



## Council

Distr.: General  
18 July 2025

Original: English

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### Thirtieth session

Council session, part II

Kingston, 7–18 July 2025

Agenda item 11

**Consideration, with a view to adoption, of the draft regulations  
on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area**

### **Decision of the Council of the International Seabed Authority on a thematic approach to the continuation of the elaboration of rules, regulations and procedures relating to exploitation to resolve remaining key outstanding matters**

*The Council of the International Seabed Authority,*

*Reaffirming* that the commercial exploitation of mineral resources in the Area should not be carried out in the absence of rules, regulations and procedures relating to exploitation,

1. *Decides* to take a thematic approach for the thirty-first session of the Council towards resolving the remaining key outstanding matters in the elaboration of rules, regulations and procedures relating to exploitation in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea<sup>1</sup> and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982,<sup>2</sup> with a view to setting milestones for the timely adoption of such rules, regulations and procedures;

2. *Agrees* on the following themes, encompassing the remaining key outstanding matters in the elaboration of the rules, regulations and procedures relating to exploitation, which require further attention and resolution by the Council:

- (a) Environmental matters;
- (b) Financial matters;
- (c) Regulatory, procedural and institutional matters;
- (d) Governance matters;

3. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a further revised consolidated text, based on the discussions during the thirtieth session, and upload it to the website of

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol.1833, No.31363.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol.1836, No.31364.



the International Seabed Authority well in advance of the first meeting of the thirty-first session;

4. *Decides* to continue informal intersessional work on the basis of the working groups and Friends of the President, in advance of the thirty-first session;

5. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a draft indicative list of outstanding issues that would potentially fall under the four main themes identified in paragraph 2 above, on the basis of the discussions held in relation to the present decision and outstanding issues identified in the further revised consolidated text;

6. *Also requests* the secretariat to prepare an indicative programme of work well in advance of the thirty-first session on the basis of the draft indicative list referred in paragraph 5 above;

7. *Decides*, with a view to informing the programme of work of the thirty-first session, to examine at the beginning of that session the draft indicative list prepared by the secretariat;

8. *Also decides* to assess, at the end of the thirty-first session, the remaining work, if any, that would be needed prior to the adoption of the rules, regulations and procedures and to establish a road map to that end.

*338th meeting  
18 July 2025*

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