



**President of the Council of
the International Seabed Authority**

27 November 2020

Excellencies,

I wish to refer to my letters dated 23 October 2020 and 16 November 2020 concerning the organization of work for the remainder of the year 2020.

In line with the decisions of the Council dated 23 October and 13 November 2020 concerning the organization of work for the second part of the twenty-sixth session and its schedule and modalities, I wish to refer to the consideration with a view to approval, of the application for approval of a plan of work for exploration for polymetallic nodules submitted by Blue Minerals Jamaica Ltd. under item 10 on the agenda of the Council, this being one of the three priority items for the Council to address before the end of December 2020.

Prior to the adoption of a decision by the Council acting on the recommendations of the Legal and Technical Commission relating to an application for approval of a plan of work for exploration for polymetallic nodules by Blue Minerals Jamaica Ltd. (see ISBA/26/C/22), I wish to allow for some exchange of views. For that purpose, I kindly invite Members of the Council, Members of the Authority not represented on the Council and Observers to the Authority to submit written statements, if they wish, to Council2020@isa.org.jm from 30 November until 4 December 2020. These will be placed on the website of the Authority, on the webpage dedicated to the documents and decisions of the Council for the twenty-sixth session.

As to the next step concerning the consideration of the application submitted by Blue Minerals Jamaica Ltd., I seize this opportunity to communicate that on 7 December 2020, I will circulate to the Members of the Council a draft decision of the Council of the International Seabed Authority relating to an application for approval of a plan of work for exploration for polymetallic nodules submitted by Blue Minerals Jamaica Ltd.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.

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