

Joint letter by the President of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority for its twenty-sixth session and by the President of the Council of the International Seabed Authority for the second part of its twenty-sixth session

22 January 2021

Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

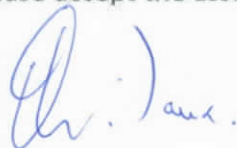
We refer to the decision of the Council of the International Seabed Authority dated 23 October 2020 concerning the organization of work for the second part of the twenty-sixth session of the Council and the decision of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority dated 6 November 2020 concerning the organization of work for the twenty-sixth session of the Assembly.

It is our pleasure to inform the members of the Authority and observers to the Authority that both the Council and the Assembly have been able to consider the identified time-sensitive issues and have adopted relevant decisions under the silence procedure by the end of 2020. This is an outstanding achievement in this unprecedented and challenging situation due to COVID-19 pandemic. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all delegations for their valuable support to make the achievement possible.

Meanwhile, we wish to draw your attention that there are several remaining items on the agendas of the Council and of the Assembly for the twenty-sixth session, which need to be considered by the Council and the Assembly respectively. Therefore, we wish further to inform the members of the Authority and observers to the Authority that the twenty-sixth session of the Council and of the Assembly will carry over to 2021, including the face-to-face meetings.

In addition, as indicated in our previous letters conveying the adoption of decisions by the Council and by the Assembly under the silence procedure, the Council and the Assembly will take note of those decisions at their first face-to-face meeting in 2021.

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.



Ambassador Denys Wibaux
President of the Assembly of the
International Seabed Authority



Rear Admiral (Retd.) Md. Khurshed Alam
President of the Council of the
International Seabed Authority