



Legal and Technical Commission

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Twenty-seventh session

Legal and Technical Commission session, part 1
Kingston, 14–18 March 2022

Agenda of the Legal and Technical Commission

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Election of the Chair and the Vice-Chair.

A. Activities of the contractors

4. Report on the status of the contracts for exploration.
5. Status of the implementation of training programmes under plans of work for exploration and the allocation of training opportunities.
6. Status of the relinquishment of areas under contracts for exploration.
7. Consideration of the annual reports of contractors.¹
8. Consideration of applications for extensions of contracts in accordance with the procedures and criteria for the extension of an approved plan of work for exploration pursuant to section 1, paragraph 9, of the annex to the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982.²
9. Report on the periodic reviews of the implementation of plans of work for exploration.

B. Applications for approval of plans of work for exploration

10. Consideration of applications for approval of plans of work for exploration.

¹ To be considered in the second part of the session, in July 2022.

² ISBA/21/C/19, annex.



C. Regulatory activities of the Authority

11. Development of standards and guidelines for activities in the Area.
12. Review of the recommendations for the guidance of contractors and sponsoring States relating to training programmes under plans of work for exploration.³
13. Procedure and criteria for the consideration of requests for the transfer of rights and obligations under a contract for exploration.

D. Environmental management planning

14. Development and implementation of regional environmental management plans in the Area.

E. Matters referred to the Commission by the Council

15. Issues related to the sponsorship by States of contracts of exploration in the Area, with particular attention to the test of effective control, as well as issues related to the monopolization of activities in the Area, taking into consideration, in particular, the concept of abuse of a dominant position.
16. Review of the provisions of the regulations on prospecting and exploration relating to the option of offering an equity interest in a joint venture arrangement, with a view to aligning all regulations in that respect and to making a recommendation thereon for consideration by the Council at its next session.
17. Issues associated with the conduct of marine scientific research in exploration areas.
18. Review of the recommendations for the guidance of contractors for the assessment of the possible environmental impacts arising from exploration for marine minerals in the Area.⁴

F. Other matters

19. Other matters.

³ ISBA/19/LTC/14.

⁴ ISBA/25/LTC/6/Rev.1 and ISBA/25/LTC/6/Rev.1/Corr.1.