



Legal and Technical Commission

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Twenty-eighth session

Legal and Technical Commission session, part II

28 June–7 July 2023

Agenda item 5

Status of the implementation of training programmes under plans of work for exploration and the allocation of training opportunities

Selection of candidates for training programmes under plans of work for exploration

Recommendations by the Legal and Technical Commission

1. Since March 2023, a total of 32 training opportunities have been offered by 10 contractors pursuant to their contracts for exploration with the International Seabed Authority. Among them were: two professional placements to participate in the 2023 seminar on dredging technologies organized by the Antwerp Port Training Center (APEC), one fellowship to pursue a Master's of Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management (Ocean and Lakes) and two at-sea on-board placements, offered by Global Sea Mineral Resources NV (GSR); one internship and one at-sea training placement by Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer (Ifremer) under its contract for polymetallic nodules; four master of science fellowships along with two-month internships offered by Ocean Mineral Singapore Pte Ltd. (OMS); five multidisciplinary training placements by Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (IOM); five at-sea on-board and on-land training placements by Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. Ltd. (DORD); five at-sea on-board placements by Beijing Pioneer Hi-Tech Development Corporation Ltd. (BPC); two undergraduate scholarships offered by Nauru Ocean Resources Inc. (NORI); two undergraduate scholarships offered by Tonga Offshore Mining Ltd. (TOML); six at-sea on-board and post-cruise training placements by the Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources of Germany (BGR) under its contract for polymetallic sulphides; and two at-sea on-board placements by the Republic of Korea under its contract for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts (see annex I).

2. To accommodate scheduling demands for the training programmes, the Legal and Technical Commission, before the commencement of the second part of the twenty-eighth session and in accordance with the recommendations of the training subgroup, selected candidates for the above programmes, with the exception of the at-sea training placements by GSR, OMS, DORD, NORI, TOML and BGR (see annex II). The GSR and OMS programmes were recommended for re-advertisement



owing to an insufficient number of applicants. The selection for the DORD, NORI, TOML and BGR programmes were completed during the second part of the twenty-eighth session (see annex III).

3. Candidates were selected on the basis of the criteria provided by contractors. Due consideration was given to gender balance and equitable geographical distribution, with particular attention given to the interests and needs of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as requested by the Council in a decision adopted at its twentieth session (see [ISBA/20/C/31](#), para. 6) and reiterated in the decision of the Assembly relating to the implementation of a programmatic approach to capacity development ([ISBA/26/A/18](#)), adopted at its twenty-sixth session.

4. Of the 32 placements, 18 (56 per cent) were allocated to nationals from Asia-Pacific States, 10 (31 per cent) to nationals from African States and 4 (13 per cent) to nationals from Latin American and Caribbean States. Four placements (13 per cent) went to nationals from least developed countries, 1 (3 per cent) to a national from a landlocked developing country, 5 (16 per cent) to nationals from small island developing States and four (13 per cent) to nationals from small island developing States/least developed countries.¹

5. Some contractors have continued to positively contribute to the implementation of the Women in Deep-Sea Research project² by pledging 50 per cent of their training placements to qualified women. Since March 2023, the number of those contractors has increased by two, with Blue Minerals Jamaica Limited (BMJ) and UK Seabed Resources Ltd. joining the other eight (BGR, Companhia de Pesquisa de Recursos Minerais (CPRM), DORD, GSR, Ifremer, Marawa Research and Exploration Ltd., NORI and TOML) that had already committed to the pledge. Of the 20 placements pledged since March 2023,³ 13 (65 per cent) of the selected candidates were women.

¹ See annexes II and III.

² More information is available at www.isa.org.jm/capacity-development-training-and-technical-assistance/widsr-project/.

³ See annex I for contractors that pledged during the reporting period.

Annex I

Training proposals offered by contractors

<i>Date of receipt</i>	<i>Contractor</i>	<i>Exploration contract</i>	<i>WIDSR pledge</i>	<i>Type of training</i>	<i>Places</i>	<i>Scheduled training time</i>	<i>Duration of training</i>	<i>Applications received</i>
30 August 2022	Global Sea Mineral Resources NV	Polymetallic nodules	Yes	APEC dredging	2	5–16 June 2023	2 weeks	5
			Yes	At-sea on-board training	2	Q2 and Q3 2023	35–40 days	5
			Yes	Master's fellowship	1	September 2023	1 year	10
28 November 2022	Ocean Mineral Singapore Pte Ltd.	Polymetallic nodules	–	Master's fellowship and internship	4	August 2023–January 2024	14 months	
6 December 2022	Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer	Polymetallic nodules	Yes	Internship (environmental studies)	1	Mid-September–November 2023	2 months	7
		Polymetallic nodules	Yes	At-sea on-board training	1	October 2023–March 2024	45 days	18
11 January 2023	Interoceanmetal Joint Organization	Polymetallic nodules	–	Multidisciplinary training	5	September and October 2023	6 weeks	21
22 January 2023	Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. Ltd.	Polymetallic nodules	Yes	At-sea on-board training	5	October–December 2023	30–40 days	22
9 February 2023	Beijing Pioneer Hi-Tech Development Corporation Ltd.	Polymetallic nodules	–	At-sea on-board training	5	July 2023	40 days	21
13 February 2023	Nauru Ocean Resources Inc.	Polymetallic nodules	Yes	Undergraduate scholarship	2	February 2024	3 or 4 years	6
13 February 2023	Tonga Offshore Mining Ltd.	Polymetallic nodules	Yes	Undergraduate scholarship	2	February 2024	3 or 4 years	5

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1 March 2023	Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources of Germany	Polymetallic sulphides	Yes	At-sea and post cruise training	6	September 2023 and Q1 and Q2 2024	70 days	25
14 March 2023	Republic of Korea	Cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts	–	At-sea training	2	August 2023	25 days	15

Note: Details of current and past training proposals can be found at <https://isa.org.jm/training/contractor-training>.

Abbreviations: Q1, first quarter; Q2, second quarter; Q3, third quarter; WIDSR, Women in Deep-Sea Research project.

Annex II

Result of selection of candidates conducted before part II of the twenty-eighth session

Global Sea Mineral Resources NV (GSR)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Country classification</i>
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APEC seminar on dredging technologies

First-ranked candidates

1. Teereta Kanoua	Female	Kiribati	LDC/SIDS
2. Nishal Anuth	Male	Mauritius	SIDS

Alternates

1. Abraham W. Nnokam	Male	Nigeria	
2. Augustine B. Ohas	Male	Nigeria	

Master's fellowship (Ocean and Lakes)

First-ranked candidates

1. Pawangi Jayathilaka	Female	Sri Lanka	
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Alternates

1. Prasadi G. De Silva	Female	Sri Lanka	
2. Melissa Manono	Female	Kenya	

Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer (Ifremer) (polymetallic nodules)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Country classification</i>
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Internship (environmental studies)

First-ranked candidates

1. Khadidja W. Abdallah	Female	Algeria	
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Alternates

1. Omar Ali	Male	Somalia	LDC
2. Jennifer A. Adesina	Female	Nigeria	

At-sea on-board training

1. K.M. Imam Hossain	Male	Bangladesh	LDC
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<i>Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Country classification</i>
<i>Alternates</i>			
1. Michael M. Kangútu	Male	Kenya	
2. Turia Bokai	Female	Kiribati	LDC/SIDS

Beijing Pioneer Hi-Tech Development Corporation (BPC)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Country classification</i>
Environmental survey			
<i>First-ranked candidates</i>			
1. Lawrence T. Koteene	Male	Kenya	
2. Elizabeth Nwamba	Female	Nigeria	
<i>Alternates</i>			
1. Peterlis Osamba	Male	Kenya	
Geological survey			
<i>First-ranked candidates</i>			
1. Lucia Cattana	Female	Argentina	
2. Susie Cahyanti B. Tasman	Female	Malaysia	
<i>Alternates</i>			
1. Toochukwu P. Chidiebere-Odoh	Female	Nigeria	
Geophysical survey			
<i>First-ranked candidates</i>			
1. John T. Omondi	Male	Kenya	

Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (IOM)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Country classification</i>
<i>First-ranked candidates</i>			
1. Madiha H. Moustafa	Female	Egypt	
2. Brian L. Lynch	Male	Jamaica	SIDS
3. Shahrin Azmee	Female	Bangladesh	LDC
4. Mereseini A. Radidi	Female	Fiji	SIDS
5. Richard O. Anginya	Male	Kenya	
<i>Alternates</i>			
1. Ralph Carlo Evidente	Male	Philippines	
2. Omar A. Ali	Male	Somalia	LDC
3. Harvey Mpoto Bombaka	Male	Democratic Republic of the Congo	
4. Md. Harun Or Rashid	Male	Bangladesh	LDC
5. Eric A. Yeboah	Male	Ghana	

**Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea
(cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts)**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Country classification</i>
Marine geology placement			
<i>First-ranked candidates</i>			
1. Md. Harun Or Rashid	Male	Bangladesh	LDC
<i>Alternates</i>			
1. Hoang V. Nguyen	Male	Viet Nam	
Marine science/marine biology placement			
<i>First-ranked candidates</i>			
1. Evangeline S. Sapul	Female	Philippines	
<i>Alternates</i>			
1. Laureana T. Nepomuceno	Female	Philippines	

Abbreviations: LDC, least developed country; SIDS; small island developing State.

Annex III

Result of selection of candidates conducted during part II of the twenty-eighth session

Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. Ltd. (DORD)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Country classification</i>
<i>First-ranked candidates</i>			
1. Md. Jahangir Alam	Male	Bangladesh	LDC
2. Ijeoma Orji	Female	Nigeria	
3. Camila Stempels Bautista	Female	Argentina	
4. Patience Makungu	Female	Kenya	
5. Sapolu Tetoa	Male	Tuvalu	LDC/SIDS
<i>Alternates</i>			
1. Neema Masinde	Female	United Republic of Tanzania	LDC
2. Ayamezimi O. Ehinlaiye	Male	Nigeria	
3. Eric Yeboah	Male	Ghana	

Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources of Germany (BGR) (polymetallic sulphides)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Country classification</i>
Geological Training			
<i>First-ranked candidates</i>			
1. Chelsi Grace Mendoza	Female	Philippines	
2. Kristine Joy Motol	Female	Philippines	
3. Georges Kasay	Male	Democratic Republic of the Congo	
4. Alessandra Rivero Cortés	Female	Bolivia (Purinational State of)	
<i>Alternates</i>			
1. Sundi Malomo	Female	United Republic of Tanzania	
2. Ayamezimi O. Ehinlaiye	Male	Nigeria	
3. Godwin Mnyika	Male	Kenya	

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Country classification</i>
Geophysical training			
<i>First-ranked candidates</i>			
1. Faye Anne De Leon	Female	Philippines	
2. Elisha Jane Maglalang	Female	Philippines	
<i>Alternates</i>			
1. Bijesh Cheriya Moothoor	Male	India	
2. Joseph Aisabokhae	Male	Nigeria	

Tonga Offshore Mining Ltd. (TOML)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Country classification</i>
<i>First-ranked candidates</i>			
1. Mahonilai Hakaumotu	Male	Tonga	SIDS
2. Hazel Oatasia	Female	Solomon Islands	LDC/SIDS
<i>Alternates</i>			
1. Fatafehi'o Lapaha A.F. Mafi	Female	Tonga	SIDS

Nauru Ocean Resources Inc. (NORI)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Country classification</i>
<i>First-ranked candidates</i>			
1. Billston Misi	Male	Solomon Islands	LDC/SIDS
2. Caroline Tu'iha'angana	Female	Tonga	SIDS
<i>Alternates</i>			
1. Kalolaine Saipaia	Female	Tonga	SIDS
2. Jolie F.K. Leone	Female	Tonga	SIDS

Abbreviations: LDC, least developed country; SIDS, small island developing State.