



Legal and Technical Commission

Advance Unedited Version
26 January 2024

English only

Twenty-ninth session

Legal and Technical Commission session, part I
Kingston, 4-15 March 2024

Provisional agenda of the Legal and Technical Commission

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Election of the Chair and the Vice-Chair.
4. Overview on intersessional activities.

A. Activities of the contractors

5. Report on the status of the contracts for exploration and periodic reviews of the implementation of plans of work for exploration.
6. Status of the implementation of training programmes under plans of work for exploration and the allocation of training opportunities.
7. Consideration of the annual reports of contractors.
8. Relinquishment of areas under contracts for exploration for polymetallic sulphides and cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts.

B. Applications for approval of plans of work for exploration

9. Consideration of applications for approval of plans of work for exploration.

C. Regulatory activities of the Authority

10. Develop regulations on rules for the elaboration of paragraph 1 (d) of section 6 of the annex to the 1994 Agreement for the consideration of the Commission (ISBA/27/C/13)
11. Development of standards and guidelines for activities in the Area.¹
12. Development of environmental threshold values.

¹ To be considered in part II of the session, in July 2024.

13. Recommendations for the guidance of contractors for the assessment of the possible environmental impacts arising from exploration for marine minerals in the Area.¹

D. Environmental management planning

14. Development of a standardized procedure for the development, approval and review of regional environmental management plans.

E. Data management

15. Review of the workplan of the data management strategic roadmap of the Authority for the period 2024–2028.

F. Matters referred to the Commission by the Council

16. Procedure and criteria for consideration of a request for the transfer of rights and obligations under a contract for exploration.¹
17. Issues related to the sponsorship by States of contracts of exploration in the Area, with particular attention to the test of effective control, as well as issues related to the monopolization of activities in the Area, taking into consideration, in particular, the concept of abuse of a dominant position.¹
18. Use of the silence procedure in the adoption of decisions by the Commission and improvement of procedures for greater transparency.¹

G. Other matters

19. Other matters.
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