Assembly
Council

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Kingston, 27–31 July 2020
Item 10 of the provisional agenda of the Assembly*

Report on the implementation of the strategic plan and
high-level action plan of the International Seabed Authority
for the period 2019–2023
Agenda item 20 of the Council

Other matters

Report on the implementation by the Council of the
strategic plan of the International Seabed Authority for the
period 2019–2023

Note by the secretariat

I. Introduction

1. It is recalled that the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority, in its
decision relating to the implementation of the strategic plan of the Authority for the
period 2019–2023 (ISBA/25/A/15 and ISBA/25/A/15/Corr.1), committed to the
strengthening of existing working practices of the Authority and, accordingly, invited
members of the Authority and observers, as well as the organs of the Authority, to
support the implementation of the strategic plan and the high-level action plan.

2. For the reporting period 2019–2020, the Council has been assigned some
responsibilities for 34 high-level actions and 43 related outputs, as listed in annex II
to the aforementioned decision. In eight cases, no specific output has been identified
and reporting therefore specifically concerns the high-level action of interest (see
high-level actions 2.2.1, 2.3.2, 3.1.4, 3.2.4, 3.4.3, 3.5.2 and 3.5.4). Accordingly, the
total number of items identified for the reporting period is 51.

3. The Council has been identified as the organ responsible for 17 outputs, the
associated organ for 31 other outputs and the coordinating organ for the remaining
outputs. In order to reflect different statuses of completion, in particular the fact that
some outputs are recurring, two different subcategories of progress status have been
identified: “ongoing”, which relates to outputs that require ongoing attention and
adjustments, and “achieved”, which relates to outputs reported against a specific
reporting period or action.

* ISBA/26/A/L.1.
4. As at 31 May 2020, 32 of the assigned high-level actions and outputs (63 per cent) had been completed and 19 (37 per cent) were still in progress. Further information is provided in annexes I and II to the present report.

II. Recommendation

5. The Council is invited to take note of the information provided in the present report and to recommend that the Assembly take note of the report.
### Annex I

**Status of completion of high-level actions and related outputs assigned to the Council for the reporting period 2019–2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic direction</th>
<th>Number of items relevant to the reporting</th>
<th>Completed</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Completion rate (percentage)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic direction 1: realize the role of the Authority in a global context</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic direction 2: strengthen the regulatory framework for activities in the Area</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic direction 3: protect the marine environment</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic direction 4: promote and encourage marine scientific research in the Area</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic direction 5: build capacity for developing States</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic direction 6: ensure fully integrated participation by developing States</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic direction 7: ensure equitable sharing of financial and other economic benefits</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic direction 8: improve the organizational performance of the Authority</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic direction 9: commit to transparency</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>51</strong></td>
<td><strong>23</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>19</strong></td>
<td>–</td>
<td><strong>63</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex II

Status of implementation by the Council of relevant high-level actions and related outputs for the reporting period 2019–2020