



Council

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

Election to fill a vacancy on the Legal and Technical Commission in accordance with article 163, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

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Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Council of the International Seabed Authority is invited to note that Dorca Auma Achapa (Kenya), member of the Legal and Technical Commission, tendered her resignation in a letter dated 21 November 2018. She had been elected a member of the Commission on 22 July 2016 for a term of five years beginning on 1 January 2017 (see [ISBA/22/C/29](#)).
2. In accordance with article 163, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and rule 80, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the Council, in the event of the death, incapacity or resignation of a member of the Commission prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Council shall elect for the remainder of the term a member from the same geographical region or area of interest.
3. Article 163, paragraph 3, of the Convention and rule 81 of the rules of procedure of the Council provide that members of the Commission shall have appropriate qualifications in the area of competence of the Commission and that States parties shall nominate candidates of the highest standards of competence and integrity with qualifications in the relevant fields so as to ensure the effective exercise of the functions of the Commission.
4. By a note verbale dated 25 January 2019, the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations informed the secretariat of the Authority of the nomination of Michael Gikuhi, Director of Maritime and Continental Shelf Affairs at the Kenya International Boundaries Office in the Cabinet Affairs Office, as a candidate to fill the vacant seat on the Commission resulting from the resignation of Ms. Achapa. The curriculum vitae of Mr. Gikuhi is contained in the annex to the present note.¹
5. The secretariat invites the Council to take a decision on the election of Mr. Gikuhi to fill the current vacancy.

* [ISBA/25/C/L.1](#).

¹ The annex is being circulated in the language of submission only.



Annex

Curriculum vitae*

Michael G. Gikui

Personal details

Name: Michael G. Gikui
Profession: Geoscientist
Date of birth: 15 May 1962
Nationality: Kenyan
Languages: English, Kiswahili

Responsibilities, experience and achievements

Michael Gikui is currently a director in charge of maritime and continental shelf affairs at the Kenya International Boundaries Office in the Cabinet Affairs Office. He advises the Government on maritime matters, including the delineation of the continental shelf, seabed resources (including ISBA matters) and maritime boundaries.

He has a clear understanding of key articles in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), particularly those touching on the continental shelf and seabed resources (including the deep seabed).

He is the lead scientist defending Kenya's continental shelf submission before the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) in New York.

Head of the technical team that prepared Kenya's continental shelf submission to CLCS, which encompassed the compilation of the submission, data acquisition plans, data analysis and presentation and the desktop study.

Lead scientist in two UNCLOS marine surveys for Kenya, in 1997 (bathymetric) and 1998 (seismic).

Accomplished geoscientist with over 30 years of work experience as a geophysicist, 13 of which have been exclusive to UNCLOS-related activities: delineation of the continental shelf, Meetings of States Parties and review of the ISBA mining code; in addition to vast practical experience in geological sciences, in particular exploration geophysics.

Educational background

Professional training

September 1998–June 1999: International Institute of Aero-surveys and Geosciences (Netherlands), postgraduate diploma in exploration geophysics

University education

September 1984–July 1988: University of Nairobi, BSc (Hons) degree in geology

* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.

Seminars, workshops and meetings

- Kingston, Jamaica: Member of the Kenyan delegation to the twentieth session of the International Seabed Authority (July 2014)
- New York, United States: Member of the Kenyan delegation to the twentieth and twenty-second to twenty-eighth Meetings of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
- New York, United States: Made the technical part of the repeat oral presentation of Kenya's continental shelf submission (September 2014)
- Buenos Aires, Argentina: Sharing of experiences in the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf (October 2011)
- Abuja, Nigeria: Sensitization seminar on the work of the International Seabed Authority (March 2009)
- Dar es Salaam, Tanzania: Southern and Eastern African Mineral Centre (SEAMIC) GIS database development (November 2005)
- Johannesburg, South Africa: University of the Witwatersrand refresher course in modern aspects of remote sensing and geoinformation science for professionals in earth sciences (September–October 2003)
- Kunming, China: 2002 China TCDC International Training Course on Seismology and Earthquake Engineering (August–October 2002)

Employment record

(a) April 2015 to date

Director, Maritime and Continental Shelf, Kenya International Boundaries Office, Cabinet Affairs Office

(b) February 2006 to March 2015

Geophysicist/Lead Scientist, Task Force on Delineation of Kenya's Continental Shelf, Cabinet Affairs Office

(c) February 2002 to January 2006

Senior Supt. Geophysicist, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Mines and Geological Department

(d) March 1998 to January 2002

Supt. Geophysicist, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Mines and Geological Department

(e) July 1991 to February 1998

Geophysicist II, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Mines and Geological Department

(f) January 1988 to June 1991

Geophysicist (Trainee), Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Mines and Geological Department

Membership in professional societies

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| • Geological Society of Kenya | Professional Member |
| • Geologists Registration Board of Kenya | Registered Geologist |
| • National Environmental Management Authority of Kenya | Registered Lead Expert EIA/EA |

Awards and honours

Accorded, on 12 December 2008, the honour and style of the Order of the Grand Warrior of Kenya (OGW) by the Head of State for devotion and commitment to service of the Nation.
