



Council

Advance Unedited Version
18 July 2025

English only

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 key outstanding matters that remain

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 31st 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 and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, with a view to setting milestones for their timely adoption.

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

- i. Environmental matters
- ii. Financial matters
- iii. Regulatory, procedural and institutional matters
- iv. Governance matters

3. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare a further revised consolidated text based on the discussions during the 30th session, and upload it on the website of the Authority well in advance of the first meeting of the 31st session;

4. *Decides* to continue informal intersessional work on the basis of the working groups and Friends of the President, in advance of the 31st 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, on the basis

of the discussions of this decision and outstanding issues identified on the further revised consolidated text;

6. *Further requests* the Secretariat to prepare an indicative programme of work well in advance of the 31st session based on the draft indicative list referred in paragraph 5;

7. *Decides*, with a view to informing the programme of work of the 31st session, to examine at the beginning of that session, the draft indicative list prepared by the Secretariat;

8. *Decides* to assess, at the end of the 31st 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*