



Asamblea

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26º período de sesiones

Kingston, 26 a 30 de julio de 2021*

Tema 6 del programa

Examen de las solicitudes de la condición de observador con arreglo al artículo 82, párrafo 1 e), del Reglamento de la Asamblea

Solicitud de reconocimiento de la condición de observadora, presentada de conformidad con el artículo 82, párrafo 1 e), del Reglamento de la Asamblea en nombre de OceanCare

Nota de la secretaría

1. El 10 de marzo de 2021, OceanCare presentó una solicitud al Secretario General de la Autoridad Internacional de los Fondos Marinos en la que solicitó la condición de observador en la Asamblea de la Autoridad con arreglo al artículo 82, párrafo 1 e), del Reglamento de la Asamblea. La entidad solicitante presentó un formulario de solicitud, que se preparó en el formato prescrito en el apéndice 1 de las directrices relativas a la condición de observador de las organizaciones no gubernamentales ante la Autoridad Internacional de los Fondos Marinos aprobadas por la Asamblea en su 25º período de sesiones (ISBA/25/A/16, anexo). En los anexos I y II de la presente nota figuran el texto del mensaje de correo electrónico y la solicitud presentada por la entidad.¹
2. Según lo dispuesto en el artículo 82, párrafo 1 e) del Reglamento de la Asamblea, podrán participar en la Asamblea como observadores las organizaciones no gubernamentales con las que el Secretario General haya concertado arreglos de conformidad con el artículo 169, párrafo 1, de la Convención de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Derecho del Mar y otras organizaciones no gubernamentales invitadas por la Asamblea que hayan demostrado su interés por las cuestiones sometidas a la consideración de la Asamblea.
3. En los párrafos 5 y 6 del mismo artículo se dispone también que los observadores mencionados en el párrafo 1 e) de ese artículo podrán asistir a las sesiones públicas de la Asamblea y, por invitación de la Presidencia y con la aprobación de la Asamblea, formular declaraciones orales sobre cuestiones incluidas

* Nuevas fechas de las reuniones presenciales que habían sido programadas inicialmente para julio de 2020.

¹ Los anexos se distribuyen únicamente en el idioma en que fueron presentados.



en el ámbito de sus actividades, y que las declaraciones escritas presentadas por los observadores mencionados en el párrafo 1 e) de ese artículo que estén incluidas en el ámbito de su competencia y que sean pertinentes para la labor de la Asamblea serán distribuidas por la secretaría en las cantidades y los idiomas en que se hayan presentado.

Anexo I**Correo electrónico de fecha 10 de marzo de 2021 dirigida al
Secretario General de la Autoridad Internacional de los Fondos
Marinos por la Presidenta y Fundadora de OceanCare**

In accordance with article 169 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, rule 82, paragraph 1 (e), of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority and the guidelines for observer status of non-governmental organizations with the International Seabed Authority, we hereby request observer status with the International Seabed Authority as a non-governmental organization. Enclosed please find our formal request in the prescribed format.

We are looking forward to becoming observer with the Authority and to contributing our expertise to the Authority's work on the effective protection of the marine environment from harmful effects that may arise from deep seabed-related activities. We remain at your disposal for any questions or additional information.

Sigrid Lüber
OceanCare
President and Founder

Annex II

Application for observer status

Format used: [ISBA/25/A/16](#), annex (guidelines for observer status of non-governmental organizations with the International Seabed Authority), enclosure 1

A. Information about the organization

1. Name of organization

OceanCare

2. Address of headquarters

Gerbestrasse 6
Post box 372
CH-8820 Wädenswil
Suiza

3. Addresses of all branches and/or regional headquarters

See above.

4. Telephone number

+41 (0) 44 780 66 88

5. Fax number

+41 (0) 44 780 68 08

6. Email address

info@oceancare.org

7. Name, title and contact details of focal point

Mr. Cyrill Martin, M.A. HSG, M.Sc., Lead Deep-Sea Mining Programme / Ocean Policy Expert
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Phone: +41 43 477 61 29
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Mr. Nicolas Entrup, Co-Director International Relations

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8. Background information on the organization

OceanCare is a Swiss non-profit organization. It was founded in 1989 and has a strong commitment to realistic and cooperative initiatives. The organization works at the national and international levels in the areas of marine pollution, environmental changes, deep-sea mining, fisheries, whaling, sealing, captivity of marine mammals and public education (www.oceancare.org).

9. Is the organization a member of, affiliated to or otherwise associated with another organization that has been granted observer status with the Authority?

OceanCare is member of the Deep Sea Conservation Coalition (DSCC).

10. Is the organization affiliated to consultants of the Authority, contractors with the Authority, entities in connection with the law of the sea, the offshore and deep-sea mining industry, research institutes or the mineral marketing and processing industry?

No.

11. Relationships with intergovernmental organizations

OceanCare holds special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) and is a partner of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/CMS Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS), as well as UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan. OceanCare is an accredited observer with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). OceanCare has also been accredited with the United Nations Environment Assembly, which is the governing body of UNEP as part of the Scientific and Technological Community Major Group and is a part of the UNEP Global Partnership on Marine Litter.

12. List of publications and/or other relevant documentation

The OceanCare Commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Supplementary Information to OceanCare's Quadrennial Report to ECOSOC, 2019: https://www.oceancare.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/2019_Supplementary-Information-to-Quadrennial-Report-to-ECOSOC.pdf.

The OceanCare Commitment to Millennium Development Goal 7: Supplementary Information to OceanCare's Quadrennial Report to ECOSOC, 2015: https://www.oceancare.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Report_UN_Millennium-Development-Goal-7_EN_2015.pdf.

B. Interest in matters under consideration by the Assembly

13. Briefly outline how your organization intends to demonstrate its interest in matters under consideration by the Assembly, including by answering questions 14 to 17 and by providing any other relevant information related to the application for observer status.

OceanCare is developing its Deep-Sea Mining (DSM) programme with a focus on underwater noise emissions from DSM activities and their impact on marine life. OceanCare has distinguished expertise in the area of anthropogenic underwater noise and provided various international fora with this expertise and policy work since 2002. We intend to bring our expertise into the International Seabed Authority's (ISA) work on environmental regulations and guidance regarding protection of the environment within the Mining Code.

14. Briefly outline whether and how the purposes or activities of the organization relate to the work of the Authority.

OceanCare has had a strong commitment to marine wildlife protection since 1989. Within our DSM programme, we focus on strengthening and broadening the knowledge basis of environmental impacts of DSM, particularly anthropogenic underwater noise, with a view to improving existing and supporting new regulations and guidance on environmental protection for DSM. We strongly advocate for the application of the precautionary principle and for a green blue economy.

15. Briefly outline whether and how your organization intends to contribute to the work of the Authority, for example by providing specialized information, advice or expertise, or by identifying or helping to procure the services of experts or consultants.

OceanCare intends to support the development of sound regulation and guidance of anthropogenic underwater noise emissions from DSM activities in order to minimize impacts on marine life. We intend to intensify discussions within ISA on anthropogenic underwater noise emissions from DSM activities and their impact on marine life and to provide scientific and policy input to the discussions. We intend to bring our expertise into the International Seabed Authority's (ISA) work on environmental regulations and guidance regarding protection of the environment within the Mining Code, particularly in the area of anthropogenic underwater noise.

16. Briefly outline whether and how your organization has the expertise and the capacity to contribute, within its field of competence, to the work of the Authority, in particular in connection with the law of the sea, the protection of the marine environment, the offshore and deep-sea mining industry, technology, minerals processing and marketing, activities in the Area and marine scientific research in the Area.

OceanCare has been active in marine environment protection policy work for over 30 years. We entered our expertise on anthropogenic underwater noise into various international fora and have assisted in developing respective regulations and guidance for almost two decades. We have a strong scientific expertise in the area of anthropogenic underwater noise and its impact on marine species, in particular through our Senior Ocean Noise Expert, Dr. Lindy Weilgart, of Dalhousie University. Moreover, we have sound legal background in the law of the sea through Mr. Cyrill Martin, M.A. in Law HSG.

17. Briefly outline whether and how your organization intends to contribute to the capacity-building programmes and initiatives of the Authority (e.g., Secretary-General's award, voluntary commitments of the Authority).

OceanCare intends to contribute to capacity-building within ISA by providing input to the issue of anthropogenic underwater noise and its impact on marine species upon invitation by the Assembly or other organs of ISA to all interested stakeholders.

(Signed) Sigrid **Lüber**
President and Founder of
OceanCare

(Signed) Cyrill **Martin**
M.A. HSG in Law, Lead Deep-
Sea Mining Programme / Ocean
Policy Expert