



**REPRÉSENTATION PERMANENTE
DE LA FRANCE AUPRÈS DE
L'AUTORITÉ INTERNATIONALE
DES FONDS MARINS**

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

7 December 2020

Excellencies,

I wish to refer to my letters dated 3, 6, 17, 20 and 30 November concerning the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority.

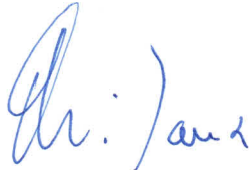
I wish to recall that, in line with the decision of 20 November 2020 concerning the schedule and modalities for the organization of work of the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Assembly, it agreed that, under agenda item 18, a draft decision concerning the elections to fill vacancies on the Council of the International Seabed Authority, was going to be circulated on 30 November 2020 and placed under the silence procedure. As per my letter of 30 November 2020, the draft decision was re-scheduled to be tabled on 7 December 2020. In this respect, I would inform that the Group of Western European and Other States, needs more time to continue their consultation on the nominations. Therefore, the draft decision of the Assembly concerning the elections, will be tabled and placed under the silence procedure when it is ready, hopefully next Monday 14 December 2020.

I would take this opportunity to urge the Group of Western European and Other States to nominate the candidates for election to fill the vacancies on the Council and communicate the outcome to me as soon as possible and no later than 17:00 on 10 December 2020 (Jamaica time).

In addition, in line with the decision of the Assembly of 20 November 2020, concerning the schedule and modalities for the organization of work of the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Assembly, the Assembly agreed to consider, under agenda items 13, 14 and 15, the report and recommendations of the Finance Committee, adoption of the budget of the Authority and adoption of the scale of assessment for the contribution to the budget of the Authority, on the basis of the recommendations of the Council on these matters. For that purpose, and subject to receiving the recommendations of the Council, a letter was supposed to be circulated and placed under the silence procedure, today, to table a draft decision of the Assembly to adopt the budget of the Authority and the scale of assessment for the

contribution to the budget of the Authority. In this respect, I wish to inform that those issues remain under consideration by the Council, and therefore the recommendations of the Council are not yet ready. I will table a draft decision of the Assembly to adopt the budget of the Authority and the scale of assessment for the contribution to the budget of the Authority when it is ready to do so.

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



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

To: All members of the International Seabed Authority