



# Assembly

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## Twenty-eighth session

Kingston, 24–28 July 2023

Item 8 of the provisional agenda\*

**Annual report of the Secretary-General under article 166,  
paragraph 4, of the United Nations Convention on the Law  
of the Sea**

## **Report on the implementation by the Council of the strategic plan of the Authority for the period 2019–2023**

### **Note by the secretariat**

#### **I. Introduction**

1. The Council recalls that the Assembly, in its decision relating to the implementation of the strategic plan of the Authority for the period 2019–2023 ([ISBA/25/A/15](#) and [ISBA/25/A/15/Corr.1](#)), committed to the strengthening of existing working practices of the Authority and, accordingly, invited members of the Authority and observers, as well as the organs of the Authority, to support the implementation of the strategic plan and the high-level action plan.

2. For the reporting period 2021–2023, the Council has been assigned some responsibilities for 33 high-level actions and 38 related outputs, as listed in annex II to the aforementioned decision. In nine cases, no specific output has been identified and the reporting therefore specifically relates to the high-level action of interest (see high-level actions 2.2.1, 2.3.2, 3.1.4, 3.2.2, 3.2.4, 3.4.3, 3.5.2 and 3.5.4). Accordingly, the total number of items identified for the reporting period is 47.

3. The Council is identified as the organ responsible for 20 outputs, the associated organ for 24 other outputs and the coordinating organ for the remainder. In order to reflect the different statuses of completion, particularly the fact that some outputs are recurring, two different subcategories of progress status have been identified: “ongoing”, which relates to outputs understood as requiring ongoing attention and adjustment, and “achieved”, which relates to outputs reported against a specific reporting period or action.

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\* [ISBA/28/A/L.1](#).



4. As at 1 June 2023, 64 per cent (30) of the assigned high-level actions and outputs had been completed and 36 per cent (17) were still in progress. Further information is provided in the annex to the present report, and details of the work undertaken against all outputs have been compiled by the secretariat and are available at [www.isa.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/ISBA\\_28\\_A\\_2\\_Add\\_1\\_Annex\\_II.pdf](http://www.isa.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/ISBA_28_A_2_Add_1_Annex_II.pdf).

## **II. Recommendation**

5. The Assembly is invited to take note of the information provided in the present report.

## Annex

### Status of completion of high-level actions and associated outputs assigned to the Council for the reporting period 2021–2023

<i>Strategic direction</i>	<i>Number of items relevant to the reporting</i>	<i>Completed</i>			<i>On hold</i>	<i>Completion rate (percentage)</i>
		<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Achieved</i>	<i>In progress</i>		
Strategic direction 1: realize the role of the Authority in a global context	2	1	–	1	–	50
Strategic direction 2: strengthen the regulatory framework for activities in the Area	10	9	–	1	–	90
Strategic direction 3: protect the marine environment	17	6	2	9	–	47
Strategic direction 4: promote and encourage marine scientific research in the Area	2	–	–	2	–	0
Strategic direction 5: build capacity for developing States	1	–	–	1	–	0
Strategic direction 6: ensure fully integrated participation by developing States	3	1	–	2	–	33
Strategic direction 7: ensure equitable sharing of financial and other economic benefits	–	–	–	–	–	Not applicable
Strategic direction 8: improve the organizational performance of the Authority	6	5	–	1	–	83
Strategic direction 9: commit to transparency	6	6	–	–	–	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>64</b>