INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY

Annotated Agenda of the Council of the International Seabed Authority during the second part of its thirtieth session (7-18 July 2025, Kingston, Jamaica) v. 7 July 2025

I. Introduction

1. The second part of the thirtieth session of the Council of the International Seabed Authority, will be held from 7 to 18 July 2025 in Kingston, Jamaica, at the Jamaica Conference Centre.

2. The purpose of this document is to briefly describe the items contained in the agenda of the Council ($\underline{ISBA/30/C/1}$), as adopted during the first part of the thirtieth session.

3. Official documents of the Council can be found on the Authority's webpage for the thirtieth session, under the section "Council": <u>https://www.isa.org.jm/sessions/30th-session-2025/</u> Additional documents such the <u>indicative programme of work</u>, the President's Briefing Paper for the second part of the thirtieth session and the proposal by the President of the Council on an additional modality of work, "Friends of the <u>President</u>" which was introduced during the first part of the thirtieth session in March 2025, have been placed under "Part II - Working Documents and Other Information": <u>https://www.isa.org.jm/session-30-council-part-2-july-2025/</u>. As more documents become available, they will be uploaded to the website and delegations are kindly invited to monitor the website regularly.

4. This note is to be read in conjunction with the Delegates Handbook¹. Pre-session documents on Revised Consolidated Text, ISBA/30/C/CRP.1 (PDF/Word), Revised Suspense Document ISBA/30/C/CRP.2/Rev.1 (PDF/Word) and associate documents can be also consulted on the Authority's webpage: <u>https://www.isa.org.jm/session-30-council-part-2-july-2025/</u>. All submissions from delegations and observers are uploaded within the respective folders of the written proposals.

II. Resumption of the session (item 1 of the agenda, Monday 7 July 2025)

5. At the first part of the thirtieth session, in March 2025, the Council adopted its agenda (<u>ISBA/30/C/1/</u>) and elected Duncan Muhumuza Laki (Uganda) as President of the Council. Brazil (Latin American and Caribbean States), France (Western European and Other States) and Singapore (Asia-Pacific States) were elected as Vice-Presidents.

6. The second part of the Council's session will reconvene on Monday, 7 July 2025, by the President of the Council. 13 items out of 20 currently listed on the agenda of the Council will be considered by the Council as stipulated in the indicative programme of work.

¹ English: https://www.isa.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Delegates-handbook_ISA-26-June-2025.pdf; French: https://www.isa.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Manuel-des-delegues_ISA-26-June-2025.pdf; Spanish: https://www.isa.org.jm/wpcontent/uploads/2025/06/Manual-para-delegados_ISA-26-June-2025.pdf

III. Consideration, with a view to adoption, of the draft regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area (item 11 of the agenda, Monday 7 to Friday 18 July 2025)

Negotiations on the revised consolidated text of the draft regulations on exploitation of

mineral resources in the Area

7. The Council will continue its consideration of the Draft Regulations on the exploitation of mineral resources in the Area ("the Exploitation Regulations"), as a matter of priority, following the road map prepared by the President of the Council and endorsed by the Council during the July 2024 meetings (ISBA/29/C/9/Add.1, Annex III), for the organization of its discussions in 2025.

8. Like the first part of the thirtieth session, the Revised Consolidated Text of the Draft Exploitation Regulations (ISBA/30/C/CRP.1) will serve as the primary basis for discussions during the second part of the thirtieth session. During the first part, the Council covered from the preamble to draft regulation 55. For the second part, negotiations will be resumed with draft regulation 56 and continuing through draft regulation 107. In order to assist delegations in identifying key issues in each regulation, the President of the Council has prepared a "Commentary document" that compiles all the commentary boxes that already exist in the Revised Consolidated Text. The document can be <u>downloaded here</u>. Informal working groups and Friends of the President groups will also convene to advance on their corresponding cross-cutting issues.

9. The President has prepared, for this second part of the session, a <u>Briefing Paper</u> that outlines the current status of work on the Revised Consolidated Text and proposes modalities of work for the continuation of negotiations. Delegations and observers are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the contents of the Briefing Paper.

10. Friday, 18 July 2025, the President of the Council will submit a document for the Council's consideration concerning the list of standards and guidelines.

11. Also on 18 July 2025, the informal working groups and the Friends of the President will present their final text proposals to the President. The President will provide the Council with a review of the progress achieved on the draft regulations during the second part of the thirtieth session.

12. On the same day, the Council is expected to adopt draft decisions as necessary, including the possible adoption of the draft regulations, in the event that they are ready for adoption, in accordance with the roadmap approved by the Council (ISBA/28/C/24, Annex).

IV. Report of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission on the work of the Commission at the Second part of its thirtieth session (item 14 of the agenda, Wednesday 9 July 2025 and Monday, 14 July 2025)

13. The Legal and Technical Commission holds the second part of its thirtieth session from 23 June to 4 July 2025. The Chair of the Commission will be invited to present his oral report on the work of the Commission to the Council on Wednesday 9 July 2025. The written report is contained in document ISBA/30/C/4/Add.1. The Council will be invited to take note of the report and take action on any specific recommendations presented by the Commission. In accordance with the practice that has developed, the Council may wish to adopt a decision relating to the reports of the Chair of the Commission.

Draft revised standardized procedure for the development, establishment and review of regional environmental management plans (item 14 of the agenda, Wednesday 9 July 2025).

14. The Council will resume the discussions on the "revised standardized procedure for the development, establishment and review of regional environmental management plans", submitted by the Legal and Technical Commission for the consideration of the Council. The document is contained in <u>ISBA/30/C/3</u>. The Council will be invited to adopt the standardized procedure.

Relinquishment of the area allocated to contractors.

15. On Monday, 14 July 2025, the Council will be invited to take note of the report on the relinquishment of the area allocated to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation under the contract for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts between the Ministry and the International Seabed Authority.

16. The same day, the Council will be invited to adopt two draft decisions on the deferral of the relinquishment of part of its contract area upon request of Ifremer (ISBA/30/C/4/Add.1, Annex I) and on the deferral of the schedule of relinquishment upon request by the Government of Poland (ISBA/30/C/4/Add.1, Annex II).

V. Report of the Secretary-General on the credentials of members of the Council (item 5 of the agenda, Monday 14 July 2025)

17. The Secretary-General will provide an oral report on the credentials of members of the Council. The Council will be invited to take note of the report.

VI. Report on the status of the contracts for exploration and periodic reviews of the implementation of plans of work for exploration (item 7 of the agenda, Monday 14 July 2025)

18. The Secretary-General will present an addendum to the report submitted to the Council during the first part of its thirtieth session in March 2025 (ISBA/30/C/2). The Addendum (ISBA/30/C/2/Add.1), provides an update to 31 May 2025, of the status of contracts for exploration and related matters. The Council will be invited to take note of the report.

VII. Report of the Secretary-General on the status of national legislation relating to deep seabed mining and related matters (item 8 of the agenda, Monday 14 July 2025)

19. The Secretary-General will provide a report on the laws, regulations and administrative measures adopted by sponsoring States and other members of the Authority with respect to the activities in the Area, and related matters. The document is contained in <u>ISBA/30/C/9</u>. The Council will be invited to take note of the report.

VIII. Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the decision of the Council in 2024 relating to the reports of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission (item 13 of the agenda, Monday 14 July 2025)

20. The Secretary-General will provide a report on the implementation of the decision of the Council in 2024 relating to the reports of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission, in accordance with the Council decision adopted on 8 November 2023 (<u>ISBA/28/C/27</u>), paragraph 19. The document is contained in <u>ISBA/30/C/10</u>. The Council will be invited to take note of the report.

IX. Report of the Secretary-General concerning the operationalization of the Economic Planning Commission (item 16 of the agenda, Monday 14 July 2025)

21. The Secretary-General will provide a report, in accordance with the Council decision during twentyeighth session that the Council requested to keep this item under consideration at the next session of the Council. The document is contained in <u>ISBA/30/C/11</u>. The Council will be invited to adopt the Draft decision of the Council of the International Seabed Authority on the operationalization of the Economic Planning Commission that it is included in the annex of the document.

X. Report of the interim Director-General of the Enterprise (item 15 of the agenda, Monday 14 July 2025)

22. The interim Director-General of the Enterprise will present his second report on activities undertaken since assuming office in performing the functions of the Enterprise as specified in Section 2 of the Annex to the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982. The Council will be invited to take note of the report which is contained in the document ISBA/30/C/8-ISBA/30/A/5.

XI. Other matters (item 20 of the agenda, Monday 14 July 2025)

23. The Council may be informed of any additional matters, as necessary, that may arise in the course of the session and require its attention.

XII. Cooperation with other relevant international organizations (item 18 of the agenda, Monday 14 July 2025)

24. The Council may be informed of any matter related to this item, as necessary.

XIII. Report of the Finance Committee (item 17 of the agenda, Thursday, 17 July 2025)

25. The Council will consider the report and recommendations of the Finance Committee (which meets from 2 to 4 July 2025). The report is contained in document <u>ISBA/30/C/12</u>. The Council will be invited to adopt a draft decision relating to financial and budgetary matters, with recommendations to the Assembly, based on the recommendations of the Finance Committee. The document will be available on the Authority's website after Monday, 7 July 2025.

XIV. Dates of the next session (item 19 of the agenda, Friday, 18 July 2025)

26. The Councill will be invited to take note of the dates established for the thirty-first session, unless the Council may consider scheduling a third part of the thirtieth session.

1 July 2025.