



Council

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Council session, part II

Kingston, 19–23 July 2021*

Agenda item 20

Other matters

Draft decision of the Council of the International Seabed Authority concerning the decisions adopted under silence procedure in 2020 and 2021

The Council of the International Seabed Authority,

Recalling the impossibility of convening in-person meetings of the Council during the second part of the twenty-sixth session in 2020 and early 2021 owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

Having agreed that, under those prevailing circumstances, the Council was able to take essential decisions to advance the work of the International Seabed Authority,

Having also agreed to adopt under silence procedure decisions on time-sensitive matters while the COVID-19 pandemic prevents in-person meetings at the headquarters of the Authority,

Recalling that, under the silence procedure, decisions were deemed adopted if no objections were raised within 72 hours from the tabling of the proposal for adoption,

Recalling also that the President of the Council announced the adoption of each decision dealt with under silence procedure by circulating a letter to the members of the Council, which was also posted on the website of the Authority,¹

Stressing that this method was used in exceptional circumstances and does not amount to an amendment to the rules of procedure of the Council,²

Takes note of the following decisions adopted by the Council under silence procedure:

* New dates of the in-person meetings originally scheduled for July 2020.

¹ All the letters from the President of the Council are available at www.isa.org.jm/node/19713.

² ISBA/C/12.



- (a) Decision of 24 September 2020 concerning the procedure for the adoption of decisions by the Council during the second part of the twenty-sixth session of the Authority owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic;
- (b) Election, on 1 October 2020, of the President of the Council;³
- (c) Decision of 23 October 2020 concerning the organization of work for the second part of the twenty-sixth session of the Council;
- (d) Adoption, on 13 November 2020, of a schedule and modalities concerning the organization of work for the second part of the twenty-sixth session of the Council;
- (e) Decision of 19 November 2020 concerning the candidate for the election of the Secretary-General;⁴
- (f) Decision of 10 December 2020 relating to an application for approval of a plan of work for exploration for polymetallic nodules submitted by Blue Minerals Jamaica Ltd.;⁵
- (g) Decision of 24 December 2020 relating to the budget of the Authority for the financial period 2021–2022;⁶
- (h) Decision of 11 March 2021 relating to the annual overhead charge referred to in section 10.5 of the standard clauses for exploration contracts;⁷
- (i) Decision of 30 March 2021 concerning the extension of the term of office of the current members of the Legal and Technical Commission and other related matters;⁸
- (j) Election, on 15 April 2021, of Federico Gabriel Hirsch (Argentina) to fill a seat on the Legal and Technical Commission for the remainder of the term expiring on 31 December 2022;⁹
- (k) Adoption, on 31 May 2021, of the revised agenda of the Council.¹⁰

³ Rear Admiral (retd) Khurshed Alam (Bangladesh) was elected as President of the Council.

⁴ [ISBA/26/C/25](#).

⁵ [ISBA/26/C/27/Rev.1](#).

⁶ [ISBA/26/C/26](#).

⁷ [ISBA/26/C/28](#).

⁸ [ISBA/26/C/30](#).

⁹ See [ISBA/26/C/29](#).

¹⁰ [ISBA/26/C/1/Rev.1](#).