photograph, displaying their full face in front view, against a plain (preferably white) background, so that their access passes may be prepared ahead of their arrival. The photos will be used strictly for the purpose of generating delegates' access passes and will not be used for any other purpose(s) or shared otherwise.

Entry Requirements

Information on entry requirements to Jamaica can be found on the Government of Jamaica's Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency's website at: <https://www.pica.gov.jm/immigration/entry-visa-requirements>. Delegates are strongly encouraged to consult the website to obtain information governing the entry of foreign nationals into Jamaica.

Delegates requiring the Secretariat's assistance with acquiring Jamaican entry visas to attend Part II of the 28th Session are requested to submit legible copies of their passport biodata page, the credentials of representatives and their flight itinerary to the Secretariat at protocol@isa.org.jm in order that a request can be made of the Government of Jamaica for the issuance of visa waivers.

Delegates are further asked to submit the requisite information, as soon as possible, but preferably, at least three weeks before their scheduled departure to Jamaica, to allow sufficient time to process visa waiver requests. Delegates who require visas to enter Jamaica and arrive at the port of entry without a visa or a visa waiver will be required by the relevant Government authority to pay an immigration processing fee of **USD 350**.

Documentation and Interpretation

The meetings of the twenty-eighth session will be paperless. Delegates are invited to use their portable devices to access all documentation. Pre-session and in-session documents will continue to be made available on the Authority's website: <https://www.isa.org.jm/sessions/28th-session-2023/>.

Documents and materials for the working groups during the meetings of the Council will also be hyperlinked in the indicative programme of work for the Council.

Access to a secured wireless internet connection (Wi-Fi) will be provided.

Statements

To facilitate verbatim reporting and effective interpretation, delegates are kindly requested to submit copies of their statements (*preferably in Microsoft Word*) in advance of the meetings, but no later than two hours before delivery to council@isa.org.jm, for the meetings of the Council and to assembly@isa.org.jm for the meetings of the Assembly. The name of the meeting and the speaker, as well as the relevant agenda item must be indicated in the subject line of the email, and the heading of the statement. Interpretation will be provided in all six (6) official languages of the Authority (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) in plenary meetings.

In line with past practice, statements made during the meetings, that are shared with the Secretariat, will be posted on the website of the Authority, unless indicated otherwise.

The President of the Council and the President of the Assembly may announce additional information to delegations on the organization of the discussions once the meetings begin.

E. Security

Only authorized shuttle services and vehicles with diplomatic plates will be allowed to enter the Conference Centre parking area.

F. Meeting services and other arrangements

Meeting Journal

The journals for the meetings of the Council and the meetings of the Assembly will be posted on the Authority's website at <https://www.isa.org.jm/sessions/28th-session-2023/> at 8:00 p.m. daily.

Media access, arrangements and services

Media accreditation is strictly reserved for members of the press who represent a bona fide media organization and should be requested online via the Authority's website at <https://www.isa.org.jm/media-accreditation/>.

Please revise the requirements for accreditation and the standing policies on audio/video recordings and photography by media and by participants at ISA sessions.

The Communications Unit of the Secretariat will issue regular e-bulletins featuring highlights and pictures of the Council and of the Assembly meetings. The official dissemination list used by the Secretariat will be used for that purpose. Delegates who would like to be added to the communications list, to receive these highlights, are invited to communicate their email address to news@isa.org.jm.

Media briefings will be organized during the meetings. More information can be obtained by contacting news@isa.org.jm.

All meetings of the Assembly and the Council, including its working groups will be live streamed in the six (6) official languages of the Authority, at <https://www.isa.org.jm/isa-web-tv/>.

Photos of the meetings will be made available at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/184741656@N05/albums>.

Side Events

To enable members of the Council and members of the Assembly to progress with informal discussions, side events will be accommodated between 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with the understanding that only one side event will be organized daily.

No side event will be facilitated during lunch.

No catering will be provided during side events.

[Guidelines for organizers along with the Request Form for side events](#) can be accessed using the above hyperlink to the Authority's website.

Meetings of Regional Groups

Due to restrictions of available rooms at the Jamaica Conference Centre, space to accommodate Regional Group meetings will be indicated upon request.

Access to Satya N. Nandan (SNN) Library

The Satya N. Nandan (SNN) Library, located on the second floor of the Secretariat building, is accessible to delegates by appointment only, between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, delegates can email library@isa.org.jm.

Before visiting, delegates are encouraged to search the library catalogue at www.library.isa.org.jm.

When arriving at the Secretariat building, delegates should proceed to the Credentials and Protocol Area, where they will be escorted by security personnel to the library.

G. Medical Services

For the duration of the meetings, a Medical Post will be established with a medical team and an ambulance on standby to assist delegates. For any medical needs, delegates are kindly encouraged to visit the Medical Post located in the vicinity of Conference Room 2.

For additional concerns, kindly notify the Associate Security and Facilities Officer of the Authority, Sonja Phinn, by telephone at +1 (876) 838-3902 or via email at sphinn@isa.org.jm.

H. Accommodation and transportation (OAS)

Hotel information is available at the following link: <https://www.isa.org.jm/sessions/28th-session-2023/>

There will be a daily shuttle service, properly identified, offering delegates daily transportation to and from the Jamaica Conference Centre. The bus will be parked at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, accessible to nearby properties (Courtleigh Hotel & Suites, Liguanea Club, Courtyard by Marriot). The rates for shuttle service are: **USD 10 / JMD 1,600** for a round-trip and **USD 5 / JMD 800** for a one-way trip.

Delegates staying at the Spanish Court Hotel and the AC Hotel by Marriott who are interested in getting shuttle service are invited to send an email, before arrival, to Lilian Valles at lvalles@isa.org.jm in order to coordinate with the service providers.

Shuttle services are offered by private contractors and the Secretariat takes no responsibility for the services provided.

Further information on logistical and administrative arrangements will be published in due course at the link: https://www.isa.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/28_session_Administrative_Note_Part2.pdf. It is advised to delegates to check updates to such arrangements on a regular basis.

Kingston, Jamaica, 29 May 2023