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DRAFT DECISION BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY

(Submitted by the President of the Assembly)

The Assembly of the International Seabed Authority,

Recognizing that the budgetary provisions for the International Seabed Authority in 1996 are dependent upon the election of the members of the Council of the Authority and the election of the Secretary-General of the Authority from among the candidates to be proposed by the Council, neither of which has occurred,

Prompted by the desire to ensure the effective functioning of the Authority in 1996,

Reiterating the principle of cost-effectiveness and the principle that the setting up and the functioning of the organs and subsidiary bodies of the Authority shall be based on an evolutionary approach,

1. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, on behalf of the International Seabed Authority, a draft budget covering the administrative expenses of the Authority for 1996, including the costs of convening and servicing meetings of the Authority as necessary. In preparing the proposed budget for 1996, the Secretary-General should be guided by document A/C.5/49/25 which was the basis for the current expenditures authorized for the Authority under a new and separate section of the programme budget of the United Nations, taking also into account the adjustments to be made arising from the fact that the Secretary-General of the Authority could only be elected at the earliest during the next meeting of the Assembly in March 1996;

2. Requests that the staff and facilities currently available to the Kingston Office for the Law of the Sea be continued as the interim Secretariat of the Authority as of 1 October 1995, and authorizes the Secretary-General of the United Nations to administer the interim Secretariat until the entry on duty of the Secretary-General of the Authority;

3. Authorizes the Secretary-General of the United Nations to cover the costs of the interim Secretariat until December 1995 from the resources currently made available to the Authority;

4. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convey these developments to the General Assembly in the context of the budget proposals for the Authority for 1996.

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